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Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 65 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1943 TEN CENTS

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Labor Group Sees Film Pay Over Minimum

Asks MPPDA to Sit in At Oct. 14 Hearing

Hearings on prevailing wage minimums in several industries called by the U. S. Department of Labor for Oct. 14 in New York will examine prevailing standards in the industry. A committee will make sure that scales comply with the present federal minimum of 30 cents per hour, it was ascertained yesterday.

Eighteen representatives of the public, management and labor are on the special committee which will study the motion picture, finance, insurance, real estate and miscellaneous industries. They will meet at the Hotel Victoria here, as exclusively reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Sept. 29.

John H. Klingenfeld, chief of the

(Continued on page 3)

Capra Assigned to MOI Film Work

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Lieutenant Colonel Frank Capra has been detailed by the War Department to work with the British Ministry of War Information on the production of a joint film showing the operations of the American and British Armies in Tunisia, it was learned today at the War Department.

The rough cut of the picture is scheduled to be screened about October 10 in England, but it has not yet been possible to set a date for its release in this country.

When Capra finishes the Tunisian

(Continued on page 3)

Military Guards Check Vandalism

Boston, Sept. 30.—Vandalism, which seriously threatened New England theatres along the coast, has been checked by placing of shore patrol and military police contingents at strategic spots in affected areas. Military authorities are working closely with police and theatre officials and report that few disturbances have been noted in the past fortnight.

Conversion of 2nd Runs to 1st Grows, To Relieve Jam-Up

Scattered key cities throughout the nation report shifting of second and subsequent run houses to first run. Shifts are largely the result of extended first runs and reduction in the number of releases, down 25 per cent, as reported last week.

In the past year Denver has added two new first run houses, and New Haven and Bridgeport, Conn., one each. In Milwaukee, the Alhambra, reopened by Warner Brothers Aug. 27th, is operating as a first run house. In Omaha, the Tri-States Theatre Corp. opened their 2,400-seat Paramount to first run shows, and are now using their Des Moines and Roosevelt in Des Moines for first runs.

Los Angeles recently relieved a

(Continued on page 3)

Freeman, Smith at SMPE Meet, Oct. 18

Priority problems of the industry will be aired by Allen G. Smith, chief of the amusement section of the War Production Board, at the fall meeting of the Society of M. P. Engineers, in the Hotel Roosevelt, Hollywood, on Oct. 18. Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount production chief and president of the producers association there, will welcome the delegates on behalf of the industry, at the opening of the five-day technical conference.

Among the 47 papers to be read will be those of Comm. S. J. Singer, U. S. Navy; James Crabtree, Eastman Ko-

(Continued on page 4)

Chicago Scales at Happy Days Level

Chicago, Sept. 30.—Pre-depression admission scales were completely restored to Loop theatres here today with the announcement that the Woods, Grand and Palace would increase evening prices to 85 cents this weekend. Six other Loop first runs made similar advances earlier.

Theatre Bond Sales Mounting; National Quota Is Achieved

Reports of continuing bond sales by exhibitors in the field continued in a steady stream into the War Activities Committee headquarters here yesterday, even as Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau was announcing from the launching of a large invasion barge at Evansville, Ind., that the nation has already passed the $15,000,000,000 war bond quota set for the Third War Loan drive. However, he urged the home front to forge ahead even further and to "go over the top" in a manner befitting the "nation's

(Continued on page 3)

Bill Seeks Ban on Radio Censorship

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Amendment of the Constitution to prohibit Congress from enacting any law abridging the freedom of speech by radio or wire communication was sought today by Congressman Martin

(Continued on page 3)

Postwar Plans For Theatres In Big Spurt

Extensive Remodeling, Building Predicted

A spurt in planning for postwar theatre construction and renovation in heavily-populated industrial sections of the country is reported by leading theatre architects queried by MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday.

The service department of Quigley Publications' *Better Theatres* estimates as a result of a current survey that approximately 200 postwar theatre construction projects are in the planning stage now and that most of them already are on the architects' boards.

Remodeling plans, as is al-

(Continued on page 3)

2 OWI Features, 1 Short Now in Europe

Three Office of War Information films are now on exhibition in theatres abroad, it is understood. The pictures are "Swedes in America," "The Cowboy" and "News Review." The last named, in six reels, has gone into houses in Sicily and Italy, it is said. "Swedes in America" is being distributed in Sweden, and is on the way to being released in England, under the auspices of the British Ministry

(Continued on page 3)

$6,000,000 'Army' Gross At 800 Houses in 8 Weeks

Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army," which Warner Bros. is releasing for Army Relief, has grossed $6,000,000 in admissions in less than eight weeks, MOTION PICTURE DAILY field reports disclose. This estimated income, an all-time record for the industry for the largest gross in the short time of circulation, has come from less than 800 engagements, preceded by special high-priced premieres as high as $250 per seat in one instance, at Terre Haute, Ind., at the Grand Theatre.

Jack L. Warner, executive producer, originally estimated that the musical would gross $10,000,000. Re-

(Continued on page 2)

To File Crescent Appeal by Oct. 25

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—The Government's appeal in the Crescent Circuit case is scheduled to be filed with the United States Supreme Court by Oct. 25, but the filing of a new appeal may result in deferring the date, it was learned today.

Department of Justice officials concerned with the case would not say whether they definitely planned to file new papers, but it was indicated that such a step was not unlikely. No information was disclosed as to what

(Continued on page 4)

L. A. Exchanges Put On 48-Hour Week

Los Angeles, Sept. 30.—The motion picture industry in this area, among other industries, was ordered to go on a 48-hour week today by the War Manpower Commission.

Los Angeles film exchanges under this ruling will thus have their petition for exemption from the 48-hour week disallowed. Exceptions to the ruling are clerical workers, who will be on a 44-hour, week, and actors, executives and others in the motion picture field who keep irregular hours.

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Personal Mention

NATE J. BLUMBERG, and JOHN JOSEPH are expected from the Coast next week for a Universal home office visit. JOSEPH SEIDELMAN, vice-president and foreign manager, has deferred his projected trip to England to await BLUMBERG's arrival.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE and WALTER BRANSON, RKO executives, will represent the home office at the testimonial dinner being given J. C. OSSERMAN in Chicago tonight.

•

WALTER READE has purchased the Ross Fenton Farm in Wanamassa, N. J., for $120,000, and will open the place in the spring as a roadhouse and recreational center.

•

SGT. ALEXANDER ORODENKER, former assistant manager of Warners' Uptown, Philadelphia, has returned after serving overseas with an anti-submarine air squadron.

•

JACK ENGEL, RKO salesman in Philadelphia, became the father of a daughter, SARAH LEE, born last week at the Mt. Sinai Hospital, in that city.

•

JACK BRASSIL, former advertising man at Loew's Poli in New Haven, is in the Army's Oliver General Hospital, Augusta, Ga.

•

LIEUT. DONALD ATKINS, assistant manager of Warners' Capitol, York, Pa., has won his wings as an Air Force pilot.

•

WALTER LYNCH of Mecca Film laboratories, is in Gotham Hospital here with severe bronchitis.

•

LLEWELLYN MILLER, editor of *Movie Life*, returns to New York today after a two-week visit to Hollywood.

•

LOUIS MORGAN has left for a 90-day sales trip in the Minneapolis territory for Globe Films of Chicago.

DeVry Projectors For Anzac Camps

CHICAGO, Sept. 30.—The DeVry Corp. here has received a second order for 12 sound projectors for 35 mm. film from the British War Relief Society. The equipment, valued at $100,000, is to be shipped to Australia as a gift to Anzac troops.

The company's "E" award has been renewed for six months by Admiral C. C. Block.

Cron, M. P. Daily Ad Manager, Resigns

James Cron, since 1931 advertising manager of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, has resigned, effective today. Cron states that information as to his future plans will be announced shortly.

$6,000,000 'Army' Gross At 800 Houses in 8 Weeks

(*Continued from page 1*)

vised estimates at this writing reach as high as $20,000,000.

Another record established is the use of 400 Technicolor prints, highest number of feature color prints in history. These will be increased to 450 shortly, to further quicken play-off.

Income accruing to Army Relief in the first eight weeks is estimated around $3,000,000. Of the regular admission gross, the basic split between exhibitors and Warners-and-Army-Relief is 50 per cent, while on the special premieres the exhibitor gets 30 per cent. For physical distribution costs, prints, promotion, etc., Warners charge 20 per cent. Scores of exhibitors, including Warner houses, have turned over to the relief fund all proceeds from their special advanced price premieres.

The eventual turnover to Army Relief will be the largest single contribution ever made to a U. S. military relief fund, other than that made by the Government itself.

Top opening night gross for a single theatre was the $55,000 taken in by Balaban and Katz at its Chicago Theatre in Chicago's Loop, where, for the first time in that theatre's 27-year history, a picture is playing without a stage show. The $250,000 grossed in "Army's" five weeks at the Mastbaum, Philadelphia, is said to be the largest first-run gross of any house in the country outside of New York for that period.

Unique experience resulting from the special high-priced premieres is the widespread attendance thereat of those who are ordinarily not steady film patrons, proven, it is said, by the fact that in the majority of premieres, the top priced tickets were disposed of ahead of those in the lower brackets.

Another precedent set by "This Is the Army" was its playing simultaneously in Portland, Ore., at two competitive theatres for three weeks and then moving over to a third theatre, where it is now in its fourth week.

Warners' handling of the picture at cost will probably reflect in the film company's current quarter earnings, using up, as it does, top playing time which otherwise would be playing other Warner products, the picture, in nearly all cases, playing only at houses of regular Warner customers.

Filmack Makes Showman Awards

CHICAGO, Sept. 30.—War showmanship awards by Filmack Trailer Co. were announced here as follows for September: First prize, Ike Hoig, Ute Theatre, Colorado Springs, for a "Happy Hit Show" as a means of providing escapist material; second prize, Alice Gorham, United Detroit Theatres, for stressing patriotism in "These Gals of 1943," and third prize to W. G. Hillman, Allen Theatre, Akron, O., who stressed that films offer the best in relaxation in times of stress.

'Sun' Premieres in Fifty More Cities

Fifty local premieres have been set in New York State and Northern New Jersey for RKO's "Behind the Rising Sun," Robert Mochrie, general sales manager, reported here. The Eastern campaign will follow the regional premiere plan, which included billboard and newspaper coverage and radio sponsorship.

Margo, star of the film, and James R. Young, author, will also appear at the New York premiere.

Comerford, Jr., Lost In South Pacific

SCRANTON, Pa., Sept. 30.—Sgt. Thomas Comerford, 19, son of Thomas Comerford, executive of Comerford Theatres, here, is reported missing in action with the U. S. Marines in the South Pacific.

Sgt. Comerford went into service in Jan., 1942.

No Sell-Out Yet On Gala Bond Revue

Reserved seats are still available, free, with war bond purchases of $500, $1,000 and $5,000, for the all-star show to be presented tonight in a single performance at the Capitol, with the cooperation of the Paramount, Roxy, Loew's State, Music Hall and Strand. Talent at the midnight performance will include Frank Sinatra, Lucy Monroe, Bert Lahr, Frank Fay, Ethel Waters, Milton Berle, Virginia O'Brien, Allan Jones, Henny Youngman, Billie Burke, Bert Wheeler, Mary Small and other stars of stage, screen, radio, and night clubs.

A $3,000,000 bond sale is anticipated.

Goodman to Oklahoma

CHARLOTTE, Sept. 30. — Manny Goodman, former booker at Warners exchange here, has been transferred to the Oklahoma City exchange. Carroll Ogburn of the Atlanta office will replace him here.

Joseph F. Brown Dies

HAMILTON, O., Sept. 30.—Joseph F. Brown, 56, maintenance engineer at the Northio Palace here, died at Mercy Hospital today of a heart condition. A widow and four sons survive.

New Wilby Ad Chief

CHARLOTTE, Sept. 30.—Mrs. Mack Dowling, former assistant manager at the Carolina Theatre, here, has been named advertising-publicity representative for Wilby-Kincey Theatres, replacing Miss Jean Hendrix.

Film Stars Again Take to Personals

Current booking schedules reveal that Hollywood stars are again taking to the road for personal appearances. The trend is being supported by at least two Hollywood studios which are releasing talent to bolster Broadway shows. And another studio plans to build new players via personal appearance tours.

The Capitol and Roxy Theatres here have called on M-G-M and 20th Century-Fox to furnish Hollywood name stars to bolster their stage shows. M-G-M controls the Capitol and 20th-Fox the Roxy. Stage shows almost everywhere have suffered from lack of talent as a result of the draft.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
Claudette COLBERT • Paulette GODDARD • Veronica LAKE
SO PROUDLY WE HAIL
Produced and Directed by Mark Sandrich
A Paramount Picture
Gala Stage Revue - Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Jean Arthur • John Wayne
in
"A Lady Takes a Chance"
IN PERSON
VAUGHN MONROE
AND BAND
BOB EVANS
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
BACK THE ATTACK

★ SONJA HENIE
Jack OAKIE • Cesar ROMERO • Carole LANDIS
Wintertime
20th
WOODY HERMAN and His Orchestra
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
BOB HOPE
BETTY HUTTON in
'LET'S FACE IT'
IN PERSON
BENNY DAVIS
and
'His New Stars of 1944'
Nan Rae &
Mrs. Waterfall
Cliff Edwards

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
ROBERT PAIGE
LOUISE ALLBRITTON
"FIRED WIFE"

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AFM Gets Royalty On All Decca Discs

"Peace-pact" was signed here, yesterday, by E. F. Stevens, executive vice-president of Decca Records, and James C. Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians, with the union claiming a victory over "canned music." The fight had stopped AFM members from making radio transcriptions.

The AFM's new contract with Decca protects the right of the federation to call a strike at any time in the future, and provides that the employer shall pay directly to the union's national headquarters a fee ranging from a quarter of a cent to five cents on each record sold. One provision states that even after expiration of the pact on Dec. 31, 1948, the payment of fees to the union, to alleviate "technological unemployment," shall continue.

Petrillo was quoted as stating that the union would not receive any large amount for its projected union unemployment fund for the duration of the war, but that in peace time it might run as high as $4,000,000 a year. Industry estimates had named a figure of half a million dollars annually, provided the contract was accepted by all companies.

See Film Pay Over U. S. Minimums

(*Continued from page* 1)

wage determination branch of the Wages and Hours Division of the Department of Labor, said that while the committee would check to see that film wages meet the standard prescribed by law it would not be seriously concerned with film industry wage scales. The department's statisticians, he indicated, have determined that virtually all screen salaries are in excess of the present 30-cent minimum. No motion picture men are on the committee.

The Department of Labor said that the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America and the Association of Motion Picture Producers had been invited to suggest nominees. They informed the Government, however, that prevailing standards are so substantially above the minimum that it was doubtful whether film representatives would desire to appear at the New York hearings.

The committee will also check film wages and examine increase schedules to be sure that they comply with the wage and hour law's stipulation that the minimum be raised to 40 cents within two years.

Capra Assigned to MOI Film Work

(*Continued from page* 1)

campaign picture he is expected to work with the MOI on a similar film on Sicily, it was said, and it is presumed the same kind of a film on Italy will be made after the end of the current campaign for possession of the country.

War Department officials had no comment on reports of an impending shake-up which would move direction of Army films and supervision of camp shows out of the hands of General Osborne.

Postwar Theatre Building, Remodeling Plans Spurt

(*Continued from page* 1)

ways the case, are greatly in excess of plans for new construction. Major remodeling projects may involve as much as 60 per cent of the nation's theatres.

Theatre building authorities point out by way of explanation of this trend of the moment that theatre operators realize the uncertainties of peacetime relocation of populations attracted to war industry centers by manpower demands. Theatre construction plans, they believe, will wait in many instances for the peacetime re-settlement of the millions of war workers, as well as the re-location of discharged service men.

Policy of Watchful Waiting

This watchful waiting policy on the part of prospective theatre builders is dictated primarily, it is believed, by the fact that no problem of underseating existed before the war. In fact, numerous strategic localities were regarded as overseated prior to the war boom.

John Eberson, prominent New York theatre architect and recently appointed head of the theatre division of the Office of Civilian Requirements, states that theatre owners are conscious of the fact that some expansion will be necessary after the war because of the likelihood of many of those involved in recent population shifts remaining in their new localities permanently.

"We have seven or eight plans for new theatres in our offices now on which exhibitors have given us the go-ahead signal," Eberson said. "These plans will be completed promptly to permit start of construction as soon as materials are available after the war. We foresee widespread theatre building activity at that time."

Sees No Drastic Changes

"At present," Eberson continued, "we can see no drastic changes in theatre construction in prospect. However, the use of substitute materials and newly developed ones, articles that have never been used for construction before, will be used now. This will be true particularly of plastics and refrigeration."

Rapp & Rapp, well known Chicago theatre architects, builders of more than 300 theatres here and abroad, report that new construction is being discussed widely in the Midwest but has not yet translated itself into actual orders. The interest being displayed, however, assures a very active construction and remodeling period as soon as conditions permit, they say.

Present building plans, they point out, would be subject to change, depending on the duration of the war and refinements developed in the drafting rooms and elsewhere in the meantime. However, they expect that all standard building materials will be in great demand after the war.

A checkup of circuits revealed cautious procedure on the subject of new theatre construction after the war, an attitude completely apart from restrictions now involved in the industry consent decree on expansion by its signatories. The decree allows for reasonable growth of circuits to protect established business and to serve the public in underseated areas.

RKO Postwar Plans

David P. Canavan, in charge of construction for RKO Theatres, said: "RKO has plans for construction of new houses and modernizing of others after the war. However, nothing definite has been set as yet."

The Fabian Circuit has established a large reserve for postwar modernization and refurnishing of its houses. No discussions have been held, however, nor have even tentative plans been made for new theatre construction, due in part to the fact that Si Fabian, head of the circuit, has been devoting practically all of his time to the industry War Activities Committee.

Warner Theatre officials said they have no immediate plans for postwar construction in this country but are, as previously reported, actively engaged in theatre construction and acquisition activities abroad. Indications are, however, that its domestic postwar program will call for extensive remodeling and refurnishing of theatres.

Bill Seeks Ban on Radio Censorship

(*Continued from page* 1)

J. Kennedy of New York in a resolution introduced in the House.

Kennedy charged that radio has become such an important factor in the shaping up of public opinion that "there has been a tendency by Government officials, broadcasting officials and various organizations to impose a direct or indirect censorship on radio discussions." Such censorship, he said, is not in the interests of the development of a free public opinion.

At present, Kennedy asserted, "through a filter system composed of the Federal Communications Commission and those who control the licensed broadcasting systems," our broadcasting has been diluted to the degree where it has become so neutral as to be ineffective."

Conversion of 2nd Runs to 1st Grows

(*Continued from page* 1)

booking congestion with four conversions. In the Northern California area six theatres have shifted to first runs. The Joseph Blumenfeld circuit transformed its Esquire theatre in San Francisco to first runs; also its T&D in Oakland and Tower in Sacramento. Robert Lippert's Liberty theatre in Sacramento is another conversion. The Alcazar in San Francisco, an old legitimate house, has been taken over by the Fox-West Coast circuit to show "For Whom the Bell Tolls," and may continue as a first run house.

Business Booming

COLUMBUS, Neb., Sept. 30.—The Strand Theatre here will run seven nights a week instead of two, as a result of an influx of new residents.

Theatre Bond Sales Mounting; National Quota Is Achieved

(*Continued from page* 1)

understanding of the principle involved in this war."

Two big war bond premieres helped the war loan in Detroit this week, with more than 10,000 bond buyers getting free tickets to see "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and "Sahara." The bond premiere of "Bell" was held Wednesday night at the United Artists and Wilson theatres, the "Sahara" premieres were conducted last night at the Fox and Adams theatres.

"It was a whirlwind, last-minute campaign to put Detroit and Michigan over the top in the Third War Loan drive," said Edward C. Beatty, state WAC leader. Sixty-two theatres cooperated in selling bonds entitling the buyers to tickets to the premieres.

In Rochester, N. Y., a total of $257,000 in bonds were bought by 3,400 persons Wednesday night at the bond premiere of "Johnny Come Lately" at Loew's Rochester.

Pittsburghers this week attended three war bond premieres instead of one, as originally scheduled. Mounting sales of bonds, and therefore mounting numbers of seat-holders, required the two extra premieres.

Penn Is Bond Theatre

The Penn was a bond theatre last night, opening "The Sky's the Limit." When sales far exceeded capacity, an SOS went out along with the SRO, and Moe Silver, Warner district manager, offered to turn over the Warner Theatre for a premiere of "Spitfire."

Still the sales went on and John Harris, head of the Harris group, arranged to show "The Phantom of the Opera" tonight at the Harris. Returns will be about $1,900,000 at the Penn, $879,000 at the Warner and more than $1,000,000 at the Harris.

The Penn and Warner suspended regular shows late Thursday afternoon, and the J. P. Harris on Friday afternoon.

In Marion, O., the Northio Palace, affiliated with Paramount, was the focal point of a whirlwind six-day selling campaign for its bond premiere, which became a community enterprise and realized $750,200.

In Hamilton, O., a bond premiere staged by Nat Turberg at the Paramount Theatre boosted Hamilton's drive total by $221,900.

2 OWI Features, 1 Short Now in Europe

(*Continued from page* 1)

of Information. It is a two-reeler starring Ingrid Bergman, who also delivers the commentary.

"The Cowboy," a two-reeler, was designed by the OWI especially for overseas exhibition, its purpose being to depict the real American cowboy, his life on the ranch and his wartime occupation as distinct from the cowboy known to Western film fans. "News Review" is a six-reel compilation of official U. S. and British Army photographic material, and was designed to show to people of occupied countries upon liberation by Allied forces.

L. A. Grosses Tempered By War Films

Los Angeles, Sept. 30.—It was war, war and more war on the first run front, and "Behind the Rising Sun," standout of the week preceding, dipped below par at the Pantages, although a comfortable $5,000 above at the Hillstreet, bringing a decision to call the second week its last. "Watch on the Rhine" was above average at the Warner houses in a second week but appeared likewise nearing its close. Perhaps because servicemen on leave detrain at downtown terminals, downtown houses in general fared better than their Hollywood affiliates in war-dominated week.

Estimated receipts for the week end-Sept. 29:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,518) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $14,800. (Average, $8,407)
"Salute to the Marines" (MGM)
"The Kansan" (U. A.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average, $14,052)
"I Walked With a ombie" (RKO)
"Leopard Man" (RKO)
HAWAII (1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $5,200. (Average, $9,264)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO) (2nd wk.)
"Mexican Spitfire's Blessed Event" (RKO)
HILLSTREET (2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average, $15,244)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
"The Kansan" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE — (2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $20,752)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO) 2nd week)
"Mexican Spitfire's Blessed Event" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $12,810)
"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) — (1,407) (44c-55c-65c-88c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $10,808)
"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich Swings It" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Downtown)—(3,595) (44c-55c-65c-88c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $13,-800. (Average, $19,768)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
"The Kansan" (UA)
RITZ—(1,376) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $9,600. (Average, $9,416)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $28,700.
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Hollywood) (3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,527. (Average, $13,651)
"Watch on the Rhine" (W.B.)
WARNER BROS. (Downtown)—(3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,381. (Average, $16,094)
"Watch on the Rhine" (W.B.)
WARNER BROS. (Wiltern) — $2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,186. (Average, $12,794)

'Wintertime' Takes Lead in New Haven

New Haven, Sept. 30.—"Wintertime," with "Adventures of a Rookie," had a $10,000 week at the Loew-Poli and holds for a week at the College. Second week of "Salute to the Marines" and "Nobody's Darling" at the College grossed $3,800.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 30:

"Melody Parade" Mono.)
"Spy Train" (Mono.)
BIJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,600. (Average, $3,600)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
"Nobody's Darling" (Rep.)
COLLEGE—(1,565) (40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,800. (Average, $3,200)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
LOEW-POLI—(3,005) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $9,300)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
"Aerial Gunner" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,373) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $6,200)

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Sept. 30

The daily report of the War Finance Committtee on the Third War Loan drive today showed the following totals combining corporation purchases with personnel buys: 20th-Fox, $1,850,000 Columbia, $1,625,-156; Universal, $822,386; Monogram, $265,000 and RKO, $250,000.

•

Katina Paxinou, who is critically ill, entered Cedars of Lebanon Hospital today. RKO suspended shooting on "Tender Comrade" to enable Mady Christians to arrive from New York in order to replace Miss Paxinou. Shooting will resume on Monday.

•

Ben Pivar, for the past five years an associate producer at Universal, was today elevated to the six-member body at the studio supervising production executives.

•

Louis B. Mayer was host today to Senator "Happy" Chandler at a luncheon at the studio. The entire executive personnel of the studio attended.

•

Sam Burger of the M-G-M foreign sales department, left here tonight for Mexico City. He will return to New York in about four months.

•

Paramount today signed Robert Benchley to an actor-writer contract. He has not been given an assignment as yet.

•

Paramount today commissioned Marcia Davenport to write an original about a career woman. John Houseman will produce.

•

Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic, and William Saal, Republic producer, will arrive here on Saturday.

•

Hall Wallis will return here Saturday from New York-Washington conferences.

•

Paramount today extended Marjorie Reynold's contract for another year.

Cox Resigns FCC Investigation Post

Washington, Sept. 30.—Representative E. E. Cox of Georgia today resigned the chairmanship of the special House committee investigating the Federal Communications Commission. Cox, who has been under sharp attack for his dual role of prosecutor and judge, as author of the probe resolution and chairman of the committee, announced his resignation on the floor of the House after conferring with Speaker Rayburn.

To File Crescent Appeal by Oct. 25

(Continued from page 1)

points would be covered in such an event.

No date has been set for the pretrial conference in the Griffith Amusement Co. case at Oklahoma City, nor is there any indication that it will be held in the near future, but Department officials refused to comment on reports that the suit might be dropped for the duration of the war.

'Face It', $17,000, 'Danger', $16,000

Minneapolis, Sept. 30.—"Let's Face It," at the State appears headed for a heavy $17,000 week, while "Background to Danger," coupled with a stage show, was pointed for $16,000 at the Orpheum. Indian summer weather did no harm to show business.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2:

"Mr. Lucky" (RKO)
CENTURY—(1,600) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $7,000)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
LYRIC—(1,250) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $4,500)
"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
WORLD—(350) (40c-50c-55c-75c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $2,300. (Average, $2,200)
"We've Never Been Licked" (Univ.)
GOPHER—(998) (35c) 7 days. Gross: $3,-000. (Average, $3,400)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
STATE—(2,300) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $12,000)
"Background to Danger" (WB)
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (45c-60c) 7 days. On stage: Connee Boswell and Joe Venuti's orchestra. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $11,-600)
"Red River Robin Hood" (RKO) 4 days
"Yanks Ahoy" (UA) 4 days
ASTER—(900) (20c-30c) 7 days, with midweek change. Gross: $2,600. (Average, $2,300)

5 Film Companies Incorporate in N. Y.

Albany, Sept. 30.—Five film companies have received papers of incorporation here, from Thomas J. Curran, Secretary of State.

New corporations are: Parlid Theatre Corp., Manhattan, incorporated by Charles J. Zimmerman, Joseph L. Simon and Ann Berchin Doxor Productions, Inc., Manhattan, Hal Korda and Stephen Klen-d'Oxylion, and Sidney Kramer Midzim, Inc., Esther Bergman, Raye Lapin and Freda Jarrett; Medano Corp. and Angot Amusement Corp., both formed by Mae Rubin, Betty Loeb and Lucille Cooper.

Douglas Amusement Corp. was dissolved.

Louisville Houses Fined for Crowding

Louisville, Sept. 30.—Local government here has been forced to take action against over-crowding of theatres occasioned by the defense boom. W. S. Greer and Henry Simmerman, managers of the Parkland and Broadway, respectively, were fined $20 each and costs, following a police report which stated that their theatres were fire hazards.

New England Also Turns to Air Ads

Boston, Sept. 30.—Increased use of radio as a film advertising medium is noted in this area, as elsewhere. Reason is attributed to the curtailment of newspaper advertising space.

Lt. Mattes Killed

New Haven, Sept. 30.—Lt. Merwin B. Mattes, 25, son of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham J. Mattes, and formerly associated with his father in Photo News Service, printer of theatre programs, died in New Guinea of injuries received in an accident, his parents have been notified.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Sept. 30

Action which may lead to doing away with double feature bills may be expected from a number of studios now that Paramount has taken the icy plunge by replacing the second feature on programs of Famous Players Canadian theatres with two-reel musical shorts.

The studio has a tentative schedule of six two-reel musical shorts a year in Technicolor, but will have to lift this to considerably greater production levels if it plans to provide many theatres with a complete show including a feature, musical short, and news reel.

Two of the shorts seen here were well received. They are "Mardi Gras" and "Carribean Romance." Others to follow soon are "Lucky Cowboy" and "Mississippi Magic." They are produced by Louis Harris under supervision of Walter MacEwen.

•

Hunt Stromberg, long an exponent of single feature programs, is said here to be one of the showmen who had a hand in starting double feature programs. He let Sid Grauman persuade him not to trim his four reels of "Lady's Man," starring Bull Montana, to two reels, but to run it at Grauman's Million Dollar theatre as "a second feature." That was 21 years ago.

•

Ralph Murphy has put "Man on Half Moon Street" before the cameras at Paramount. . . . In his first screen role Tom Powers, of the Broadway stage, will be killed off. He plays the husband of Barbara Stanwyck, who is murdered, in "Double Indemnity" at Paramount. . . . Mary Pickford returns to the screen for the first time since 1927 in a Fifth War Loan Short for Canada now being made at Universal. . . . William Demarest is set for a role in "Curly," starring Cary Grant and Janet Blair, with Al Hall directing.

•

Connie Weiler is a stunning co-ed in "Mr. Co-Ed" starring Red Skelton and Esther Williams. She'll cavort in the water ballet sequences in which Swim Champ Esther will shine brightly. . . . Warners handed Irene Manning a new seven-year deal following her performance in "Desert Song."

Freeman, Smith at SMPE Meet, Oct. 18

(Continued from page 1)

dak; Burton Thompson, Paramount; J. B. Lansing, Altec-Lansing; H. G. Cunningham, Signal Corps; Farciot Edouard, Paramount; James Corcoran, 20th-Fox, et al. Klaus Landsberg of Television Productions, Paramount affiliate, will discuss post-war television requirements.

'Paris' Screenings

Trade screenings of "Paris After Dark" will be held at all 20th-Fox exchanges, except St. Louis and Portland, Ore., on Monday. St. Louis and Portland showings will be in outside projection room theatres.

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Film and Radio News
Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 66 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1943 TEN CENTS

WAC Demands Army Act on Soldier Shows

Remedial Action Sought On Deficiencies

"The reports of serious film deficiencies overseas demand immediate attention by the War Department and such remedial action as a complete investigation by government authorities may warrant," Francis S. Harmon, executive vice-chairman of the War Activities Committee, declared in a statement at the weekend.

Washington, Oct. 3.—Officers in the overseas branch of the Army pictorial service at the weekend defended efforts to get motion pictures to soldiers abroad and declared the number of prints sent to Africa had been increased from 6 to 18 since June. The scope of the circuit, they pointed out, made for problems which are gradually being overcome.

"The American motion picture industry," Harmon stated, "is proud of

(*Continued on page* 8)

U. S. Soldiers Get Old Films: Jolson

By MILT LIVINGSTON

Heads of distributing companies will receive a 30-page report from Al Jolson, newly returned from the front lines, detailing and criticizing conditions of U. S. film exhibition among our troops in African and Mediterranean war zones. Prints are entirely too few, their condition is poor and their subjects are old, Jolson observed.

He also reiterated the report made

(*Continued on page* 8)

Stanton Griffis Starts Today in OWI Post

Stanton Griffis, on leave of absence as chairman of the executive committee of Paramount, starts today in his dollar-a-year job in Washington as chief of the motion picture bureau, domestic branch of the Office of War Information. Griffis completes the liaison set-up between the OWI and the film industry, taking over the post formerly occupied by Lowell Mellett.

Legion Interested Only in Morals, Says McClafferty

Speaking on the Catholic Hour, carried nationally by NBC last night, Monsignor John J. McClafferty, executive secretary of the National Legion of Decency, declared that: "The Legion is interested exclusively in the moral content and quality of motion pictures. The Legion is not preoccupied with the technical or artistic value of the film. Neither is the Legion concerned with the legal, commercial or administrative aspects or policies which make up the commercial warp and woof of the industry."

He stated that "the Church would have men decent in international dealings, decent in national affairs, decent in civic, social and economic relations,

(*Continued on page* 3)

'U's' 39-Weeks' Profit, $2,771,338

Universal Pictures Co., of which J. Cheever Cowdin is board chairman, reported at the weekend net profit of $2,771,338, after all charges including provisions for Federal income and excess profits taxes, for the 39 weeks ended July 31, 1943. This compares with $1,873,443 for the corresponding period of last year. Operating profit, before providing for Federal taxes, for the same period was $8,445,538, compared to $4,482,643 in the same period of last year.

'Army' Gross Is Now $6,500,000

Another $500,000 in gross theatre admissions from "This Is the Army" has been added to the $6,000,000 grossed by the Irving Berlin - Warner Bros. musical for Army Relief, as exclusively reported in *Motion Picture Daily* on Friday, based on field reports on the film's first eight weeks.

Roosevelt and Willkie Greet Coast Writers

Los Angeles, Oct. 3.—President Roosevelt described the three-day Writers' Congress which terminated on the campus of the University of California tonight as a "symbol of our American faith in the freedom of expression." Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul, president of the university in Los Angeles, read the text.

"I send these greetings to the Writers' Congress with a deep sense of the significance of a gathering of writers in these times," wrote the President. "Already, men and women gathered there have rendered great service in elucidating for the nation the issues

(*Continued on page* 3)

Herbert V. Fecke Named Advertising Manager of Motion Picture Daily

Herbert V. Fecke, advertising representative for *Motion Picture Herald* since 1931 and identified with the industry since 1917, has been named advertising manager of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, effective immediately.

Herbert V. Fecke

Fecke succeeds James Cron, who resigned last week to become advertising representative for *Showmen's Trade Review*, replacing Joseph Gallagher who resigned because of illness.

Fecke entered the industry in 1917 with World Film Corp., later becoming an independent distributor in New England. He engaged in advertising in 1927, becoming New England and Canadian branch manager for H. D. Seibert Co., financial publishers. In 1928, Fecke joined *Exhibitors Daily Review* as an advertising representative, subsequently transferring to *Theatre Management* in a similar capacity. He was named Eastern advertising representative of *Exhibitors Herald-World* in 1930 and continued as advertising representative of *Motion Picture Herald* following the merger of the *Herald-World* with *Motion Picture News*.

SETOA Asks Single Film Decree Sales

Urges Revamping of Key Arbitration Rules

Atlanta, Oct. 3.—Individually sold pictures, but without limitation as to the number which can be offered by a distributor or licensed by an exhibitor at one time, is asked in a brief suggesting changes in the consent decree sent to Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark at the weekend by the Southeastern Theatre Owners Association, of which Nat M. Williams is president.

[Heads of the five consenting companies will meet in New York today with Tom C. Clark and Robert L. Wright, Assistant U. S. Attorney Generals to continue discussions of company experience under the decree during the trial period and further explore the need for changes in the document. Counsel for de-

(*Continued on page* 8)

May Challenge WMC 48-Hour Studio Rule

Hollywood, Oct. 3.—Production inclines toward a challenge of the War Manpower Commission's order putting the studios on a 48-hour week, but leaving clerical workers on a 44-hour week. The new ruling upholds a previous decision of the wartime work week committee of the WMC from which the studios appealed.

Further clarifying its war-work ruling for the industry here, the local

(*Continued on page* 8)

Doob Back at Post After Bond Drive

Oscar Doob returns today to his post at Loew's home office as head of the circuit's advertising, publicity and exploitation, after serving the Treasury Department in Washington, as assistant national director of the War Finance Committee in charge of advertising.

Doob's requisitioning by the Government was specifically for the Third War Loan, which has far exceeded its $15,000,000,000 quota. During the ten weeks' absence, Ernest Emerling, Doob's assistant, conducted Loew Theatres' advertising-publicity promotions.

Personal Mention

GEORGE V. LYNCH, general manager of the Schine Circuit, while visiting his wife, MARION, and new-born son, EDWARD JAMES, at Nathan Lattieur Hospital, Gloversville, last week, glanced out a window and witnessed his parked automobile go up in flames. And no priority for a new one.

•

LEON GOLDBERG, newly appointed RKO studio manager, will be given a farewell luncheon by home office associates on Wednesday. He leaves for the Coast at the end of the week.

•

FRED HERKOWITZ of the RKO Theatres publicity department will be tendered a luncheon by associates at the Astor Hotel Thursday. He will go into the Army Oct. 15.

•

HARRY HUNTER, Paramount managing director for Australia, who has been visiting relatives in the Pacific Northwest, is scheduled to arrive in New York tomorrow.

•

LOU METZGER, recovering in Kansas City from a recent illness, is expected to be able to resume his journey to New York within the next few days.

•

MRS. MARION JOURDAN claims a unique record, selling $23,837 in war bonds at her Majestic Theatre, in Iuka, Miss., a town of less than 1,000.

•

PFC HOWARD JESSON, formerly of RKO's publicity department, visited the home office at the weekend, on a furlough from Camp Campbell, Ky.

•

GEORGE J. SCHAEFER has decided to extend his current Hollywood visit for another two weeks or more.

•

LOU SMITH, Eastern publicity manager for M-G-M, who is in California, expects to remain at the studio another three weeks.

•

LILLIE MESSENGER, of Metro's story department, leaves Hollywood for New York in about 10 days.

•

ARTHUR FREED, M-G-M producer, expects to go East from the Coast in a couple of weeks.

•

JULES FIELDS of 20th Century-Fox's exploitation department, has returned from Atlanta.

•

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor contact, returned at the weekend from Washington.

•

BERNARD KREISLER of Universal is expected to return from Detroit early this week.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE and NAT LEVY are scheduled to leave today for Jacksonville, Fla.

•

LEO SPITZ is expected here from the Coast the latter part of the week.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

EXHIBITOR fears of a product shortage, widespread and widely expressed some months ago, have all but vanished now. Here and there, theatres faced a real predicament for a time as holdovers became the order of the day in pre-release and first run houses and releases of some major companies became fewer.

As pictures of holdover calibre worked their way into subsequent runs and, with general increases in patronage in most areas, won the right to extra playing time far down the line, the product strain was eased noticeably. Helping to fill the breach, too, were a number of reissues wholly acceptable to today's patronage.

Today, many pictures are commanding extra time in subsequent runs and the need for product to fill in waiting time resulting from holdovers in the advanced runs is lessened, even in spite of wartime print shortages. The new playing order appears to be settling down for what may be a long stay.

The significant thing is that the change was made without serious disruption anywhere along the line. Admission scales were not adversely affected. Program policies remain unchanged. Double featuring, wherever it was established, still flourishes, despite record attendance figures and programs weighted with official films. In short, that which was so widely feared, passes, leaving scarcely a ripple in its wake.

• •

Lieutenant Colonel Frank Capra was quoted in dispatches from London as saying, with respect to what were termed "flag-waving Hollywood productions," that he attributes them "to ignorance," adding: "I don't think they're making bad pictures knowingly."

Capra should know a bad picture when he sees one. We wonder only whether he makes a bad speech knowingly.

• •

Observers report evidence of considerable impatience among theatre audiences during show interludes in which war bond sales appeals were made for the drive just closed. In some theatres the impatience reached the stage of demonstrations marked by calls of "Put on the picture," "Get on with the show," etc. The prevailing belief is that the demonstrators were completely unaware that their actions might be interpreted as unpatriotic. It was assumed that many of them undoubtedly were bond purchasers; either at the theatre earlier or elsewhere and, for that reason, were uninterested in the appeal being made to the audience.

The incidents would suggest, however, that exhibitors should see to it that audience appeals of the kind are brief, forceful and to the point. The public always is ready to buy war bonds, but not to listen to an overabundance of palaver in amusement places. A windy sales talk often defeats its own purpose.

• •

Newspapers gave two-column heads recently to a story of two American infantrymen who wandered behind enemy lines at Salerno and, after two days of dodging Nazis, returned safely to Allied positions. Hollywood wouldn't consider the incident worthy of notice unless the two had returned with a Nazi general and two platoons of prisoners, leaving a trail of destruction and consternation behind them in the enemy territory.

Perhaps that's what Capra meant, but that's not "ignorance." That's box office.

• •

According to present plans, counsel for decree companies still will be absent from the conference table when Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark comes here from Washington for his second conference with company heads on the future of the decree and company experience under it during the past two and one-half years.

Nothing in the way of a formal draft of proposals is ready for presentation by the company executives. The discussions will involve a further exchange of views leading up to the preparation of such a draft.

• •

An official of a major company, enthused over plans submitted to him for war bond premieres for the current Third War Loan drive, initiated arrangements for premieres at two of his company's important affiliated theatres. Plans in readiness, a release was sent out to trade papers announcing one of the company's biggest attractions for the shows. Just prior to publication, came a phone call from the official ordering the story killed. The reason: He had been unable to obtain the picture from his distribution department.

Fitzgibbons Heads War Service Unit

Toronto, Oct. 3.—J. J. Fitzgibbons was elected chairman at a meeting here of the Canadian M. P. War Services Committee, succeeding the late N. L. Nathanson, and will also serve as national chairman of the Motion Picture Section of the National War Finance Committee to extend the cooperation of the film industry in the Fifth Victory Loan Drive.

Thomas J. Bragg, of the Odeon Circuit, was elected vice-chairman of war services. R. W. Bolstad, of Famous Players, is treasurer, and Ray Lewis is national secretary.

Heads of provincial regional organizations were named for special war drives, including a coal conservation campaign. A war services executive committee was also named.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 3

APROXIMATELY 3,000 Class B members of the Screen Actors Guild attended a mass meeting tonight at the Hollywood Legion Stadium, to hear from SAG president James Cagney details of a plan for granting extras autonomy if it is wanted by the majority. Ballots, by which extras are to signify first, whether they want autonomy, second, whether under the charter from SAG or from the Four A's, were posted following the session, returnable in 30 days.

•

Dudley Nichols has been signed by 20th-Fox to collaborate with Lamar Trotti on "One World." The starting date was advanced to January. This will be the first time either Nichols or Trotti has worked with a collaborator.

•

Don "Red" Barry has been borrowed by 20th-Fox for a top role in Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Purple Heart."

•

Nate Blumberg left here at the weekend for the East.

10 Reissues from W.B. in 1943-44

At least two additional reissues will be distributed by Warner Bros. in this new season, augmenting the two James Cagney reissues and the six Dick Foran Westerns already on the company's schedule.

New duo, on which bookings already are being made, were 1938 releases, "Crime School," with Humphrey Bogart and the Dead End Kids, and "Girls on Probation,"

"The Oklahoma Kid," with Cagney and Bogart, is currently in release, Ann Sheridan, is scheduled for return and "Torrid Zone," with Cagney and play later in the season.

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Treasury Sees No Increase in Admission Tax

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3. — Administration's program for the raising of an additional $12,000,000,000 in taxes will be disclosed tomorrow at the opening of hearings before the House Ways and Means Committee, but there were no indications tonight that any increase in the theatre admission tax would be recommended.

Largely, it is believed, the plan will call for further increases in individual taxes, with the bulk of the burden falling on incomes of $5,000 to $50,000, an increase from 40 to 50 per cent in the corporation taxes and expansion of the excise taxes.

While the admission rate went as high as 25 per cent during the last war, Treasury experts are believed to feel that the present rate is bringing in maximum revenue. During the fiscal year ended last June, the Government collected $154,000,000 from this source; currently, the revenue is running close to the $200,000,000-a-year mark.

No details of the proposed excise taxes have been disclosed and there is a possibility that the last war's film-rental tax may be revised, although no such discussion has previously been offered by the Treasury.

Union Continues, Despite the CIO

Charging what he terms the "trickery" of UOPWA-CIO's administrative committee's action in withdrawing the charter granted M. P. Theatre Managers and Employees to operate a local for theatre employees, D. F. Barreca, MPTME president, in a press release at the weekend, revealed that he will not abandon his plan to organize theatre staffs, without UOPWA-CIO affiliation.

Barreca charges that the communication from UOPWA president, Lewis Merrill, publicly announcing the charter's cancellation, released to the press before its receipt by MPTME "exploits the phrase democratic practices," yet he was neither informed of the charges, nor did he have the opportunity to defend the charges before the decision to revoke the charter was made, said Barreca.

Further, Barreca claims that the "charges" as conveyed to him by Merrill were of a minor nature.

Two Cities Buys Churchill Story

LONDON, Oct. 3.—Winston Churchill has sold his story, "Marlborough, His Life and Times," to Two Cities Productions, ending what is described to have been "terrific international competition" for rights to the yarn by Britain's Prime Minister. Churchill, thereby, is considered here to have made a significant political gesture in behalf of the British film industry.

Two Cities will produce at Denham Studios here, and General Films will distribute.

Roosevelt and Willkie Greet Writers' Congress

(Continued from page 1)

of this war and the nature of our enemies.

"I am confident they will perform an equal service, as victory becomes increasingly assured, in informing the people of the complex problems that must be solved if peace is to be a living reality. I want to extend congratulations also to the Hollywood Writers Mobilization committee and to the University of California in Los Angeles for sponsoring a meeting of importance to all Americans."

Wendell L. Willkie in a message to those gathered at the Writers Congress here declared: "Everywhere intellectually hungry people are learning that a diet of lies and half-lies cannot uphold them, and in their search for sustenance and strength they are turning more and more to democratic belief and education.

"Of course you writers know that it is the amount of intellectual and cultural freedom which prevails throughout the world by which the qualitative and quantitative character of world civilization can be assessed."

Urges Writers to Tell Facts

Vice-President Wallace, in a message, urged the writers "to tell facts, to give meaning to actions and feelings which constitute the world today and out of which the common man, once he has knowledge of these things, will draw his own sound conclusions."

In crowded Royce Hall, the opening session Friday night was attended by a capacity audience. A long double line of dais guests included renowed figures in the world of letters, official representatives of the Army, Office of War Information, Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, United Nations and representatives of the film industry.

James Cagney, Screen Actors' Guild president, acknowledged the writers' aid in the war effort of actors, declaring "nothing would have been accomplished without writers."

Y. Frank Freeman for the producers bid them welcome, stating "none has made a greater contribution to the success of the industry than the writer."

Kenneth Thomson, for the Hollywood Victory Committee, declared its work would have been useless had it not been for the writers. Major Leonard Spiegelgass of the Army's Special Services Division and former scenarist, thanked the writers for their war contribution on behalf of General Osborne, his chief.

Major Smith Speaks

Major Alpheus Smith, Director of Information, Education and Research of the War Department School, Lexington, Va., declared: "Modern democracy cannot exist without great channels of communications provided by the press, radio and screen."

Thomas Baird, representing the British Government, brought greetings from British literary men. Likewise did Phyllis Bentley, noted British author. Similar greetings were delivered by representatives of other foreign nations, including Brazil, Argentina, the USSR and Cuba.

Walter White, representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, made a plea for elimination of prejudices against minorities, particularly stressing the negro.

Charges Attempt to Turn Public

At "the feature film" seminar Saturday with Robert Rossen as chairman, Howard Estabrook, scenarist, charged that a concerted effort has been made to sell the public the idea it was tired of war subjects and pictures with serious themes on today's problems. He speculated whether exhibitors had started the move based on information from patrons or whether it did not emanate from large producers because serious pictures require more thinking, more writing and greater production effort. Citing "Watch on the Rhine" as a success, he asked, "is it possible the public is vainly trying to escape from miles of cinema rubbish foisted upon them, fortified by popular personalities?" He deplored the "glaring lack" of important films dealing with the home front.

Pictures with Purpose Possible

Speaking as an individual, Darryl F. Zanuck at the same seminar expressed his belief it was possible to make pictures with a purpose and significance that also will show a proper box office return. "I'm speaking of entertainment as a device to make serious, worthwhile pictures palatable to mass audiences. I'm firmly convinced the run-of-mill patron is ready for such pictures and has been ready for them for years. It is the gap we must bridge in order to justify our place in the social, economic and political scheme of things. That's where you writers come in, for your stories and your ideas, after all are the foundation of films. It is up to you to find the means and the method by which pictures of meaning and significance can be made enjoyable to the mass of people."

Must Maintain Balance

William Dozier of Paramount at the same session said: "It is impossible for any company to ignore the commercial side of it's business. A balance must be maintained between pictures whose educational value is certain but whose box office value is uncertain and those whose box office is certain but whose propaganda or educational value is doubtful or even non-existent. There must be no escape, no attempt to escape, from the discharge by the studios and, therefore, by writers of responsibility to point out to audiences, subtly, if possible and upholstered by entertainment, if possible, what their participation is to be in the post war world and that they should and must adjust themselves to it intellectually and emotionally."

Legion Condemns Use of School for Congress

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 3.—Local American Legion went on record over the weekend against the use of the University of California for the Writers' Congress, condemning the use of "tax-supported schools for meetings which can be viewed only as un-American."

Forty Warner Films in Work Or Preparing

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 3.—Warner Bros. will start the year's last quarter with the record schedule of 40 films for production or preparation, according to Jack L. Warner, who says that this will be the largest group ever set since the studio's founding.

Starting this week are "Mr. Skeffington," starring Bette Davis; "Outward Bound," co-starring John Garfield and Paul Henreid. Trailing will be "Ethan Frome," scheduled for Bette Davis; "Mask for Dimitrios," scheduled for Nancy Coleman and Helmut Dantine; "Instruct My Sorrow," Barbara Stanwyck; "Never Goodbye," Joan Crawford; "The Devil, George and Rosie," Errol Flynn, Ann Sheridan and Humphrey Bogart; "Strolling Down the Avenue," Ann Sheridan; "Deep Valley," John Garfield; "Janie," Joyce Reynolds; "Horn Blows at Midnight," Jack Benny; "Nobody Lives Forever," Humphrey Bogart; "The Very Thought of You," Joan Leslie; "Here Come the Girls," Ann Sheridan, Alexis Smith, Ida Lupino and Jane Wyman.

Warners Set for the Year

Also these with unannounced casts: "Three Strangers," "My Reputation," "Escape Me Never," "The Fool of the Family," "Roughly Speaking," "The Widow Who Wouldn't Weep," "Pillars of Society," "The Time Between," "Melancholy Baby," "The Dough Girls," "Sergeant Schmidt, Marine"; a story based on Marilyn Miller; "The Corn Is Green," "God Is My Co-Pilot," "Night and Day," "Strangers in Our Midst," "The Conspirators," "Green Eyes," "The Animal Kingdom."

With seven finished, five editing, three shooting and only 15 released in the first nine months of the calendar year, the schedule sets Warner for all of the 1942-43 season and a considerable period beyond unless the company sharply accelerates its current releasing rate. No evidence here to indicate such a switch impends.

Legion Interested Only in Morals

(Continued from page 1)

decent in family life and decent in recreational and cultural pursuits. In fine, the Church would have man decent in all his relationships, would have man always and in all things live in accord with the high calling of his dignity and destiny."

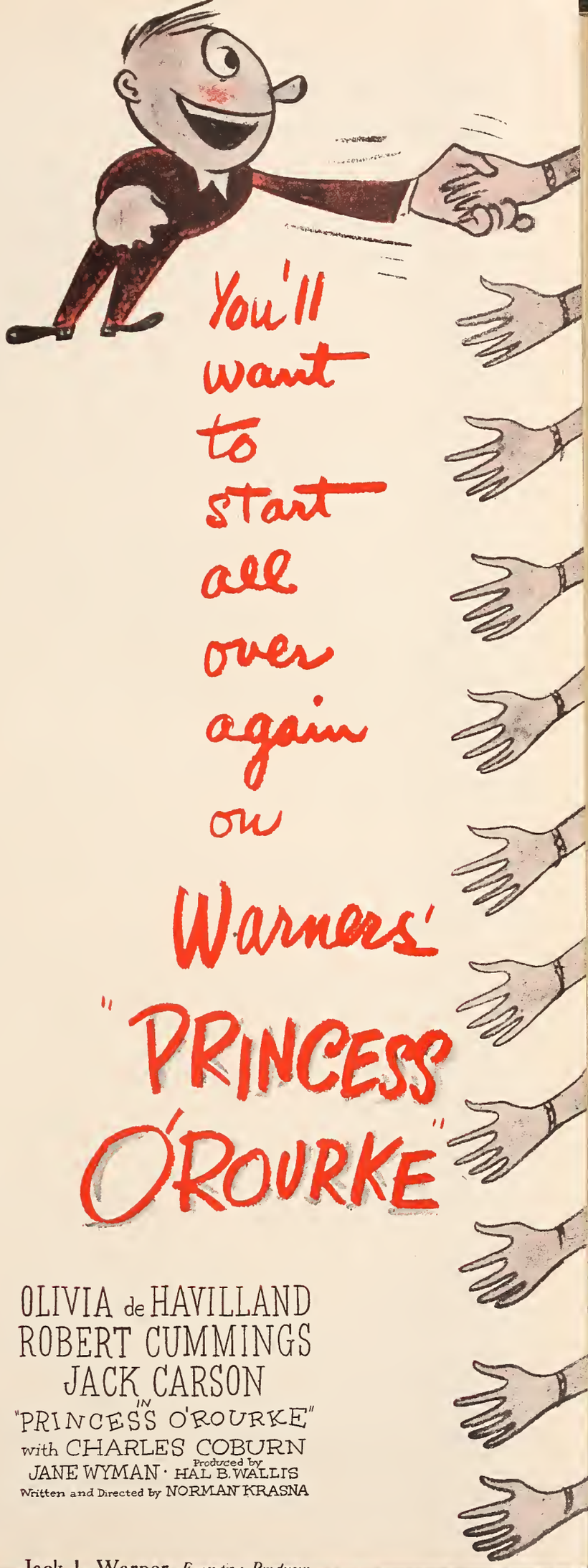
Emphasizing that the Church "has a proper and necessary interest in the recreation of her children," he cited the words of Pius XI from the Encyclical on Motion Pictures, "Recreation must be worthy of the rational nature of man and therefore morally healthy."

He asserted that under the mandate from Pius XI, "the Bishops of the United States are determined at all times and at all costs to safeguard the recreation of the people in whatever form that recreation may take."

When you get thru thanking your lucky stars for Warners'

"THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS"

All Give to the National War Fund—it gives to all.



OLIVIA de HAVILLAND
ROBERT CUMMINGS
JACK CARSON
IN
"PRINCESS O'ROURKE"
with CHARLES COBURN
JANE WYMAN · Produced by HAL B. WALLIS
Written and Directed by NORMAN KRASNA

Jack L. Warner, *Executive Producer*

Australia Now Has 1,570 Film Houses

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 3.—Total Australian investment in film production is estimated to be between $700,000 and $800,000, according to the film section of the U. S. Department of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, in reporting from Sydney, via attaches.

Investment includes property, buildings, equipment, and laboratories. Production is devoted almost entirely to newsreels and shorts, with only one feature being made.

It is estimated that average theatre attendance is approximately 3,000,000 weekly. There are 1,570 theatres in the country plus 53 traveling shows which visit outlying districts. The traveling groups, however, are greatly handicapped at present by lack of gasoline, tires, and automotive repair parts, and their future is uncertain.

Most programs last about 3 hours and include two features, a short, and at least one newsreel. Twelve small "theatrettes" located in the larger cities, with seating capacities averaging 300, present 60 to 80-minute programs of newsreels and shorts.

It has been reported that a movement is underway to establish a circuit in the principal cities to show Russian films exclusively.

Australian law requires that all theatres remain closed on Sunday, but the authorities have now agreed to allow Sunday performances for people in uniforms and their guests. Theatres in Melbourne, Sydney, and a number of Queensland cities are now operating under this arrangement with ten percent of the box-office receipts from Sunday showings going to charity.

'Rising Sun' Good On $11,200 Gross

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 3.—"Behind the Rising Sun" at the Alhambra did a good job this week with $11,200. Receipts at other theatres were low, although "Mr. Lucky" at Warners, was holding its own in its second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2:

"Destroyer" (Col.)
"Lady Bodyguard" (Para.)
PALACE — (2,400) (50c-65c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $8,360. (Average, $7,600)

"The Oklahoma Kid" (WB)
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (44c-60c-75c) 7 days, plus Teddy Powell and his orchestra on the stage. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $14,000)

"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
"What's Buzzin' Cousin?" (Col.)
STRAND — (1,400) (50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 4th downtown week. Gross: $2,400. (Average, $2,400)

"Mr. Lucky" (RKO)
"Get Going" (Univ.)
WARNER—(2,400) (44c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,480. (Average, $10,400)

"Wintertime"(20th-Fox)
"Passport to Suez" (Col.)
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (50c-65c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,660. (Average, $10,600)

"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
"Mexican Spitfire's Blessed Event" (RKO)
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (44c-65c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $11,200. (Average, $8,000)

Anthony Reopens Rex

CHICAGO, Oct. 3.—The Rex Theatre, Champaign, has re-opened after being closed for several years. Ted Anthony is running the house and Si Greiver of Chicago is booking.

Off the Antenna

DOMESTIC broadcasting stations last year contributed $140,000,000 in time and talent to Government war messages, it is estimated in a report released yesterday by the Office of War Information. The OWI stresses that among the stations contributing this service are the 170 foreign-language stations which broadcast to 25,000,000 persons who speak foreign languages, 2,000,000 of whom neither speak nor understand English.

International broadcasting is entirely in the hands of the Government, which is using all 14 of the privately owned short-wave stations, together with eight commercial transmitters. The latter will be dropped upon the completion of 22 high-power transmitters now being built. The short-wave stations are used jointly by OWI and CIAA, the latter broadcasting during evening hours, when OWI's load is lightest, to reach South American listeners. OWI's program is on the air 24 hours a day in more than 40 languages and dialects.

• • •

Purely Personal—*Dr. W. R. G. Baker, vice-president of General Electric, has been appointed chairman of the new Radio Technical Planning Board for one year. Further organizational details of RTPB will be completed at meetings to be held in the near future. . . . The newly-formed program, sales, merchandising, and station services committees of Mutual, instituted at a recent board of directors' meeting will hold their first conference at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York on Oct. 5-7, respectively. . . . Station WHIP, Chicago, will soon be operating again, having been reorganized by minority stockholders of the defunct Hammond-Calumet Broadcasting Co.*

• • •

Program Notes—20th Century-Fox is promoting "Wintertime" over WJZ in New York with one minute spot announcements, and participations in Nancy Craig's "Women of Tomorrow" program. . . . Gracie Fields, due back in New York shortly to resume her regular Mutual spot for Pall Mall, is scheduled to make a second picture for 20th-Fox, "Centennial Summer," with Monty Woolley. . . . Harold Rodner, Warner home office executive, appeared on WEVD on Saturday to obtain volunteer workers for Montefiore Hospital, the appeal being made for part-time nurses and other personnel to fill the hospital's ranks which have been depleted by war calls. . . . Gale Sondergaard will make a guest appearance on WJZ-Blue's "Hollywood Radio Theatre" tonight. . . . "Revlon Revue," starring Gertrude Lawrence, which premiered on the Blue on Thursday night, moves to a Sunday night spot on Oct. 17.

Rogers' Films Set For Minneapolis

Republic's "Man from Music Mountain," starring Roy Rogers, will open on Oct. 15 at the Gopher Theatre, Minneapolis; 67 theatres in the territory have also booked other Rogers' films.

Planned for the territory, in addition to the regular theatre budgets, are 3,000 lines of newspaper advertising, for Minneapolis *Star Journal-Tribune* and *Times;* 60 24-sheets and radio spot announcements will be used on stations WCCO and KSTP. Similar campaigns will be conducted in St. Louis and Kansas City following the Minneapolis campaign, Republic said at the weekend.

Today will be Brooklyn Day for Rogers. He will present a 10-gallon hat to Borough President John Cashmore on the steps of Borough Hall.

Odeon Theatres Show $7,563,192 Profit

LONDON, Oct. 3.—Odeon Theatres report a profit for the year ended June 26 last of $7,563,192, which is an increase over the previous year by $1,424,092. The associated companies of the Odeon group showed a profit of $8,654,748, which is an increase over the previous year of $1,852,000.

Lt. Griffis Wed

Miss Martha Groomes Hughes, Portland, Ore., artist, was married Thursday to Lt. Nixon Griffis, son of Stanton Griffis, on leave of absence as chairman of the Paramount executive board and recently appointed chief of the OWI film unit at St. James Church here.

$684,000 Century War Bond Sale

The War Activities Committee said Friday that "a clerical error in the WAC sloughed off the efforts of the Century Circuit (New York) of 38 theatres by saying that it had only sold $84,000 in sales on Free Movie Day, held on Sept. 27. Actually, a later check showed, this figure should have been $684,000.

"According to Fred Schwartz, head of the circuit and extremely active WAC-ite, the extra $600,000 was tabulated by a special show, not a bond premiere, given at the Albemarle," said the WAC.

'Sahara' Screened In 8 More Cities

Columbia's "Sahara" was screened in eight more cities for exhibitors late last week. The film was trade shown in Buffalo, at the Regent; Dallas, at the Palace; Indianapolis, at Keith's; Oklahoma City, at the State; St. Louis, Ritz, and in Portland, Ore., at the Oriental.

Other cities to view the film during the past week were: Albany and Detroit.

Warner Roxyettes In Bond Campaign

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3. — Warner Bros. Earle Theatre Roxyettes have set a goal of $500,000 in War Bond sales for the Third War Loan, with their present total sales boosted quite a bit by the purchase of $50,000 in bonds by John J. Payette, Warner zone manager, on behalf of the theatre circuit.

The Roxyettes to date have sold approximately $200,000 in bonds, with complete figures still to be tabulated.

Phila. Owners Face Strong Competition

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 3.—In addition to a booming legitimate-theatre season, the concert and lecture season ahead looms as the biggest ever, all having strong potential competitive aspects for film houses. Most pronounced is the change of approach on the part of the concert management making a direct appeal to war workers and general masses, from where films get chief patronage, instead of the "select," or social set. In that direction, the Philadelphia Orchestra, for the first time, has scheduled a series of three Sunday "popular" concerts with Alec Templeton soloist for the first event on Oct. 31.

Further, the Philadelphia Orchestra has made available for the first time a special subscription rate for its regular concerts at the Academy of Music to local labor union memberships. Starting Oct. 6, the local orchestra season will include 66 regular concerts.

Also catering to the masses, the Philadelphia Opera Company, presenting grand operas in English, has moved out of the classical halls of the Acadamy, and for its local showings will put in two full weeks, starting Nov. 29, at the Erlanger Theatre, on a regular legitimate-theatre scale.

Similarly, the Philadelphia Forum, a concert and lecture series embracing almost 100 single events during the year, has replaced Lily Pons with the screen's Jeanette MacDonald for its Nov. 9 concert at the Academy. Moreover, the Forum will make tickets available for single events instead of restricting admission to subscribers for the entire season. And Emma Feldman, promoting annually an "all-star" concert series of five events, will sponsor five additional concerts this season. The local concert season got under way Thursday night at the Academy of Music with a program by Duke Ellington's orchestra, sponsored by Reese DuPree.

$100,000 Goal Set For 'Night of Stars'

A goal of $100,000 has been set for the tenth annual show of "Night of Stars," which will be presented at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday evening, Nov. 16, to bring to $1,000,000, the funds realized for the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine since the first "Night of Stars" was staged at the Yankee Stadium in 1934 before an audience of 45,000 New Yorkers.

Present indications are that proceeds from the forthcoming event will exceed the quota.

Coe to Be Ampa M.C.

Charles Francis Coe, vice president and general counsel of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, will be master of ceremonies at the "Salute to the Heroes of the Motion Picture Industry" to be held by Associated Motion Picture Advertisers at the Hotel Astor, Oct. 21.

Brown, Hatton Tour

SAN ANTONIO, Oct. 3.—John Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton, working under the Treasury Department, have toured Texas since Labor Day. They visited towns that the Hollywood Cavalcade missed and raised $6,000,000.

The 1943-44 International Motion Picture Almanac will be out this week . . . the book of facts about the motion picture industry . . . a summary of the "picture year" of 1942-43 . . . full information about the season of 1943-44.

As necessary as your telephone, and just as handy!

INTERNATIONAL MOTION PICTURE ALMANAC

Edited by TERRY RAMSAYE

QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS
ROCKEFELLER CENTER NEW YORK

SETOA Asks Single Film Decree Sales

(Continued from page 1)

cre companies on Friday completed the compilation of information sought by the Department of Justice following the initial conference with company heads in Washington three weeks ago.]

The SETOA decree brief advances further criticism of the arbitration system under the decree, terming it "unwieldy, unsuitable" and operating to the disadvantage of exhibitors. It also asks for the appointment of regional appeal boards.

Trade showings are approved without enthusiasm.

Blocks of five selling, on an "all or none" basis, permits of no selectivity in the licensing of films, the brief charges. It urges that individual picture selling be required with the licensing of no one picture being made dependent upon the licensing of another.

The brief asks retention of the decree provision prohibiting the forcing of newsreels, shorts, trailers, reissues, serials, Westerns and foreign-made films.

Section 6, relieving the distributor of licensing any run which would have the result of lessening the distributor's revenue is attacked as one-sided protection. Section 7 is found unnecessary in that cancellation of pictures for moral or other causes could automatically be cared for by the individual picture selling method recommended.

Section 10 is held to be complicated and one-sided.

"The net result of the decree," the brief states, "has been to break down the method of buying which had existed in the business for many years, and therefore becomes a regulation of those who are not a party to the decree, even to as great or greater an extent than of those who are.

The decree, the brief contends, has reversed in the industry the common operation of competition existing in other industries.

The memorandum was unanimously approved by the board and membership of SETOA.

Michigan Allied to Hear Decree Report

DETROIT, Oct. 3.—Recommendations for changes in the industry consent decree, forwarded to national Allied States by exhibitor organizations, will be discussed by Abram F. Myers, Allied board chairman and general counsel, at the annual meeting of Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan at the Hotel Statler here Tuesday and Wednesday.

Michigan Allied's own decree views will be up for discussion at the meeting also. Annual election of officers will be held Wednesday. Acceptances to attend the meeting have been received from David Palfreyman, MPPDA; H. M. Richey, Loew's; Claude Lee of Paramount; Paul Mooney of National Screen Service, and others.

WAC Demands War Dept. Act To Get New Films to Army

(Continued from page 1)

the fact that it commenced delivering its gift of current motion picture programs to the Army in Feb., 1942, for free showing to our fighting men in combat areas abroad. To date, we have delivered 6,635 of these gift programs, many times turning 16mm prints of new pictures over to the Army authorities for shipment before a single theatre audience in the United States had seen the picture. 'Stage Door Canteen,' 'Arsenic and Old Lace,' 'Star Spangled Rhythm,' 'Tarzan's New York Adventure,' are illustrations.

"Furthermore, the Special Service Division of the Army has been completely free for more than 12 months to order any number of prints from the industry's entire supply of current releases. At the beginning, the Army ordered only four prints. Today we are delivering 38 prints of each film. Last week 177 current motion picture programs were turned over to the Army overseas film exchange in New York for shipment abroad.

'Isolated Cases,' Says Army

"We have received from time to time reports from members of the industry in military service overseas, that the films getting through to them were frequently old and insufficient in number, and that the projection equipment was unsatisfactory. In each instance we promptly shared these communications with officers of the Special Service Division and were repeatedly assured that these were only isolated instances. We hope that this is still the case, especially in view of the fact that we have recently been receiving an increasing number of communications from overseas expressing grateful appreciation for new pictures, with comments as to the regularity of their exhibition.

"Last year, in an effort to insure these films getting through to the front line fighters for whom they were intended, the War Activities Committee sent an official communication to the Special Service Division offering the entire overseas facilities and personnel of the motion picture industry to the War Department in connection with the distribution and servicing of these films and of the army's projection equipment.

Industry Offered Exchanges

"We even suggested that if it were impracticable for us to handle this in a civilian capacity, then one of our exchanges in each country where our men are on combat duty, be militarized, since in our opinion the secret of satisfactory distribution was trained, experienced personnel on the job in each overseas theatre of operations. No written reply to this letter, dated Nov. 30, 1942, was ever received. We were told orally by officers of the Special Service Division that our suggestion was impracticable and that steps were being taken to insure satisfactory distribution of the industry's gift films," Harmon concluded.

Soldiers Get Old Films, Poor Prints, Says Jolson

(Continued from page 1)

by Jack Benny last Wednesday and reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Thursday that American servicemen in the war zones are clamoring for American comedy and musical films in an interview at USO-Camp Shows headquarters in New York.

Jolson made a two months' tour, under the auspices of the motion picture division of USO-Camp Shows, during which he traveled almost 40,000 miles and played 120 shows to soldiers and sailors at the American fighting fronts of Africa and Sicily, in theatres, chapels, air fields, hospitals, recreation centers, and even below deck of an American warship. He emphasized the need of more entertainment for our servicemen.

Jolson revealed that the report he has brought back for the American industry heads proposes remedies for the situation. American servicemen overseas "definitely" do not want to see American war films, Jolson also emphasized. He cited an instance where several band shorts were grouped together as one resort to furnish film entertainment of the type demanded by the troops.

An overseas trip to entertain the troops should be a must for every motion picture, radio, and theatrical performer. He said that the servicemen especially want to see "glamorous" screen stars like Betty Grable and Rita Hayworth, comedians like Eddie Cantor, George Jessel, Red Skelton and Lou Holtz, and bands of the Harry James and Tommy Dorsey variety. Jolson said that he was inspired by the work and is anxious to continue it.

He revealed that American short-waved entertainment programs are not reaching servicemen in Africa, although the programs broadcast by the British Broadcasting Co. do provide occasional entertainment. Poor reception in most cases is rendering this form of entertainment almost nil.

Now an honorary corporal in the U. S. First Army, Jolson revealed that his film plans call for an appearance in the George Gershwin film for Warners, and that he might play in the final sequence of "Minstrel Boy," being made by Columbia.

Independents Drop Meet

ELDORA, Ia., Oct. 3.—Leo F. Wolcott, head of the Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska, has announced that due to gas rationing and the tire shortage, the organization's annual meeting, usually held in the fall, will not be held.

British MOI Not A Censor Board: Baird

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 3.—Workings of the films section of the British Ministry of Information were described in a speech before the United Nations Writers Congress at the University of California at Los Angeles here today by Thomas Baird, assistant director of the agency in this country, from New York, who said the British M.O.I. is "an information service which recreates in men's minds and hearts a feeling of responsibility and citizenship which is a necessity in any state that is democratic."

Film documentaries, Baird said, "are documents recording, describing and recreating for later generations the temper, color and actuality of their own day."

Pointing out that the British M.O.I. is not a censorship bureau, Baird declared that because of wartime stringencies, feature production in Great Britain has dropped from 70 each year to about 30, but these productions enjoy the same freedom as in times of peace. He stated that 150 units traveled throughout England showing specialized films to professional, trade and munition factory workers, and that during the past year 50,000 shows were given to a total audience exceeding 10,000,000.

"Non-theatrical films are a public education service which become case studies and the raw material of free discussion which we use when a need for specialized approaches and preselection of audiences are needed."

Over 20 U. S. Government films have been included in the non-theatrical distribution of the British M.O.I.

May Challenge WMC 48-Hour Studio Rule

(Continued from page 1)

WMC said that exchanges are not affected, as had been believed earlier. The ruling on the exchange's petition for exemption from the 48-hour week is expected soon.

Meanwhile, studio opinion would predicate a fight on the stand that overtime would aid the inflationary spiral, since time and one-half already prevails for hours in excess of 40 and additional hours would contribute nothing to war production. The 48-hour week is more or less general in production now, but overtime control rests with the studio-employer.

B. & K., Publix Buy $1,000,000 Bonds

CHICAGO, Oct. 3.—Purchase of $1,000,000 in war bonds by Balaban and Katz Corp. and Publix Great States was announced today.

During the Third War Loan Drive, employees and executives in Chicago have purchased an additional $125,000 above their regular 10 per cent payroll purchases and over $500,000 worth have been sold in theatre bond booths.

DO NOT REMOVE

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 67 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1943 | TEN CENTS

Decree Talks Resume; May Finish Today

'High' Rentals Up for Scrutiny, Clark Says

Heads of the five decree companies resumed their general discussions of experience under the decree and its possible revision for the future at a five-hour session with Tom C. Clark and Robert L. Wright, Assistant U. S. Attorney Generals, at American Arbitration Association headquarters here yesterday.

The conference will be continued today with expectations of concluding the preliminary exchange of views by the end of the afternoon. However, "much remains to be worked out," one of the conferees stated at the close of yesterday's session.

Clark declared that a statement would be issued tonight if the conferences are concluded then, but said that the discussions up to this point have been inconclusive and of a "general.

(*Continued on page* 4)

Film Carriers Test WPB Truck Ruling

In a test case to alleviate the serious situation confronting the Contract Film Carriers of New York in maintaining film delivery schedules in the Metropolitan district and suburban areas, due to the rapid deterioration of their trucks, Ira Meinhardt, counsel for the organization, on behalf of one of its members, has filed an application for a certificate of purchase of a new light truck (one ton or less)

(*Continued on page* 4)

'Rickenbacker' Film Is Definitely Set

Hollywood, Oct. 4.—Twentieth Century-Fox definitely will make "Eddie Rickenbacker—Story of an American," which has been the object of protests by organized labor, Darryl F. Zanuck stated today.

"We will make the picture," Zanuck said. "A budget has been set aside for it and it will go into production Jan. 20."

Writers Congress Asks Federal Dept. Of Arts and Letters

Los Angeles, Oct. 4.—Writers are to seek governmental recognition through the creation of a Federal Department of Arts and Letters, head of which would be a cabinet member, the United Nations Writers' Congress resolved at its final session Sunday night at the U. of California at L. A. campus.

The congress also will seek another meeting, perhaps in Mexico City, to cement ties with Latin-America. Further indicating the intention to establish a permanent body, growing from this congress, a continuations committee is sought, personnel yet unnamed, to explore the possibilities of a nationwide mobilization of writers and scholars. To this end, the committee will seek the cooperation of the Authors League of America, War Writer's Board and other groups.

In a letter to President Roosevelt,

(*Continued on page* 4)

Extort Trial Today; Zevin Pleads Guilty

Isadore Zevin, former secretary to George Browne, ex-president of the IATSE, pleaded guilty in Federal Court here yesterday to a nine-count indictment alleging perjury and the making of false statements to agents of the Government. He faces possible imprisonment of 60 years and fines aggregating $42,000 on Nov. 1, when he will be sentenced by Federal Judge Samuel Mandelbaum.

Zevin's guilty plea came on the eve of today's scheduled trial of eight alleged former associates of Browne and William Bioff, labor racketeer, who are accused of extorting more than $1,000,000 from major film producers. Both Browne and Bioff are serving long prison sentences for their

(*Continued on page* 4)

Balser Named Basil Neighborhoods' Head

Buffalo, Oct. 4.—V. Spencer Balser has been appointed general manager of all neighborhood theatres by Basil Brothers, upstate theatre circuit. Constantine J. Basil was elected president of the Lafayette Theatre Building, Inc., succeeding the late Nicholas J. Basil. Basil J. Basil was named vice-president.

George H. Mackenna was appointed general manager of the Lafayette and

(*Continued on page* 4)

SEEK 30 PER CENT U.S. ADMISSION TAX

B'way Grosses in Definite Upswing

Broadway theatre grosses, though below the top money-making pace of early September, are hitting a better average than last week with the influx of World Series visitors promising to render additional stimuli to the discernible lagging trend which was in evidence during the past two weeks. Tops for the week is the $94,200 estimated for the first week of "Wintertime" at the Roxy with Bert Lahr, Paul Haakon, and Patricia Bowman heading the stage show.

Fourth and final week of "So Proudly We Hail" and minstrel stage show at the Radio City Music Hall is headed for a neat $93,000. M-G-M's "Lassie Comes Home" arrives at the Hall on Thursday. "Lady Takes a Chance" and Vaughn Monroe and his orchestra is holding up well at the Paramount with $67,000 estimated for the third week. Picture and stage show hold a fourth week.

Despite the mixed reviews, "Thank

(*Continued on page* 4)

U.S. Chamber Warns On Enemy Property

Washington, Oct. 4.—With a view to establishing a precedent for enemy treatment of private American holdings in foreign war areas, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce today warned against confiscation of enemy private property in this country.

"Any attacks on the rights of enemy private property in the United States," it was declared in the chamber's recommendation, "would create an example that might be highly detrimental, not only to the treatment of United States property in enemy countries but also to the attitudes of neutral countries where now, or in

(*Continued on page* 4)

Korda, Miss Oberon Arrive in London

London, Oct. 4.—Sir Alexander Korda and Merle Oberon arrived here today. They will be followed in about a week by Ben Goetz and Sam Eckman.

Al Lichtman and J. Robert Rubin, Loew's vice-presidents, are expected to join the M-G-M contingent here before the end of October.

Highest Rate Ever, Asked Of Congress by Morgenthau

Washington, Oct. 4.—Trebling of the admission levy to raise an additional $327,000,000 a year at the highest rate of tax ever imposed upon amusements was asked of the House Ways and Means Committee today in a "Belt-tightening" revenue program submitted by Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau.

The 30 per cent administration rate, exceeding by one-fifth the highest tax levied on amusements during the last war, would bring a total revenue of $490,400,000 a year, Morgenthau told the committee.

This would be the only direct tax imposed upon the film industry, as the Treasury program made no proposal for revival of the rental tax, but would be only one of several heavily increased taxes upon film corporations

(*Continued on page* 2)

New Tax Proposal Up at Allied Meet

Washington, Oct. 4.—Treasury proposals for a 200 per cent increase in the admission tax rate will be brought up for discussion at Michigan Allied's meeting in Detroit, Abram F. Myers said today as he prepared to leave Washington for the sessions to be held tomorrow and Wednesday.

No decision whether to seek an op-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Ickes Warns Coast Gas Ration on Way

Washington, Oct. 4.—Studios and exhibitors on the Coast will soon be placed under gasoline rationing restrictions similar to those now applying East of the Rocky Mountains.

Thirty-seven members of Congress from the Far West were told today by Petroleum Administrator Harold L. Ickes that Pacific Coast gasoline supplies are dwindling and it will soon be necessary to reduce the value of A, B and C coupons.

Personal Mention

NATE J. BLUMBERG, president of Universal, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast. JOHN JOSEPH is expected here about Oct. 15.

•

C. B. AKERS, WAC campaign director for the Third War Loan drive, will wind up his work tomorrow and return to his post as director of operations for the Griffith circuit.

•

SYDNEY SAMSON, 20th-Fox Canadian district manager, is back at Toronto headquarters following his first transcontinental tour of Dominion exchanges.

•

TED LLOYD of 20th-Fox's radio department has left Hollywood for New York after completing his Third War Loan assignment.

•

JUDGE G. H. FOSTER, owner of the Kenton Theatre, Kenton, O., is convalescing from a heart attack at his home.

•

SID GLAZER of the M-G-M publicity department is the father of a boy, MARTIN, born to MRS. ROSE GLAZER in Riverdale Hospital, Brooklyn.

•

FRANK SMITH, manager of the Warner Lenox, Hartford, was guest of honor at a farewell party prior to leaving for the armed forces.

•

RUSS ORDWAY, formerly assistant manager at the M & P's Allyn, Hartford, is now in England with the Army Air Forces.

•

WALTER LYNCH of Mecca Film Laboratories expects to leave the Gotham Hospital in a few days, having recovered from a recent illness.

•

TECH. SGT. JOHN DOMBE, formerly operator of the Brooklawn, Fairfield, Conn., is home on furlough from an Army camp at Little Rock, Ark.

•

ROBERT SILVERBERG and GORDON JACOBSON of the staff of the Broadway, Norwich, Conn., have been inducted into the Army.

•

JOHN BALABAN, Balaban & Katz executive, Chicago, is a New York visitor.

•

LESTER B. ISAAC, Loew's director of projection and sound, is in Boston on business.

•

HARRY GOLDSTEIN, Paramount Cleveland district manager, will leave this week for Florida.

•

MERRILL KATZ and MIKE MAULIZZA of the Warner Strand, Hartford, have been inducted into the Army.

•

ED SCHREIBER, WAC publicity director, is on a two-week vacation.

30 Per Cent Ticket Tax Is Sought by Treasury

(*Continued from page 1*)

and men and women engaged in film production, distribution and exhibition.

The major feature of Morgenthau's presentation was a $6,530,000,000 increase in individual income taxes through increases in surtax rates, reduction of personal exemptions for married persons and dependents and repeal of the earned income credit. The Victory tax also would be repealed, in the interest of simplification. A small part of the increased tax would be refunded after the war, but in no case would the refund amount to more than 5.1 per cent of the total tax paid.

Corporation surtax rates would be raised four per cent, from 10 to 14 per cent, for corporations with surtax net income under $25,000, by 16 per cent for corporations with income between $25,000 and $50,000, and by ten per cent for larger corporations.

In addition to the increased admission tax, the industry would feel the effects of other changes in excise levies, which include increases from 10 to 25 per cent on personal transportation; 20 to 25 per cent on long-distance telephone calls; 10 to 15 per cent on local telephone bills; and 15 to 20 per cent on telegrams. The only tax to be repealed is that now imposed on the transportation of property.

Morgenthau's program called for a total of $10,500,000,000 in new tax revenue, but questioning by members of the committee indicated that it will be trimmed by maybe 50 per cent in the bill that is to be submitted to the house.

Complaint Dropped, Another Is Filed

A clearance complaint was withdrawn in Oklahoma City, and a combination clearance and withholding of prints complaint was filed in Milwaukee, the American Arbitration Association announced yesterday.

At the Oklahoma City tribunal, the clearance complaint of Juanita B. Berry, operator of the Oklahoma Theatre, Norman, against RKO, Warner Bros., 20th-Fox, Paramount and the Griffith Amusement companies' University, Sooner, Varsity and Boomer Theatres, was withdrawn by stipulation of all parties concerned.

The new complaint at Milwaukee was filed by Lucille Forbes, owner of the Spring Green Theatre, Spring Green, Wis., against 20th-Fox, RKO, Warners, and Paramount. The interested parties are the Richland and Eskin Theatres, Richland Center, Wis., which have a 14-day clearance over the Spring Green. The complainant asks a reasonable reduction or elimination of clearance. She further alleged that it was impossible, in many instances, to get any prints because of failure of the two theatres to book and play films desired by the complainant.

Withdraws Skouras, Brandt WLB Pleas

M. P. Theatre Managers and Employees Union has withdrawn its petition pending before the Regional War Labor Board for investigation and certification on its claim that it represents a majority of the managers in the 41 Skouras theatres in Manhattan, Bronx, and Long Island, and the 24 Brandt New York theatres.

MPTME move was necessitated by UOPWA-CIO's revocation of its provisional charter last week. Union, which is operating as an independent, plans to file new Skouras and Brandt petitions shortly.

Ampa Honor Roll Committee Increased

Vincent Trotta, president of Ampa, has sent out a number of additional invitations to important executives on the Coast and in the East to serve on the Honor Roll committee for "Salute to the Heroes," scheduled for the Astor Hotel, Oct. 21. Charles Francis Coe will act as master of ceremonies.

Included in the list are: J. Robert Rubin, Frank C. Walker, Y. Frank Freeman, Mark Sandrich, Walter Wanger, Gus S. Eyssell, Robert M. Weitman, A. J. Balaban, James Cagney, I. E. Chadwick, John C. Flinn, Leon Bamberger, R. W. Baremore, Herman Schleier, Howard Strickling, Howard Mayer, George Brown, Alex Evelove, Harry Brand, Walter Compton, Perry Lieber, S. Barret McCormick, Jack Ellis, Russell Holman, Harry Mandel, Joseph H. Seidelman, Phil Reisman, Morton Spring, Maurice Silverstone, John W. Hicks, Jr., Joseph McConville, Walter Gould, Robert Schless and Morris Goodman.

Name Conciliator In SPG Wage Dispute

At the request of the Screen Publicists Guild, John R. Steelman, director of the U. S. Conciliation Service, has assigned James Fitzpatrick as moderator in the wages and classification dispute between SPG and the major companies.

The majors, with the exception of Warners and Republic whose contracts are not up for discussion at this time, are said to have rejected SPG's classification-progression plan submitted in connection with the reopening of the contract wage clause.

Betty Cropp Promoted

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—Betty Cropp has been appointed short subjects booker for the Schine Circuit in the Washington area, it was announced by Christ Pope, booker.

Goldberg Luncheon At Astor Tomorrow

Leon Goldberg, who leaves next Monday for Hollywood to become studio manager for RKO Radio Pictures, will be the guest of honor at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor tomorrow at 12:30. The luncheon to Goldberg who relinquished his position as treasurer of Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corporation to assume his new studio post, will be attended by officers and executives of RKO and all its subsidiaries, and many members of the home office personnel.

Guests expected to attend include N. Peter Rathvon, Richard C. Patterson, Jr., Ned E. Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Edward L. Alperson, Fred Ullman, Robert Mochrie, Gordon Youngman, J. Miller Walker, A. E. Reoch, Al Dawson, William H. Clark, Harold J. Mirisch, S. Barret McCormick, Harry Mandel, W. B. England, Sol Schwartz, James M. Brennan, Charles B. McDonald, Louis Goldberg, H. R. Emde, L. E. Thompson, Leon J. Bamberger and A. A. Schubart.

M-G-M Names Bluck

Ross Bluck has been named office manager at M-G-M's Denver exchange. He succeeds Grange Sherwin, resigned.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
Claudette COLBERT . Paulette GODDARD . Veronica LAKE
SO PROUDLY WE HAIL
Produced and Directed by Mark Sandrich
A Paramount Picture
Gala Stage Revue - Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Jean Arthur • John Wayne
In
"A Lady Takes a Chance"
IN PERSON
VAUGHN MONROE
AND BAND
BOB EVANS
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
BACK THE ATTACK

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
BOB HOPE
BETTY HUTTON in
'LET'S FACE IT'
IN PERSON
BENNY DAVIS
and
'His New Stars of 1944'
Nan Rae & Mrs. Waterfall
Cliff Edwards

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
ROBERT PAIGE
LOUISE ALLBRITTON
"FIRED WIFE"

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THE NEWS OF FAWCETT WOMEN'S GROUP

THE *Fawcett* REPORTER

THE NEWS OF 3 MILLION READERS

EXTRA! OVER 2 BILLION DOLLARS!

awcett Readers Jump From 8 To 10 Billion Dollar Market Within Year

What's happening to the pocket-ooks of Mr. John Doe, Mrs. John oe and Miss? Theater box-office eports tell us they're filled. But ow much more filled?

Well, the latest survey of readers f Fawcett Women's Group maga-nes show a full 30% increase in e family purse over last year. he average family income of the 100,000 buyers of *True Confes-ons, Motion Picture* and *Movie tory* jumped in 1943 from $2,041 year to $2,652—a total increase more than two billion dollars. A mp believe it or not, from $8,000,-00,000 to $10,000,000,000 in our reat reader market.

The Kitty Foyles are doing all ght, too. Single girls had income oosts in a year from $1,014 to 1,430.

This kind of wage boost ain't hay the Does. Perhaps they'll be hanging their name to Dough one f these days!

There's a big trend to war work, oo. More than 20% of our women eaders are in war plants now, ompared to 8% a year ago. And 2% of their husbands are doing ar work in '43 as against 46% a ear ago.

These people are going to see ovies more than ever before. Why ot tell them about yours in awcett Women's Group?

RATION PASSION?

Newspapers throughout the coun-ry are quoting copiously from a pecial feature in October's *True onfessions* entitled "Am I Jeal-us?" by Mrs. Frank Sinatra.

We can't give you the whole ar-icle, but we can tell you that Mr. inatra is definitely H-O-T. Wit-ess the following incident—true, oo.

When Mrs. Sinatra received a ew ration book from her local oard, there on the inside cover as imprinted a big, red lipstick iss—for Frankie! Note to OPA: ereafter, please omit passion from ation.

BOX OFFICE

More people bought Fawcett Women's Group magazines during the first 6 months of 1943 (latest publishers' statements) than any other magazine group in in America. Monthly average 3,101,933, an all-time high.

Picking Pix Sells Tix

One of the best pre-sellers of a movie, if not the best, is its fictionization—in short, dramatic form—such as run in *Movie Story* magazine. These previews stimulate the reader to see the real thing—and selection of the picture by the editors is itself a recommendation.

For their October issue, *Movie Story's* editors chose: *The Fallen Sparrow; Happy Land; Best Foot Forward; The North Star; A Lady Takes A Chance; Little Miss Magic; Right About Face.* Seeing's believing. So watch for them.

SAYS HEDDA

The inimitable Hedda Hopper, who writes an exclusive monthly feature for *Motion Picture*, tells this one in the Oct. issue—

..."Up at Arrowhead Lake they have sight-seeing boats. Recently when Janet Blair and bridegroom, Sgt. Bush, were suning themselves on a raft, they heard a man yelling through a megaphone, "On your right, ladies and gentlemen, is Frank Vincent's house, where Barbara Hutton and Cary Grant were married last year, and Janet Blair and Sgt. Bush were married a few days ago." Then as they passed the raft, he yelled, "And on your left, ladies and gentlemen, are Janet Blair and Sgt. Bush honeymooning!"

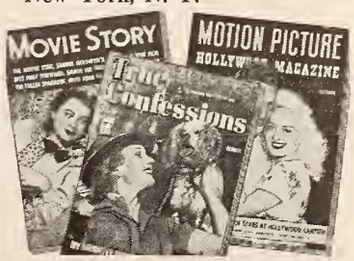
WANTED . . . A TITLE

A title for Dolores Moran, W. B. starlet above, as a successor to Ann Sheridan's "oomph." *Motion Picture* started a contest in its August issue to find a tag for this young lady (discovered by our Fawcett Publciations editors some time ago) and $1,000.00 in prizes were offered the winners. So many thousands of entries flooded the office, more than a third of them from servicemen, it's taken us two months to go through them: Winning tag will be in the November issue of *Motion Picture*. That's pulling-power!

AYE, CLAUDIA

Motion Picture's editors campaigned stardom for many Hollywood greats before they were twinkles. They're raving about a new but not unknown screen actress. It's Dorothy "Claudia" McGuire.

Advertising revenue in the first 6 months of 1943 for Fawcett Women's Group—*True Confessions, Motion Picture* and *Movie Story*—hits an all-time high with a 37% increase over same period of '42. Reasons? We'll be glad to tell them to you on the slightest provocation. Address us at Fawcett Publications, Inc., Paramount Building, New York, N. Y.



Advertisement

Decree Talks Resume; May Finish Today

(Continued from page 1)

overall nature, taking in all sections of the decree."

He revealed that the subject of exhibitor complaints against allegedly high film playing terms had been discussed and that the company representatives had cited greatly increased wartime production costs, itemizing many of them, in justification of increased rentals and percentages. Clark said that the possibility of equipping the decree with a provision "covering" flat rentals and percentages is being explored, but declined to elaborate on that statement when asked whether the intent of the provision would be to establish ceilings on film terms.

He said that arbitration and affiliated theatre divorcement had not been touched upon at yesterday's session. Among the information presented, Clark said, were figures indicating that theatre attendance in 1942 increased 152,000,000 over 1939.

Clark disclosed, in answer to a question, that Loew's had sought Department of Justice approval of negotiations by the company for acquisition of the Walter Reade circuit. He declined to say what answer the Department had made.

Representing the companies at the meeting were: Barney Balaban, Nicholas M. Schenck, N. Peter Rathvon, Spyros Skouras, Harry M. Warner and Joseph H. Hazen.

New Tax Proposal Up at Allied Meet

(Continued from page 1)

portunity to testify before the House Ways and Means Committee can be reached until after the Allied board has discussed the position it will take with respect to the tax, he said.

"I think it is out of proportion to other industries, and puts the tax in the wrong place," Myers commented.

"The way to get money from the motion picture business is to increase the surtax rates on the companies. The only evidence of great prosperity I see is reflected in the increasing net profits of the companies."

Among problems to be discussed at the Detroit meeting are those concerning manpower, the print and fuel shortages, transportation troubles, and juvenile delinquency. Speakers at the sessions will include M. A. Rosenberg, president of National Allied, and Frank N. Isbey, chairman of the war bond drive in Michigan. Isbey will be the main speaker at the annual banquet Wednesday.

In July, at the National Allied board meeting in Baltimore, it was decided that a national campaign would be conducted to sell bonds to individual operators of allied theatres, with the national goal set at $300,000—the price of a bomber. Roy Branch, president of the group, said that he was proud to announce that Allied Theatres of Michigan alone had purchased $600,000 in bonds—enough to buy two bombers which will carry Michigan names into battle.

Extort Trial Today; Zevin Pleads Guilty

(Continued from page 1)

part in the extortion and are expected to be Government witnesses.

The chief defendant to go on trial is Louis Kaufman, business agent of Local 244, Motion Picture Operators Union, Newark. Other defendants include six alleged gangsters from Chicago, supposed members of the Al Capone ring, and, Kostelanetz said, the real "boys from Chicago," and John Rosselli, former husband of June Lang, film actress.

Trial of the case, which will include the testimony of Nicholas M. Schenck, Louis B. Mayer and other leading executives in the film industry, is expected to take at least seven weeks. Federal Judge John C. Knox, who presided at the Browne-Bioff trial, will be in charge.

Producer Group, Union Officials Stymied on Trip

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 4.—Producers' labor representatives and union officials planned trip to New York to discuss wage scales and working conditions governing studio crafts under the Studio Basic Agreement depends upon the Chicago racketeering case slated for trial there Tuesday. If the trial is postponed the group will leave within 10 days. If the trial proceeds, the group will indefinitely postpone its trip.

B'way Grosses in Definite Upswing

(Continued from page 1)

Your Lucky Stars" is headed for a healthy $60,000 at the Strand. Picture and Sammy Kaye and his orchestra hold for a second week. "Johnny Come Lately" and the Capitol stage show featuring Morton Gould and his orchestra, are leading at the Capitol to a good $65,000 take on the second week with the same bill remaining a third week.

"This Is the Army" should garner $28,000 in its 10th week at the Hollywood and remains for an eleventh stanza. The Rivoli's eleventh week of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" should garner $26,000, and stays for a twelfth week.

"Thousands Cheer" at the Astor will equal the $20,000 second week in its third week, and stays for a fourth. The Globe with "The Man From Down Under" is headed for a $13,000 second week which is close to the initial stanza of $13,500. Paramount's "Hostages" takes over on Saturday. First week of the "Kansan" at the Rialto will hit $10,000.

"Hit the Ice" is expected to gross an estimated $20,000 in its second week at the Criterion and holds over. "Fired Wife" in its initial stanza at the Palace is headed for $15,000 and also holds over.

Balser Named Basil Neighborhoods' Head

(Continued from page 1)

he and Balser were elected directors of the corporation. Theophiles J. Basil was named treasurer of the theatres and also made general circuit purchasing agent. The policies of the late Nicholas J. Basil of cooperating in public enterprises will be continued, the company announced.

Writers Congress Asks Federal Dept. Of Arts and Letters

(Continued from page 1)

the congress pledged to extend full energies to victory and expressed the opinion that the three-day deliberations had sharpened the skill of writers in facing future tasks. One final highlight was the reading of "The Writer's Credo." In three principal parts, it obligates a writer to seek the truth, to respect and guard freedom of expression and oppose bigotry and oppression and to reflect the thoughts and feelings of the American people in terms of the common man.

Must Sell Democracy

James Hilton said the writer's present obligation is to accept the problems of humanity and his future obligation is to sell democracy to the world. Interchange of information and ideas with Latin-America and the United Nations writing crafts was stressed by several final speakers in reports, who declared their intention is to seek better international understanding in the cause of democratic action. John Howard Lawson stated that probably the outstanding single outcome was the world-mindedness which he said coursed dominantly through the sessions.

In the second session of the "feature picture" seminar, Sunday, Mikhail Kalatosov, Soviet representative, said Russian war experience had brought about the placing of the common man and woman in heroic prominence in pictures. Citing his "Hitler's Children" and "Behind the Rising Sun," Edward Dmytryk declared it was "possible to give a propaganda picture conviction and make it acceptable to the public, if it can show a native of the enemy country reacting against his government because of its effect on himself." Robert Rossen said writers "must realize new conditions control the making of pictures realistic to the public."

Scores Congress

In a seminar on documentary films, Kenneth MacGowan charged the U. S. Congress "doesn't understand or appreciate the value of the motion picture. While the British Parliament has fostered the documentary film, our legislators have obstructed film production by Government agencies and taken every occasion to pillory Hollywood."

U.S. Chamber Warns On Enemy Property

(Continued from page 1)

the future, our policy might be taken as a guide."

The chamber pointed out that American-owned property in enemy-occupied countries greatly exceeds in value enemy property in the United States.

Bearing in mind the big stake of the motion picture and certain other industries abroad, the chamber declared it is particularly important that our government take every possible step to resist any forced disposal of such properties.

Bond Prizes in WB Drive

Prizes in the annual Warner sales drive this year will again be given in war bonds, and the total will not go higher than last year's figure.

Film Carriers Test WPB Truck Ruling

(Continued from page 1)

with the bureau of motor carriers of the Office of Defense Transportation. The carriers have heretofore filed numerous applications for purchase certificates for heavy trucks (one ton or more), all of which have been rejected.

It was learned that the War Production Board has eased up on its restrictions for purchasing of new light trucks, thereby affording the film truckers an opportunity to test the Government order.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933

Of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, published daily (except Saturday and Sunday), at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1943.

STATE OF NEW YORK }
COUNTY OF NEW YORK } ss.:

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Theo. J. Sullivan, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the MOTION PICTURE DAILY and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher and Editor-in-Chief, Martin Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Editor, Sherwin Kane, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Managing Editor, None; Business Manager, Theo. J. Sullivan, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City.

2. That the owner is: (if owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.) Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Martin J. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Gertrude S. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Martin S. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Colvin W. Brown, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is 5007. (This information is required from daily publications only.)

THEO J. SULLIVAN,
Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21st day of September, 1943.

(SEAL) DOROTHY S. KAVANAGH.
(My commission expires March 30, 1944.)

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 68 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1943 TEN CENTS

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N.E. Plans Now For Post-War Construction

Wide New Building and Remodeling

BOSTON, Oct. 5.—Post-war planning for the theatre business in the Boston area is already under way and there was extreme optimism registered at an informal meeting held in the Hotel Statler this week by officials high in the ranks of the industry in this territory as they discussed the future.

Associated General Contractors of Massachusetts has made the first big move toward a definite program of post-war activity and a committee has been named in this organization to begin a survey of the field and, if possible, to begin negotiations now for post-war construction.

Associated General Contractors is headed by Isidore Slotnik, Murray Weiss, Richard J. White, Edmund J. Rappoli, Moses Slotnik, Samuel Suskin and F. Povelite and they have planned a meeting at the Statler Hotel on Nov. 8 at which they will have many speakers, including Major Gen-

(Continued on page 6)

Pinanski Elected N.E. Allied Head

BOSTON, Oct. 5.—Allied Theatres of Massachusetts, meeting today at the Parker House, voted to incorporate under the new name of Allied Theatres of New England, Inc., presumably indicating contemplated expansion in New England.

Samuel Pinanski, of M. and P. Theatres here, was named president. Other officers elected were: John H. Devlin, Loew's Theatres, Boston, vice-president; Stanley Sumner, treasurer,

(Continued on page 6)

Asks House Probe Of Film 'Propaganda'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Rep. Walter C. Ploeser of Missouri prepared today to carry his fight against Administration film propaganda to the floor of the House.

Ploeser said he was putting the final touches to his resolution for a full investigation of the use made of motion pictures to "build up" the Administra-

(Continued on page 6)

Knox Disqualifies Himself as Extort Trial Opens Here

The trial of "the boys from Chicago" and two other defendants charged with extorting more than $1,000,000 from major film producing companies got under way in Federal Court here yesterday, after a hectic beginning as the result of which Federal Judge John C. Knox disqualified himself from presiding. Instead, Judge Knox assigned Federal Judge John Bright to try the case.

James D. C. Murray, attorney for six alleged gangsters from Chicago who are said to be the last remnants of the old Al Capone mob, asked Judge Knox to disqualify himself because the judge, in a book, "Order in the Court," had discussed the details of the trial of George E. Browne, former president of IATSE, and William Bioff, Coast labor leader, both

(Continued on page 6)

Equity Complains of Contemplated Tax

Actors Equity council yesterday authorized its executives to protest either by itself or with representatives of the League of New York Theatres, against any increase in the Federal admission tax on theatre tickets as contemplated by the Treasury.

Any increase in the price of admission will affect theatre attendance, the Equity council believes, and will eventually affect the employment of Equity members.

Progress is being made in the three-

(Continued on page 6)

U. S. Turns Down Loew's Reade Buy

Loew's, Inc., petition to the government for permission to acquire the Walter Reade circuit, as required under the terms of the consent decree, was not granted, Tom C. Clark, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, revealed here yesterday prior to his return to Washington.

Reade operates some 40 theatres in New York and New Jersey.

Pearl and Sprott Quit Mich. Allied

DETROIT, Oct. 5.—Ray Branch, president, announced today to 50 exhibitors of Michigan Allied in convention here that $1,250,000 of war bonds were purchased by exhibitors for bombers to carry the name of Michigan Allied since July.

Miles Pearl and M. Sprott, for the past 20 years executive secretary and business manager of the association, respectively, have retired. Among

(Continued on page 6)

Allied Takes Up Prices and Product

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 5.—Eastern regional of Allied States, held here yesterday and today at the Hotel Taft, was highlighted by a buying seminar today. Allied's "Caravan" discussed

(Continued on page 6)

Secretary Perkins Praises Films For War Work at AFL Convention

Boston, Oct. 5.—Speaking before the national convention of the American Federation of Labor at the Hotel Statler here today, Secretary of Labor Frances E. Perkins paid high tribute to the motion picture industry, and said that some of the best work of the war campaign had been done by this industry. She particularly praised such pictures as are calculated to keep up morale and spirit among civilians as well as soldiers, and praised the work of the industry in its "tremendous" aid to the Third War Loan drive as well as to previous drives.

Secretary Perkins told of letters received from many boys overseas asking that pictures sent to them be of more recent vintage. One such letter was read at this afternoon's AFL session from a Private Hamburg in North Africa who said, "Please keep at home some of the mess of old pictures that are being dumped on us over here. If there is any generosity in sending them here we just cannot see it. Keep the war pictures at home. We see enough war. Give us more homey pictures and more humor in them. We can stand a lot of the latter."

Secretary Perkins also advised every laboring man to see every picture, short, or otherwise, which emphasizes production in American war plants.

Decree Meet Will Examine Film Terms

Session Is Postponed Until Friday

By JACK BERK

The subject of film terms and prices in relation to present day production and operating costs will be further explored at a meeting of decree company heads with Tom C. Clark and Robert L. Wright, Assistant U. S. Attorney Generals, in New York on Friday, Clark said yesterday prior to his departure for Washington.

Tom C. Clark

The further decree conferences planned for yesterday were cancelled when Clark was detained at a spy trial in Federal court at New-

(Continued on page 6)

Rank Buys Six More in London

LONDON, Oct. 5.—Theatre circuit expansion of J. A. Rank continues. Already No. 1 theatre owner in Great Britain, Rank now has acquired six theatres of the Joseph Mears interests, with the approval of the British Board of Trade, whose official sanction of a deal must be secured by Rank before completing any purchases. The latter necessity is the result of the

(Continued on page 6)

German Films Aided Nazis Here: Biddle

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—German pictures played an important part in the propaganda operations of the German-American Vocational League, Inc., indicted by a Federal Grand Jury at Newark today with a subsidiary organization and 27 officers and members on charges of illegally conspiring to act as Nazi agents without proper

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

JOHN W. HICKS, Paramount vice-president and foreign manager, has returned to New York from London.

•

"DODO" BLUMBERG, daughter of NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal president, accompanied her father here from the Coast. MRS. BLUMBERG is expected within two weeks. She remained in Hollywood while LEWIS, their son, an Army private, was on furlough there.

•

MAX MILDER, Warners' managing director for Great Britain, has returned to London from a visit to New York and Hollywood.

•

JOHN HARKINS, member of the Warner home office publicity department, has left for the Coast to accept a studio publicity post.

•

ARCH REEVE, secretary of the Western division of MPPDA's public relations committee, is in New York for a ten-day visit.

•

H. M. RICHEY, assistant to WILLIAM F. RODGERS at M-G-M, left last night for Detroit to attend the Michigan Allied meeting.

•

DONALD ZIMBALIST, son of AL ZIMBALIST, of the RKO Theatres' publicity department, is recovering from an eye operation.

•

I. J. HOFFMAN, Warner Theatres New Haven zone manager, is a New York visitor.

•

JOSEPH H. COHN, Weiss and Geller agency film advertising head, has returned here from the Coast.

•

EDMUND C. GRAINGER, president of Shea Circuit, is in Boston and is expected to return on Friday.

•

NED S. SECKLER, RKO manager in Puerto Rico, is in New York to attend the funeral of his mother.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE and NAT LEVY are expected back from Jacksonville, Fla., tomorrow.

•

ARTHUR W. KELLY, United Artists' vice-president, has returned from the Coast.

•

CARL LESERMAN, United Artists' general sales manager, left the Coast yesterday for New York.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, president of Republic Pictures, is expected back from a mid-West tour on Monday.

•

HERBERT J. YATES and WILLIAM SAAL are on the Coast for an indefinite stay.

•

STUART AARONS, Warner attorney, reported at Fort Dix yesterday.

•

HERMAN GLUCKMAN, WAC official, is due back from California next week.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Oct. 5

THERE are many who already take it for granted Wendell L. Willkie will have his hat in the presidential ring next year. That recent magazine article, followed in hot pursuit by newspaper interviews in the Los Angeles press, appears to clinch it for those, maybe, who want it clinched.

Now, this column may slide, fortunately or disastrously, into an occasional prediction about matters celluloid, but politics does not fall within the range of its roamings. Therefore and positively, this is not a prediction.

■

But something happened at 20th-Fox the other afternoon to indicate the high factotums of Pico Boulevard, with whom Willkie has been visiting, are indulging in one of two things. Either they know, on the strength of a word perhaps passed along, or they are guessing. Reader's choice on that one, with no information supplied by yours truly, who has none to supply.

The something, however, is official word production on "One World" has been advanced to a starting date in early January. This can mean one evident thing: Darryl Zanuck wants to have the picturization of the Willkie book ready for the market when the campaign begins to roar.

If Willkie is in the race, the possibilities are many. If he is not, certainly he will be prominent in the public prints. That has possibilities, too.

■ ■

Last communique on a possible sale of a limited number of Paramount pictures to UA pointed out some time will pass before a deal is struck, if there is a deal. Latest communique, designed to shed additional light behind the scene, now points out it all started when Grad Sears was chewing over matters of state with Neil Agnew in New York.

On how it was going, Sears reputedly remarked UA would have a quiet spot for a couple of months while pictures in progress were completed. Agnew reputedly spoke of Paramount's very high inventory and the many millions immobilized in unreleased negatives.

Barney Balaban reputedly entered these very sketchy preliminaries shortly thereafter.

Vital Statistics Note: "Pin-Up Girl" will be Betty Grable's last until the heir arrives. "The Gang's All Here" will be Alice Faye's last until her second child is born. Gene Tierney is so close to motherhood this item may trail the event.

■ ■

Estimate Note: Motherhood plays interference with 20th-Fox's grosses to the tune of about $6,000,000.

"It's the war," they sigh philosophically at the studio.

■ ■

How sound was OWI advice to Hollywood on handling of Italian nationals manifests itself again in the excellent "Sahara." J. Carroll Naish plays a captured Italian soldier and, incidentally, plays him exceedingly well. He is sympathetic, anti-Mussolini, peace-loving and the kind of a guy it would be nice to know. A case of the producer listening and now reflecting the benefits.

■ ■

Arthur Hornblow tells a story of well-intentioned advice aimed at the head of a novice.

"Since you have had no experience, you ought to study Shakespeare and learn how he wrote."

The reaction: "Shakespeare? Never heard of him. Besides, who taught him how?"

■ ■

Out in front and substantially ahead of any other British-made picture released in the American market is "In Which We Serve." It will close out, when it does, at about $1,800,000 distributor's end.

■ ■

Money is around that "Quo Vadis?", publicized and proceeding according to plan, will not be made by Metro.

Money around, but not ours.

■ ■

"Stage Door Canteen," plowing through dollar after dollar, has grossed fractionally under $2,000,000 in 3,000 dates. All in the domestic market.

■ ■

Despite loose Hollywood reporting to the contrary, lively PRC is proceeding with its own production. Not all of it in one swoop, but from six to eight this next season starting with "Jive Junction." The company has acquired its own studio home, too.

Coming Events

Oct. 4-Nov. 20—National War Fund Drive.
Oct. 4-6—War Emergency Convention, Allied Theatres of Michigan, Detroit.
Oct. 18-19—Annual Convention, Allied Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania, Roosevelt Hotel, Pittsburgh.
Oct. 16—Warner Club election board of governors and officers, New York.
Oct. 18-22 — SMPE Conference. Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel.
Oct. 21—AMPA's 'Salute' to Motion Picture Men and Women in the Armed Forces.
Oct. 24—NEIC Rally, Winter Garden, New York.
Oct. 26—Annual Convention, Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, Athletic Club, Indianapolis.
Oct. 29—War Labor Board Hearing, Victoria Hotel, New York.
Nov. 18—Picture Pioneers' "Harvest Dinner," Waldorf.

529 Bonuses Given In 20th Sales Drive

First report on 20th Century-Fox's "New Era" sales drive show that 529 employes in 15 of the company's 37 branches in this country and Canada have qualified for bonuses ranging from one to three weeks' extra salary.

Officials expect at least another dozen branches to be added to the bonus earning group within the next three weeks. Leader in the current sales campaign is the Chicago branch, managed by Thomas Gilliam, with Kansas City, managed by G. W. Fuller, and Charlotte, managed by J. E. Holston, following in that order.

Republic Is Host to Roy Rogers at Astor

Republic was host at a reception yesterday afternoon in honor of Roy Rogers, cowboy star, and his horse, Trigger, held in the East ballroom of the Hotel Astor.

Among those present were: Virginia O'Brien, Charles Reed Jones, Steve Edwards, Herbert J. Yates, Jr., Walter Titus, Bea Ross, Irene Thirer, Archer Winsten, Al Picault, Herbert Miller, R. W. Baremore, Fred Stengel, Al Schiller, Si Borus, Floyd Stone, Chester Friedman, George Morris, Al Steen, William Formby, James Jerauld and Tom Kennedy.

Smith to Confer On Equipment

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Allen G. Smith, chief of the War Production Board theatre equipment section, is scheduled to make two trips next week to discuss equipment supplies and controls with national organizations interested in the subject.

On Oct. 11, he will attend the meeting in New York of the American Standards Association, and after a brief return to Washington will leave for the Coast Oct. 14 for the Society of Motion Picture Engineers sessions.

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Writers to Publish Book on Congress

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 5.—Continuation committee formed to carry on the work of the Writers Congress will convene here next week, Co-Chairman Marc Connelly told MOTION PICTURE DAILY, with the first order of business the compiling and publishing of a book containing more than 100 papers read at the congress during the three-day session last weekend. University of California Press looks like the probable publisher, with a wide demand from colleges, educational groups and the general public, anticipated.

Connelly said details of a plan for the creation and functioning of a Federal Writers' Secretariat, under a new Cabinet officer, has not yet been worked out but will be gone into in later sessions. General outline of the project, Connelly said, parallels a similar proposal advanced during the Coolidge Administration, and has been steadily favored since by leaders in the writing profession. Connelly said that changing conditions have made the creation of such a Cabinet post more important now than then, citing as a parallel instance the changes which brought about splitting the departments of commerce and labor into two departments under separate officers.

Tenney Will Examine Writers Congress Data

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 5.—State Senator Jack Tenney has told MOTION PICTURE DAILY here that he will call an executive meeting of the state legislature fact-finding committee on un-American activities to examine collected material concerning the Writers' Congress which he asked the University of California to cancel. He said that the committee will submit its findings to the legislature.

SOPEG Meets with Majors on Wages

SOPEG officials met with representatives of Loew's, 20th Century-Fox and United Artists yesterday in an attempt to settle some of the differences between the two groups as suggested by a Regional War Labor Board panel last week. Arbitration on the discharge of employees, being sought by the union, is also one of the matters believed to have been discussed.

Hearings on the closed shop and wage classification issues will continue today before the RWLB panel.

RWLB to Hear TASE Dispute on Wages

Dr. Emanuel Stein has been named by the Regional War Labor Board to act as hearing officer in the wage dispute between Theatre and Amusement Service Employees Local 54, BSEIU, AFL, and New York circuits, covering about 2,000 porters, cleaners, matrons, cleaning superintendents and watchmen in some 600 theatres here.

Hearings before RWLB are expected to get underway in about two weeks.

New Palace Booking

Universal's "Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" will open at the RKO Palace on Broadway tomorrow.

Reviews

"Paris After Dark"

(20th Century-Fox)

DEPICTING the courageous underground movement in Nazi-controlled France, "Paris After Dark" is set apart from many other films based upon the struggle of conquered peoples against the invader by a moving and unusual story of love and devotion to country. The Georges Kessels' narrative, adapted for the screen by Harold Buchman, has been given knowing direction by Leonide Moguy and good production values by Andre Daven. A highly capable cast endows the story with rich meaning.

As the title would imply, the story, originally called "The Night Is Ending," is set in Nazi-controlled Paris and revolves around an underground movement led by George Sanders, Brenda Marshall, his assistant at a hospital, and a key member of the revolutionist organization, and Philip Dorn as Miss Marshall's husband. Dorn, just returned from a Nazi prison camp, is obsessed with a fear of the Nazis and shies away from all revolutionary activity, throwing many obstacles in the way of the underground movement until he witnesses the death of his wife's young brother at the hands of the conquerors. His attempts to avenge the boy's death leads him to the revolutionists' headquarters and he is drawn into the movement, finally sacrificing his life to the cause. In the final sequence, when she realizes Dorn is giving his life for her and the underground, Miss Marshall addresses him over a concealed microphone and tells him "Liberty will never die in the land of its birth," which is the theme of the entire film.

In line with other recent pictures depicting the courage of Axis-conquered peoples of Europe, "Paris After Dark" stands out as a tribute to the Fighting French. The performances of Miss Marshall, Dorn and Sanders are exceptional. Raymond Roe, as Miss Marshall's brother, presents a very convincing young French patriot, and Madeleine LeBeau, as Collette of the underground, also turns in a good performance.

Running time, 85 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

"Hi Ya Sailor"

(Universal)

Hollywood, Oct. 5

THEY use eight sets of interpolated entertainers in this enterprise, supplying 15 musical numbers inside the 62½-minute distance, and they string them together with barely time out for story telling between, which is all to the good on all counts. Upshot of the straightforward presentation of the material is one of the best of the minor musicals to come from Universal's arsenal.

The interpolated entertainers are Ray Eberle and orchestra, Wingy Manone and orchestra, the Delta Rhythm Boys, the Leo Diamond Quintette, Mayris Chaney and her dance trio, the Nilsson Sisters, the Hacker duo and George Beatty. Some of them perform in a servicemen's canteen, some in the course of the story proper, all effectively.

The players in the story are Donald Woods, Elyse Knox, Eddie Quillan, Frank Jenks, Phyllis Brooks, Jerome Cowan, Matt Willis, Florence Lake, Chares Coleman, Mantan Moreland and Jack Mulhall.

The story, by Fanya Lawrence, with script by Stanley Roberts, is about four sailors who come ashore to see about getting a song published and find out, after incurring a taxi bill they can't pay, that it's not easy. They succeed, however, after events which amuse while making opportunity for the presentation of the entertainers.

Six of the 15 numbers are by Milton Rosen and Everett Carter, the other nine being more or less familiar songs from other sources.

Production and direction are by Jean Yarbrough, whose direct approach to the subject in hand and forthright presentation of the same rates emulation.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."*

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Frank Bowen Heads Dickinson Group

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 5. — Frank Bowen has been named supervisor of the four Dickinson theatres in Kansas City. His headquarters will be in the Glen building. Dickinson, Inc., headed by Glen W. Dickinson, now has 17 theatres in Kansas and Missouri.

The Glen, local house was recently reopened, following renovations, necessitated by last winter's fire. Mrs. Helen Surber, formerly of the Roanoke, is the new manager.

Monogram Films to New Cuban Company

Monogram Pictures has closed a deal with Orbe Distributing Co., S. A., Havana, whereby the latter has acquired rights for the distribution in Cuba of Monogram's current program.

Deal calls for 26 features and 12 Westerns, and was closed in New York by Fernando Trejo in behalf of Orbe, a new distributing organization headed by Trejo and Luis Sánchez Amago.

Kentuckian Sells 97.9 Of County's Quota

A. K. Christian, of the Wayne Theatre, Monticello, Ky., reports that the Treasury Department's Third War Loan quota for Wayne County was set at $195,000 but at a single war bond rally at his theatre over $191,000 in bonds were sold. The whole county got $205,605.

Christian believes that no other single exhibitor has bettered his bond-batting average of 97.9% of the county's quota.

Artkino Announces Latin-American Unit

To meet the needs of its rapidly increasing business in the Spanish-speaking countries of the western hemisphere, Artkino Pictures, distributors of Russian films, has established a Latin-American department. Management of the new department will be delegated by Nicholas Napoli, president of the company, to Duncan Haymes who will make his headquarters at the Artkino home office.

Haymes, a long-time resident of Buenos Aires, was Artkino's Argentine representative for two years before assuming his present duties. As a result of growing interest south of the border, Russian product is now regularly distributed in every Spanish-speaking country of Central and South America.

'Oklahoma' Premiere Set for November 3

Republic's "In Old Oklahoma" will have its premiere in Oklahoma City Nov. 3 to be followed by about 25 other key city openings shortly afterward. A promotional campaign budget of more than $250,000 has been set for the picture, which features John Wayne, Martha Scott, Albert Dekker and Marjorie Rambeau.

Charles Jones, advertising head of Republic, stated that an institutional advertising campaign on Roy Rogers has been inaugurated in mid-Western weekly newspapers to augment newspaper and radio announcements on Rogers' pictures. Republic ads, according to Jones, now appear in magazines with 45,000,000 total circulation.

Industry in National War Fund Campaign

National War Fund has begun its campaign to raise $125,000,000 with the aid of the theatre division of the War Activities Commtttee. The industry will make its screens available to the campaign for use in getting war fund messages across to the public and the WAC trade press division, headed by Martin Quigley, will cooperate in contributing advertising space.

More than 5,000 theatres have screened "The Last Will and Testament of Tom Smith," released through RKO exchanges, as an appeal to support the drive and a two-minute trailer, featuring Fred MacMurray, is scheduled to follow.

New Omaha Competition

OMAHA, Oct. 5.—Roadshow season opened here with a sellout of "Jane Eyre" at the Omaha Theatre.

At last! Something funnier than a barrel of monkeys!

Motion Picture Daily — Sept. 29, 1943

Review

"Whistling in Brooklyn"

(M-G-M)

Hollywood, Sept. 28

THEY laughed, they screamed, they howled—the people who had come to the Village Theatre, in Westwood, —and the "they" is inclusive also of the invited press, the studio folk who had come to check up on their creation, the ushers and the publicity men. Because this is by far the funniest of the Red Skelton "Whistling" films and among the funniest comedies of this or any past season.

Skelton's running mate in this outing is Rags Ragland, finally given lines that fit his type of comedy, and his co-entertainers are Ann Rutherford, Jean Rogers, Ray Collins, Henry O'Neill, William Frawley, Sam Levene, Arthur Space, Robert Emmett O'Connor, Steve Geray, Howard Freeman, Tom Dillon and—a most important *and*—The Brooklyn Dodgers.

Skelton is on the screen virtually every inch of the way and in head-long progress from gag to gag, situation to situation, from title to termination. He's under suspicion of murder from the opening minute and is the object of a city-wide manhunt throughout. In the course of events he utilizes all the comedy devices in the history of the art, inclusive of the "High and Dizzy" technique originated by Harold Lloyd, and the fire-hose slapstickery invented by Mack Sennett, bringing all of them up to the minute and giving them his particular variety of switch and polish.

This Skelton, it may as well be written down for the record, is a comedian of top rank, perhaps of topmost rank. He has the gift of personalizing and improving his material as he goes along, and he recognizes no archaic limitations of scope. In this number, for instance, he crosses company lines, for the first time in any picture, by dialogue reference to Bob Hope and Jack Benny, non M-G-M stars and his own radio rivals. He has been "going places," as they say, for a long time, and now he is there.

The film was produced by George Haight and directed by Sylvan Simon. It is a tribute to the skill and talent of everybody identified with it, and it's a whale of an entertainment. Screen play was written by Nat Perrin, and additional dialogue by Wilkie Mahoney.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

READ IT ALL!

Just one of the terrific trade reviews!

"That Skelton is a wow!"

"Red makes monkeys out of us!"

M-G-M—it's Fun to be Friendly!

Decree Meet Will Examine Film Terms

(Continued from page 1)

wark. Later, he was recalled to Washington on official business and the conference date was set back to Friday.

Film terms and playing policies, including designated play dates, were discussed at a conference of the decree company heads with Clark and Wright on Monday, at which time the company officials cited increased production and operating costs in relation to higher percentages and film rentals. Clark said yesterday that the company officials had been asked to bring additional information on sales terms to Friday's meeting. The information requested from the companies is sought as a result of complaints received by the Department of Justice to date as part of exhibitor suggestions for changes in the consent decree at the expiration of its three-year trial period Nov. 20, it is understood

Expects Completed Reports

Clark reported that he expects all reports resulting from a field survey of trade conditions by regional offices of the Department of Justice, which has been under way since midsummer, will be completed and in the hands of the Department at Washington in the very near future.

His own plans for future procedure in connection with the decree may be completed soon after Friday's meeting, he indicated. In reply to a question, Clark said that current conferences have not reached the stage at which he could decide finally whether the decree could be revised and extended or whether the industry anti-trust suit should be brought to trial. He indicated that many decisions may hinge upon the outcome of Friday's conference. Arbitration, experience under it and probable changes, will be discussed at that session among other things.

Own Plans Indefinite

Clark added that his own plans for another visit to the Coast to talk to production officials, as well as a later meeting with exhibitor representatives, would not be definite until after the Friday meeting.

Asks House Probe of Film 'Propaganda'

(Continued from page 1)

tion. The inquiry would probably be made by a special House committee instructed to make an exhaustive study of the film activities of the Army, Navy and Office of War Information. Company officials would be called, it was indicated, to testify regarding the manner in which newsreels and features relating to the war were handled.

Because of the political aspects of the situation, Ploeser's resolution is receiving the support of the Republican membership and, on a showdown, probably would receive the votes of a number of anti-Administration Democrats.

Knox Disqualifies Himself As Extort Trial Starts

(Continued from page 1)

convicted of a similar extortion, and, in a later article which appeared in the *Saturday Evening Post*, had called Bioff a "pathological liar."

Judge Knox, after stating that he felt no prejudice toward any defendant, said he would be glad to get rid of the case by assigning it to Judge Bright.

"I certainly do not care to preside at any trial if any defendant feels that he will not be treated fairly," said Judge Knox.

Before Judge Bright, J. B. Wegman, attorney for Louis Kaufman, business agent of local 244, M. P. Operators Union, Newark, one of the defendants, moved to have the indictment severed as to Kaufman on the ground that former U. S. Attorney Mathias F. Correa, who obtained the indictment, had characterized Kaufman's status as "different from any of the others, he is a deputy collector" for the ring.

The motion was denied and Kostelanetz stated that any evidence he offered would be offered as against all defendants, except for events which took place after the indictment was returned last March 19.

Selection of a jury of nine women and three men was completed at 4:30 P. M. and Judge Bright then adjourned the trial until today.

Kostelanetz, in charge of the prosecution, estimated that the Government will take three and one-half weeks to present its case, while Murray said the defense will take two weeks more. The defense, Murray said, will be that whatever money was paid to Bioff or Browne represented bribes on the part of those who paid it and that the defendants in the present case were not involved in an extortion scheme.

Murray asked the prospective jurors if any had ever read Judge Knox's book, "Order in the Court," and only one woman admitted that she had read the book. A similar question with respect to Judge Knox's article in the *Saturday Evening Post*, "Just Justice," brought one admission from a man.

More than 50 prospective jurors stated that they did not know Bioff, Browne, Nicholas Schenck, Albert or Harry Warner, Louis B. Mayer, and other names announced as prospective witnesses in the case.

Murray stated that while the "Government's investigation discloses that between July, 1935, and May, 1941, the producers conspired with Browne, Bioff and the IATSE, the defense will prove that the conspiracy was one to circumvent and thwart the provisions of the Wagner Act and the Wages and Hours Law. That is all there is to this case." Kostelanetz will open the Government's case today.

Pearl and Sprott Quit Mich. Allied

(Continued from page 1)

those attending were A. Myers, M. A. Rosenberg, George Erdmann, Al Steffes of Allied, and former Allied Michigan presidents, W. S. McLaren, of Jackson; J. R. Denniston, of Monroe; O. C. Eiseman of Flint.

Exhibitors' war work is not going unnoticed, said Claude Lee of Paramount. Federal admission tax situation was explained on request by Dave Palfreyman, of the MPPDA. Advertising passes, truck delivery of films crisis, juvenile delinquency, and vandalism and the fuel shortage were discussed in an open forum conducted by Branch. The resolutions committee appointed to membership Allen Johnson, of Grand Rapids, and Pete Schram, of Kalamazoo. There will be a closed session tomorrow to elect officers, followed by a banquet tomorrow night.

German Films Aided Nazis Here: Biddle

(Continued from page 1)

notification to the United States Government.

A formal announcement of the indictment by Attorney General Francis Biddle here said it climaxed one of "the most complex and widespread investigations" undertaken by the FBI, which developed that the alleged conspiracy was carried out in part by distribution through members and branches of the League of Motion Pictures prepared in German, on which lectures were given by propaganda speakers assigned to this country by the German Reich.

N. J. Allied Protests M-G-M Selling Policy

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey have protested against the M-G-M policy of selling feature pictures in a resolution passed at a recent meeting of the organization. The resolution charges that Metro licenses features "without any designation of price" and "takes unfair advantage of the exhibitors' need for such pictures."

It further declares that M-G-M "compels exhibitors to license such pictures even though exhibitors do not know what prices they must pay for them until Metro chooses to designate such prices at any time it pleases after execution of the contract and before playdate of each picture licensed."

Allied Takes Up Prices and Product

(Continued from page 1)

the high prices of films and the shortage of product being released.

Board meeting this afternoon of Connecticut Allied was attended by Dr. J. B. Fishman, Maxwell Alderman, Daniel Pouzzner, Sidney Samuelson, Jack Greenberg, Joseph Conway, Irving Dollinger, Lee Newbury, Harry Lowestein, Louis Gold and Edward Kelly.

Pinanski Elected N.E. Allied Head

(Continued from page 1)

and Joseph Brennan, of Allied, secretary to the board of directors.

Executive committee officers will be N. J. Mullin, John J. Ford, Charles Kurtzman, Max Mellincoff and Emil H. Groth.

Planning Now for Post-War Building In New England

(Continued from page 1)

eral Philip B. Fleming, Federal Works Administrator, the Mayor of Boston and the six governors of New England. The session will continue through the day with a dinner concluding.

Associated spokesmen were emphatic in stating that their plan for post-war effort has progressed to a definite program. They hope to interest the contractors of every other state in the Union.

There is no doubt here that immediately following the war's close there will be considerable construction work to be done in the theatre industry locally and in many instances where actual new theatres will not be constructed there will be complete remodelling and rejuvenation of those theatres now in us. There has been a very decided report here that one of the big circuits will enter Boston at the conclusion of the war.

Since Wendell Willkie is to be in Boston on Nov. 8 it is hoped that he will be a speaker at the meeting of the Associated.

Post-War Drive-In Planned by Anderson

CLEVELAND, Oct. 5.—Urban Anderson, former president of Midwest Specialty Co., announces that he has completed plans to build a 500-car drive-in theatre on Route 6 between Sandusky and Cedar Point as soon as building restrictions will permit. Anderson has completed financial arrangements for the project. He is also negotiating for other drive-in locations in northern Ohio.

Drumbar Urges Postwar Planning

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 5.—W. E. Drumbar, owner of the Sunset, Western, and Lee Theatres here, believes that theatre men can also do some "postwar" planning. Consequently he has already in hand complete architectural plans for a new theatre on a site which he has purchased at the corner of Airlor Ave. and Fort Sanders St. to seat 1,000.

Rank Buys Six More in London

(Continued from page 1)

Board's desire to check Rank's wholesale expansion.

The new acquisitions are situated in outer London. It is understood here that the deal also includes the Metropole and Victoria Theatres. All financial arrangements have been concluded.

Equity Complains of Contemplated Tax

(Continued from page 1)

way merger talks between Equity, American Federation of Radio Artists and the American Guild of Musical Artists, with a further meeting scheduled for today between representatives of the three groups.

50 Shooting, 50 Preparing, 76 Editing

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 5.—Start of six features, offset by completion of 10, brought the week to a close with 50 pictures in the camera stage. Fifty more were in preparation, 76 in various stages of editing.

The tabulations:

Columbia

Shooting: "Klondike Kate," "Swing Out the Blues," "Cowboy Canteen," "Hey Rookie," "Curly," "Ten Percent Woman," "Cover Girl," "None Shall Escape" (formerly "The Day Will Come").

W. R. Frank

Shooting: "Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels, His Life and Loves."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed," "Gaslight," "The Canterville Ghost."

Finished: "Broadway Rhythm," "The White Cliffs" (formerly "White Cliffs of Dover").

Monogram

Started: "Return of the Ape Man," with Bela Lugosi, John Carradine and George Zucco.

Shooting: "Her Bachelor Husband," "Lady Let's Dance."

Finished: "Westward Bound."

Paramount

Started: "Double Indemnity," with Barbara Stanwyck, Fred MacMurray, Edward G. Robinson and Albert Dekker, and "The Man In Half Moon Street," with Nils Asther, Helen Walker and Paul Cavanaugh.

Shooting: "The Navy Way," "Going My Way," "Story of Dr. Wassell," "Frenchman's Creek," "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay."

PRC

Shooting: "Jive Junction."

Finished: "Boss of Rawhide."

RKO-Radio

Shooting: "Curse of the Cat People," "Tender Comrade," "Days of Glory."

Finished: "Higher and Higher."

Republic

Started: "Return of Casanova," with Joe E. Brown, June Havoc and Dale Evans, and "Pride of the Plains," with Bob Livingston and Smiley Burnette.

Shooting: "The Fighting Seabees."

Finished: "Whispering Footsteps," "Canyon City," "O My Darling Clementine."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "The Sullivans," "Eve of St. Mark," "Home In Indiana," "Lifeboat," "Lodger."

Finished: "Buffalo Bill."

United Artists

Shooting: "The Bridge of San Luis Rey" (Bogeaus), "Knickerbocker Holiday" (PCA), "Timber" (Sherman), "Since You Went Away" (Vanguard).

Universal

Started: "Three Cheers for the Boys," George Raft, W. C. Fields, Sophie Tucker, Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, Charles Boyer, Grace McDonald, Marlene Dietrich, Dinah Shore, Orson Welles, Charles Butterworth, the Freddie Stack, Ted Lewis and Charlie Spivack orchestras.

Shooting: "The Phantom Lady," "Swingtime for Johnny," "When Ladies Fly," "The Impostor," "Gung Ho," "Third Glory."

Warner

Shooting: "Uncertain Glory," Rhapsody in Blue," "Passage to Marseilles."

Finished: "Shine On Harvest Moon."

Reviews

"Harvest Melody"

(*PRC Pictures*)

Hollywood, Oct. 5

THIS is perhaps the first musical to carry a message—the message about the need for city folks to go out and help the farmers harvest the crop—but the carrying of the message doesn't burden it detrimentally. On the contrary, it gives substance to a narrative which would have lacked ballast otherwise.

Stars of the picture are Rosemary Lane and Johnny Downs, portraying cinema star and country boy respectively. Also available for billing purposes are the Radio Rogues, Eddie LeBaron and his orchestra and The Vigilantes. Others in the cast are Sheldon Leonard, Charlotte Wynters, Luis Alberni, Claire Rochelle, Syd Taylor and Marjorie Manners.

The screenplay by Allan Gale is from a story by Martin Mooney and Ande Lamb. It concerns a washed-up film star whose press agent sends her to the harvest belt as a means of obtaining needed newspaper publicity, which she gets in such volume that she declines to return to the screen for the duration in order that she may carry on the back-to-the-farm movement she has started.

Four songs and several orchestral numbers are dealt with in the film, which maintains a steady pace throughout under direction of Sam Newfield. The picture is the first produced by Walter Colmes for PRC and is a promising start.

Running time, 70 minutes. "G."* WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Campus Rhythm"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Oct. 5

SIX songs enliven this pleasant little item about a radio singer who runs away from her contract to attend college under an assumed name and winds up by bringing her schoolmates back with her to radio careers of their own.

The film reveals Gale Storm as a young actress and singer of manifest promise. Miss Storm's associates in the cast are Johnny Downs, in an uncharacteristic assignment; Robert Lowery as the college orchestra leader; Candy Candido in some of his triple-voice comedy; Doug Leavitt, Ge-Ge Pearson, Herbert Heyes, Marie Blake, Johnny Duncan and Claudia Drake.

The screenplay by Charles R. Marion, from a story by Ewart Adamson and Jack White, opens in a metropolitan radio station, moves to a college for most of the proceedings and returns to the radio station for the finale in which all hands participate. Direction by Arthur Dreifuss maintains pace consistently and the imprint of producer Lindsley Parsons marks the whole.

It is no picture to date eras from, but it makes profitable use of its running time.

Running time, 63 minutes. "G".*

*"G" denotes general classification.

Petty, New Labor Head

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Oct. 5.—Harry E. Petty, secretary-treasurer of the local projectionists union, has been elected president of the Kentucky Federation of Labor. Following his return to Louisville, Petty resigned as president of the Central Labor Union.

Leases Mexican Theatre

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 5.—The Cine Iris, local first-run theatre, has been leased for 10 years by a Russo-Mexican amusement syndicate from Esperanza Iris, Mexican operetta star, for a reported monthly rental of $1,400.

New War Short Reel Distributed by WAC

A new "War Information Film," "Suggestion Box," a single reeler, was announced by the War Activities Committee here yesterday, for release on Oct. 21. It goes out free to exhibitors, to insure bookings at 15,000 theatres.

"Suggestion Box," number 79 in the series released through WAC was produced by the Office of War Information and will be handled by Columbia exchanges. The film depicts suggestions offered by American workmen to increase war production.

WAC is also currently distributing a third "War Information Bulletin," titled "Nation Calls for Angels of Mercy."

Lea Succeeds Cox

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Rep. Clarence F. Lea, of California, has been named chairman of the special House Committee investigating the Federal Communications Commission. He succeeds Rep. E. E. Cox.

'Bell' Tolls Loudly In Cleveland, on A $26,000 Note

CLEVELAND, Oct. 5.—"For Whom the Bell Tolls" will take first place for the second consecutive week with $26,000, which almost equals the first week. And $14,000 for the third week of "This Is the Army" is terrific. "Heaven Can Wait" was the best bet of the new releases, hitting $19,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 6:

"This Is the Army" (WB)
ALLEN—(3,300) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $8,300)
"Heaven Can Wait" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average, $17,100)
"My Friend Flicka" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,300. (Average, $3,100)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (No average established yet)
"We've Never Been Licked" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c and 85c Sundays and holidays) 7 days. Stage: Louis Armstrong orchestra. Gross: $26,000. (Average, $25,800)
"Johnny Come Lately" (U.A.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $16,800)
"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $8,600)

'Kingdom','Courage' Take in $17,000

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Oct. 5.—Business was relatively quiet here, with "First Comes Courage" and "My Kingdom for a Cook" leading the parade with $17,000 at Loew's State.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 7:

"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"Petticoat Larceny" (RKO)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average, $10,800)
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
"Passport to Suez" (Col.)
STRAND—(2,200) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $9,500)
"First Comes Courage" (Col.)
"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $14,400)
"Watch On the Rhine" (W. B.)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $11,700)
"This Is the Army" (W. B.)
CARLTON—(1,526) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 4th week (second week after moving from Majestic). Gross: $5,000. (Average, $4,100)
"In Old Chicago" (20th-Fox)
FAYS—(1,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. On stage: Cordan & Sawyer, Kelly & Hayes, Del Ray Brothers, Anthony Guarino, Robinson & Rowe, Lee Ross. Gross: $6,900. (Average, $6,400)
"Nearly Eighteen" (Mono.)
METROPOLITAN — (3,050) (40c-65)c) 3 days. On stage: Dante the Great. Gross: $6,800. (Average, $6,800)

Legion of Decency Reviews Nine Films

National Legion of Decency this week reviewed the following pictures and placed them in these categories: Unobjectionable for general patronage, "Corvette K-225," "Man from the Rio Grande," "Whistling in Brooklyn," "Raiders of Red Gap" and "Silver City Raiders"; unobjectionable for adults, "Gildersleeve on Broadway," "Hostages," "Spotlight Scandals" and "Unknown Guest."

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 5

THE executive committee of the Industry Service Bureau today approved a report in writing submitted by Arch Reeve covering the public relations aspect of the Hollywood Bond Cavalcade which Reeve accompanied in charge of publicity.

•

The Screen Actors Guild has dispatched ballots for Class B members' vote on the autonomy plan explained to them by James Cagney, president, at its mass meeting Sunday night in which he and others were interrupted by efforts of leaders of insurgent factions to divert the discussion from the programmed routine. SAG spokesmen said yesterday the meeting had served its function in full, despite the heckling.

•

Chairman Mark Sandrich of the Permanent Charities Committee has announced that Y. Frank Freeman has accepted the chairmanship of the Los Angeles area war chest which will conduct its campaign for 17 charities under the National War Fund.

•

Third War Loan purchases by studio corporations, personnel and allied industries exceeded $14,000,000, according to a weekend report by Henry Ginsberg, chairman of the War Finance Committee.

•

Betty Grable has been granted a straight seven-year contract, without option, it was announced today by 20th-Fox. The new contract replaces a contract which contained option clauses.

•

Technicolor reports that the latest of its staff to join U. S. war services are Laura Cline, Arthur Daniel, Edward Fershau, James Matthews, Charles Sweeney, William Turner and E. M. Warren.

•

"Knob Hill," an original story, was purchased today by 20th-Fox, for a Technicolor production by Andre Daven.

•

Leon Fromkess, PRC Pictures production chief, today appointed Richard J. Pearl as his assistant.

•

Columbia today gave Evelyn Keyes a seven-year contract.

Hopper Sees Same Raw Stock Supply

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 5.—Harold Hopper, head of the motion picture section of the War Production Board, today told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that no change in the existing conditions affecting the supply of set materials and raw stock allocations, is in prospect.

Hopper, who arrived here yesterday, expects to return to Washington at the weekend.

Wechsler Joins 20th

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 5.—Lou Wechsler, who recently resigned as New Haven manager of United Artists after 12 years with that company, has announced his association with 20th-Fox in Boston.

Circus, Legit Fail To Hurt Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Oct. 5. — A two-day weekend engagement of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus and the opening of the legitimate season failed to divert film fans from their accustomed fare, particularly at the RKO Albee, where long box office lines were the rule for "Thank Your Lucky Stars," which is headed for a terrific $23,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 6-9:

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (W.B.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average, $15,800)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (30c-33c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average, $12,600)
"Watch on the Rhine" (W.B.)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (30c-33c-44c-55c) 7 days. 3rd week, 2nd at this house. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $5,000)
"This Is the Army" (W.B.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. 8th and final week. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $6,200)
"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-44c-55c) 7 days. 3rd week, 2nd at this house. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $5,200)
"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (30c-33c-44c-55c) 7 days. 2nd week, moveover from Palace. Gross: $5,800. (Average, $3,900)
"Song of the Saddle" (W.B. re-released)
"The West Side Kid" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 4 days. Gross: $1,350. (Average, $1,400)
"Sleepy Lagoon" (Rep.)
"The Saint Meets the Tiger" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 days. Gross: $800. (Average, $800)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (30c-33c-44c-55c) 7 days 2nd week. moveover. Gross: $6,500. (Average. $5,200)

Capital MPTO Will Elect Representative

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Carter Barron, Loew's division manager in Washington, has declined the post of representative to the national Motion Picture Theater Owners of America for the local MPTO, he has stated, due to the pressure of other work. Because of Barron's declination, there was a special meeting of the District of Columbia Motion Picture Theater Owners today at the Hotel Statler to elect a new national MPTOA representative.

A. Julian Brylawski, president, presided. Other officers of the organization are: Sidney Lust, head of the Lust Theaters, vice-president, and Nat J. Browne, Warner Bros. Theatres executive, treasurer.

Ampa Group Meets on Oct. 22nd Relief Show

Ampa's ticket selling committee, headed by Vincent Trotta, president, met at the Hotel Dixie yesterday, to set plans for the promotion and sale of tickets for the midnight preview of "Riding High" at the Paramount Theatre, Oct. 22, proceeds of which will go to the Motion Picture Relief Fund here.

Republic Closes '43-44 Deal with N.Y. Loew's

Republic Pictures has closed with Loew's Metropolitan circuit for its 1943-44 product, covering the New York City area.

This is a renewal of a deal which has existed between Republic and Loew's for the past few years.

'Matrimony', Show, $25,000 Gross in Washington Week

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—"Holy Matrimony" will draw approximatel $25,000 at the Loew's Capitol thi week, aided and abetted by Arthu Tracy as the stage draw. "For Who the Bell Tolls" will do a neat $2 at Loew's Palace in its third wee advanced admission. "Thank Yo Lucky Stars," staying a second we at Warner Bros.' Earle, should brin in about $18,500, which is still go business.

Estimated grosses for the week end ing Oct. 7 are:

"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S CAPITOL (3,434) (28c-39c-44 66c) 7 days. On stage: Arthur Tracy; t Debonettes. Gross: $25,000. (Averag $22,000)
"So Proudly We Hail" (Par.)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA (1,234) (30c-50c) days. Third downtown week. Gross: $7,00 (Average, $6,900)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (W. B.)
WARNERS' EARLE—(2,210) (30c-40c 50c-75c-90c) 7 days. Second downtow week. On stage: Tim Herbert; Eunic Healy. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,800)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
RKO-KEITH'S — (1,800) (40c-50c-65c) days. Second downtown week. Gros $9,000. (Average: $11,400)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
WARNERS' METROPOLITAN — (1,60 (30c-44c) 7 days. Second downtown wee Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,900)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Par.)
LOEW'S PALACE — (2,242) (75c-$1.10) days. Third downtown week. Gross: $28 000. (Average: $17,600)

'Destroyer' Dual, $16,800 Gross

BUFFALO, Oct. 5.—"Destroyer" wa the hit here this week, drawing cap acity houses at the Lafayette and bid ding for a big $16,800. "Hi Diddl Diddle" and a stage show at the Buf falo were on the way to $24,700.

Estimated receipts for the week end ing Oct. 4:

"Hi Diddle Diddle" (U. A.)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-65c) 7 days Woody Herman and his orchestra on stag Gross: $24,700. (Average, $16,500)
"This Is the Army" (W.B.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c 7 days, third week. Gross: $16,000. (Aver age, $16,400)
"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"Alaska Highway" (Para.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c 7 days, second week. Gross: $12,000. (Aver age, $9,500)
"Stormy Weather" (20th-Fox)
"The Gorilla Man" (W.B.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (35c 55c) 7 days, second week. Gross: $9,50 (Average, $10,600)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
"Let's Have Fun" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days Gross: $16,800. (Average, $10,500)

Nine Circuit Houses Set 'Army' Premier

CHICAGO, Oct. 5. — Premieres o Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army have been set by Great States Cir cuit in nine houses, starting Oct. 7 with others to follow.

Great States has set the advanced price openings at Aurora, Joliet, De catur, Rock Island, Peoria, Soutl Bend, Elgin, Danville and Champaign

Schine Shifts Managers

Fielding K. O'Kelly, manager o Schine's Strand, Cumberland, Md., ha exchanged jobs with A. Wallach manager of Schine's Empire in Gle Falls, N. Y.

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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VOL. 54. NO. 69 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1943 TEN CENTS

Bioff Is First To Testify at Racket Trial

Says Payments Helped His 'Soup Kitchen'

William Bioff, former personal representative of George E. Browne, ex-president of the IATSE, was the first witness called by the Government yesterday at the Federal Court trial of eight of Bioff's former associates, who are accused of aiding him in the $1,000,000 shake-down of the motion picture industry.

Bioff and Browne, both convicted of the same charge, and now serving long prison terms, were accused by James D. C. Murray, chief defense attorney, of "using the defendants on trial as a vehicle on which they hope to ride out of prison."

Boris Kostelanetz, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, in opening the Government's case, charged that Louis Buchalter, former king-pin of New York's industrial rackets and now a

(Continued on page 3)

Kelly to London For British Films

United Artists is on the lookout for British product for distribution in this country, anticipating an increased world interchange of product in the post-war period, according to Arthur W. Kelly, vice-president in charge of U.A.'s foreign distribution, who will leave for London as soon as transportation clearance is obtained. Kelly is back at New York headquarters from a company board meeting in Hollywood.

"We must face the fact," he said, "that we will no longer be able to dump 40, 50 or 60 Hollywood pictures into a foreign country, grab our mon-

(Continued on page 6)

Cunningham Heads CIAA Production

Major Bert Cunningham, of the U. S. Marine Corps, has been loaned by the Office of Strategic Services to the U. S. Officer of the Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs, to head the latter organization's production department. Major Cunningham succeeds Lt. John Reinhard, who returns to his duties with the Office of Strategic Services.

$301,851,629 from Exhibitor 3rd Loan WarBondPremieres

Exhibitors sold $301,851,629 in war bonds at bond premieres alone during their special single war bond premieres in the Third War Loan, it was disclosed here yesterday by William F. Rodgers, Loew vice-president, who was chairman of the bond premiere facet of the campaign.

From Washington, the Treasury Department yesterday reported that the nation's $15,000,000,000 Third War Loan quota had already reached $17,733,000,000, some $2,733,000,000 over the goal for the September drive.

The exhibitor figure is the cumulative total of 1,554 bond premieres or 354 above the quota originally set by the WAC and is entirely exclusive of all bonds sold by exhibitors at regular theatre programs, or on "Free Movie Day," and during rallies held for the Hollywood Bond Cavalcade and the War Veterans' Bond Airmada.

The WAC said yesterday that ex-

(Continued on page 6)

15th Edition of QP Almanac Out Today

Fifteenth annual edition of Quigley Publications' *International Motion Picture Almanac* will appear today, in 1,100 pages, edited by Terry Ramsaye, with George Schutz as associate.

"The American motion picture industry has organized itself into a diversified, smoothly integrated compopent of the nation's war effort with little alteration, except in foreign distribution, of its major resources of plant and people." This is the sum of the current statistics in the 1943-44 *Almanac*.

Highlighting the book is the 'Who's

(Continued on page 6)

Warners Mark 40 Years in Business

Harry M., Jack L., and Albert Warner will celebrate their 40th anniversary in motion picture exhibition this fall. Forty years ago they were endeavoring to interest Newcastle, Penn., in one-reel 'movie thrillers' at a nickel admission. Their 'theatre' was an abandoned store; the seating capacity was 91 rented chairs.

It was the late Sam Warner who started his brothers toward exhibition when he saw his first picture while in an amusement park in Sandusky, Ohio. He obtained enough to buy a print of "The Great Train Robbery," early one-reeler, and a crude projecting machine.

Clark Reports Decree Progress

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—Consent decree negotiations are gaining in momentum, with much of the general discussion cleared up by the conferences so far held between Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark and heads of the five participating decree companies, it was indicated here today.

Returning from a New York meeting with film officials, Clark said that the conversations have not yet reached

(Continued on page 6)

Rinzler, Zukor on N.Y. Fund Committee

The $17,000,000 Fall campaign of the New York committee of the National War Fund has enlisted leaders of entertainment industries to help reach the quota, James A. Farley,

(Continued on page 6)

300 FP-C Houses Cut Midnight Shows To Save Fuel; Others to Follow

Toronto, Oct. 6.—J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of the Famous Players-Canadian circuit, today issued a voluntary order prohibiting all midnight shows in circuit houses throughout Canada effectve on and after Sunday midnight, Oct. 18, in a move to conserve coal. The order affects 300 theatres and it is expected that other circuits and independent houses will follow suit through the example of Fitzgibbons, who is chairman of the Motion Picture War Serviees Committee which has saving of fuel and other patriotic cooperation with the Dominion government among its immediate objectives. The possible exception to the order may be New Year's Eve performances which have become a theatre institution; but this matter will be dealt with in due course when further study is made of coal supply developments.

Commission Ceiling Near Clarification

Treasury Will Act on Salary Rulings

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—Salary regulations issued by the Treasury Department Sept. 4 will be clarified within a few days to iron out difficulties in enforcing the ceiling on salesmen's commissions, it was disclosed here today by A. D. Burford, deputy commissioner of internal revenue in charge of salary stabilization.

Under the regulations as issued, if a salesman's commissions exceed the dollar amount he received in an accounting year of his company prior to Oct. 3, 1942, it is necessary to secure approval before paying the increased amount.

Conferences have been going on this week regarding this situation, which it was represented might tend to curb salesmen's selling enthusiasm if they

(Continued on page 6)

Michigan Allied Reelects Branch

DETROIT, Oct. 6.—Ray Branch was reelected president of Allied of Michigan at the closing session of the organization's annual meeting at the Hotel Statler here today. Other officers elected were: W. J. Olson of the Ideal Theatre, Clare, Mich., vice-president; E. E. Kirchner, Family Theatre, Detroit, secretary-treasurer, and Fred Pennell of Decatur, Mich., business manager.

Pennell replaces Pearl M. Sprott, who will retire on an extended leave of absence for reasons of health.

Allied's views on the industry consent decree were discussed at a closed

(Continued on page 6)

Senate Passes New Draft Measure

WASHNGTON, Oct. 6.—As a substitute to the Wheeler bill against drafting pre-Pearl Harbor fathers, the Senate today passed a measure which will require evidence of the "indispensability" of all draft age non-fathers holding occupational deferments.

The revised substitute measure also included amendments requiring writ-

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

L. J. SCHLAIFER, Central sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, and ROGER FERRI, editor of the company's *Dynamo,* left yesterday for Detroit and Chicago.

•

IRVING BERLIN, who was scheduled to accompany the "This Is the Army" cast to England, is receiving medical attention and has postponed his trip. SGT. BEN WASHER, former film publicist attached to the Army show, is in England in advance of the cast's arrival.

•

STERLING SILLIPHANT and RICHARD DUBE of 20th Century-Fox have received orders to report the end of this month for duty with the Navy as Ensigns.

•

JEFF LIVINGSTON, former member of the M-G-M home office publicity department now in the Army, and BERNICE FIELD, also a former M-G-M employee, were married recently.

•

R. G. MARCH, manager of the 20th Century-Fox branch at St. John, N.B., has been named chairman of the juvenile recreation committee in that city.

•

LES KAUFMAN, advertising and publicity manager for Fanchon and Marco theatres in St. Louis, is a New York visitor.

•

DR. CARLO ROCHA, publicity director for 20th Century-Fox in Havana, has returned to that city following a visit here.

•

JACK OSSERMAN, who was recently appointed to a South American post by RKO, is expected here Oct. 16 from Chicago.

•

JACK BLUM, former Chicago office manager of National Screen Service, has moved from that city to Phoenix, Ariz.

•

JOHN J. PAYETTE, Washington zone manager of Warner Theatres, and GEORGE CROUCH, his assistant, are in New York.

•

BERT SANFORD, Jr., Eastern sales executive of Altec Service, will return today from Boston.

•

ED HINCHY, head of the Warner playdate department, will return today from a trip to Albany and Buffalo.

•

KARL B. KNUST, manager of 20th Century-Fox's Ecuador office, is in New York.

•

WILLIAM CAGNEY and CHARLES DAGGETT will leave for the Coast Saturday.

•

SOL SCHWARTZ, RKO Theatres official, is in Boston.

•

SAM PINANSKI of the M & P circuit, Boston, is a New York visitor.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 6

THE "Bed for Buddies" campaign launched on Sept. 1 with all Southern California theatres cooperating under the general chairmanship of Charles Skouras, closed last night when the total collection of $190,908 was turned over to the Overnight Housing Fund committee. Fox West Coast houses collected $118,887, the Warner, Paramount, Pantages and Hillcrest theatres collected $24,307 and independents netted $47,713.

•

Hollywood Victory Committee today reported that September was a record month since the start of the war in the point of activity of stellar personnel. Five hundred and forty-six personalities made 1,879 appearances in 243 separate events, according to the monthly report. Since Pearl Harbor 2,464 personalities have made 17,579 appearances under HVC arrangement in areas including Italy, Sicily, Near East, Africa, and the South Pacific.

•

A CIO spokesman today announced plans to establish a "people's educational center" for the purpose of "bridging the gap between labor and learning," with AFL representatives, University of California faculty members, Hollywood writers, and others collaborating in the enterprise.

•

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Goldwyn will leave here by train on Friday for conferences in New York which are expected to result in the opening of "North Star" at two theatres simultaneously. It is understood that contracts are being drawn.

•

Charles R. Rogers has acquired film rights to the life of Chauncey Olcott for a picture to be called "My Wild Irish Rose." The film, to be made in Technicolor, will be released through United Artists.

•

William Gordon of RKO was today elected chairman of the foreign committee of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas to serve for a year.

•

M-G-M today announced that it will make "Laddie, Son of Laddis," as a sequel to "Lassie Come Home", with Samuel Marx again producing.

•

RKO today appointed George Bilson, formerly with Warners and Universal, as assistant to Sid Rogell, executive producer.

•

John Brahm was signed to a term contract today by 20th-Fox.

Para. 'Victory Ball'

A "Victory Ball" dedicated to Paramount's men and women in the services will be held Friday evening, Oct. 22, in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Astor under the auspices of the Paramount Pep Club. All former Paramount employees in the services who can attend will be invited. A dinner will start the affair, which will include entertainment by stars of screen, stage and radio.

Clarence M. Robson, Odeon Official, Dies

TORONTO, Oct. 6.—After an illness of one year, Clarence M. Robson, chief executive officer of Odeon Theatres of Canada, died early today at his summer home near Lake Simcoe from a heart attack. Robson was widely known in the industry since 1898 when he played the original film road show of Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee in Massey Music Hall, here.

He was the first theatre manager in Toronto with the late N. L. Nathanson in the organization which was to become the Famous Players circuit and resigned with Nathanson to form Odeon Theatres of Canada more than two years ago.

Survivors are his widow and daughter Ada, who is the wife of C. T. Spencer, manager of the Capitol, Hamilton, Ont.

Robson suffered a stroke last fall on a train in the Maritime provinces during a theatre inspection trip and never fully recovered.

Nortman, Pioneer, Dies in Chicago

CHICAGO, Oct. 6.—Fred J. Nortman, 71, one of the first theatre owners in the Woodlawn District, died here in Mercy Hospital. He owned and operated theatres on the South Side for 35 years and introduced many of the leading exhibitors of the present day to the business.

Funeral services will be held today in St. Clara's church. Surviving are the widow, Elizabeth, and a daughter, Mrs. Charles Hendricks.

Morris Milligan New Ontario MPTA Head

TORONTO, Oct. 6.—Morris A. Milligan, former Canadian general manager for Paramount Pictures and now owner of theatres in Hamilton, Ont. and Newfoundland, was elected president of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario at an executive meeting here, succeeding E. S. Warren, of the Royal Theatre, Aurora, Ont.

N. A. Taylor, of 20th Century Theatres, was named new vice-president and S. B. Taube was reappointed executive secretary.

Glenn Succeeds Brown

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 6.—Peter F. Glenn has been appointed field supervisor of Warners' film checking service for this territory, it was announced yesterday by Rudy Hagen, manager of the checking organization with headquarters in New York. Glenn succeeds Richard L. Brown, now in the Army.

W. B. Meeting Oct. 29-30

CHICAGO, Oct. 6.—Warner Bros. will hold a meeting of about 20 district managers and home office representatives at the Blackstone Hotel here on Oct. 29-30.

Proposed Admission Tax Rise Faces Cut

Washington, Oct. 6.—Democratic members of the House joined today with Republican members of the House Ways and Means Committee in denouncing the Treasury's tax program as going far beyond what the average person is able to pay.

Congressional sentiment has been interpreted as indicating that the Treasury tax program will undergo drastic modifications, possibly including a reduction of the proposed 30 per cent Federal admission tax.

Goldberg Honored By RKO Associates

Leon Goldberg was guest of honor at a luncheon yesterday at the Hotel Astor given by associates at RKO's home office prior to his leaving for the Coast Monday to assume the post of RKO studio manager to which he was appointed recently. N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, was master of ceremonies and Ned E. Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Edward L. Alperson and Goldberg spoke. Gifts and a plaque with signatures of his colleagues were presented to Goldberg.

Others present at the luncheon were: Richard C. Patterson, Jr., Fred Ullman, Gordon Youngman, J. Miller Walker, A. E. Reoch, Al Dawson, William H. Clark, Harold J. Mirisch, S. Barret McCormick, Harry Mandel, W. B. England, Sol Schwartz, James M. Brennan, Charles B. McDonald, Louis Goldberg, H. R. Emde, L. E. Thompson, Leon J. Bamberger and A. A. Schubart.

J. P. Kennedy Backs New Lonsdale Play

BOSTON, Oct. 6.—Former Ambassador to Great Britain Joseph P. Kennedy today confirmed a report that he is the financial backer of the play, "Another Love Story," which opened at the Colonial here Monday.

Last night City Censor John Spencer ordered many of the play's lines deleted and some scenes killed. It is scheduled to go into New York following a week's run here.

Kennedy said he backed "Another Love Story" only because of his interest in Frederick Lonsdale, its playright and author.

Long Island Circuit Drops Complaint

Clearance complaint of Associated Playhouses, Inc., operating the Bay Shore and Regent, Bay Shore; Babylon, Babylon; Amityville, Amityville, and Sayville, Sayville, all on Long Island, against Paramount and Loew's has been withdrawn at the New York tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported yesterday. The withdrawal followed an agreement, the terms of which were not disclosed.

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Union Theatres Nets $348,464

Greater Union Theatres, Ltd., operating 59 theatres in Australia, out of Sydney, reports gross profits of $696,922 for last year, which, after taxes of $348,358, left a net income of $348,464, compared to a net of $328,370 before tax provisions.

Report was released here by the New York office of Greater Union, which also controls British Empire Films, Cinesound Productions and National Theatre Supply Co. of Australasia, all with headquarters in Sydney.

The company's New York office pointed out that the year's profit of $348,454 compares to the company's loss of $37,470 in 1937, when Norman B. Rydge took over its management. Also, in that year, the circuit and affiliates had an overdraft of $1,119,366 with its bankers in Australia. This, said the company's statement here, has not only been paid off, but a credit balance has been created.

First dividend payment in years will come out of a $130,400 reserve set aside for the purpose from profits.

Rydge is publisher of *Rydge's Journal*, the financial paper; owns a large number of hotels in Australia, including Menzies Hotel, Melbourne (headquarters of General MacArthur); is chairman of Cash Orders, Ltd., a financial house, and is also a director of chains of restaurants and shoe stores.

Ad Heads Attend Hacker Farewell

George J. Hacker, executive assistant to Jack A. Pegler, vice president of Foote, Cone & Belding, was given a farewell dinner recently on Hacker's induction into the armed forces.

Among those present were Emerson Foote, Eugene Harrington, William Day and Edmund L. Cashman, of the agency; S. Barret McCormick, RKO Radio; Harry Mandel, RKO Theatres; Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox; L. Stanley Shuford, Paramount Pictures; Maurice Bergman, Universal; Jack A. Pegler, head of the motion picture department of Foote, Cone & Belding; Edward Greenberg, copy chief of the firm's film department, and Lester Savadel, head of production for the department.

Monogram Sets 8 In Second Block

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6.—Monogram's second block of eight pictures will comprise the following, it was learned today by MOTION PICTURE DAILY: "Ground Crew," an aviation special; "Where Are My Children," starring Jackie Cooper; "Campus Rhythm," a musical; Jack London's "Trail of the Yukon"; "Cisco Kid Comes Back," starting a new series; Bela Lugosi in "Return of the Ape Man"; "Follow the Leader"; and "Million Dollar Kid," with the East Side Kids.

Cron Is Vice-President

James A. Cron, who joined "Chick" Lewis' *Showman's Trade Review* on Monday as manager of advertising, has been named vice-president and general manager.

Bioff Is First Witness As 'Racket' Trial Opens

(*Continued from page 1*)

convicted murderer awaiting the death penalty, was one of the gangsters who gathered in a Riverside, Ill., house in 1934 when "members of the Al Capone gang, including Bioff and seven Chicago mobsters on trial, gathered to arrange for the elevation of Browne to the presidency of IATSE."

Bioff Testifies

Bioff testified that among those at a night club party in Chicago in 1934 attended by some of the defendants now on trial were Frank Costello, who was recently linked to the N. Y. Supreme Court nomination of Magistrate Thomas A. Aurelio and 'Lucky' Luciano, former N. Y. "vice czar."

Bioff revealed that he first met Browne in Chicago in 1933, when Bioff was business agent for the teamsters union and Browne was representing the stage hands union. "We teamed up and opened a soup kitchen for unemployed stage hands in Chicago," Bioff said, "with Chicago merchants contributing to the support of the project."

"Politicians and theatre owners who ate there occasionally made donations," Bioff said.

Teams Up With Browne

So successful was the soup kitchen, Bioff said, that he teamed up with Browne in operating the stage hands union. The first business for the stage hands in which he participated, Bioff said, occurred in 1934, when he and Browne approached Barney Balaban, then head of Balaban & Katz, in Chicago, to restore a voluntary wage cut taken by the stage hands in 1930. Balaban said that while he would like to restore the wage cut, Bioff said, it was impossible because it would mean higher wages for musicians and other employees.

"I then suggested a donation to the soup kitchen," said the convicted racketeer, "and I fixed the price at $50,000. Balaban balked at the price but when he found we were not kidding he arranged for us to meet his lawyer. A price of $20,000 was then set and paid."

Bioff, under questioning by Kostelanetz, recited events of his early life, from his birth in Russia, in preparation for his later testimony, which will deal with the payments made to him by film industry executives.

It is considered likely that, in view of Federal Judge John C. Knox's printed opinion that Bioff is a "liar," contained in the judge's book, "Order in the Court," that defense will call the jurist as a defense witness.

On Tuesday, when the trial started, Judge Knox disqualified himself when Murray called attention to Judge Knox's opinion of Bioff and the jurist's expression of sympathy for the film companies who were made victims of Bioff's extortions.

The defendants, seven of whom have been branded by Kostelanetz as "the remnants of the Al Capone crime empire," heard the prosecutor charge them with using high-powered tactics to gain control of the film industry's unions, and with using the unions to club producing companies into submitting to their extortion demands.

Plans to Call 25

"We will call at least 25 film officials from the Coast to show that these defendants never extorted money from the motion picture industry," Murray promised the jury.

The defense attorney charged that Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, and Leslie E. Thompson, of RKO, called on Bioff and Browne in 1935 to prevent a strike by members of Local 306, Motion Picture Projectionists Union, in the face of a contemplated wage cut. He said the decrease in wages was accomplished, Browne issued a no-strike order, and "Loew's and RKO paid Bioff and Browne $150,000 as a bribe.

Murray also charged that Bioff "sold out his unions" on the Coast in 1937 by hiring guards to break a strike for the benefit of the film companies and was paid $100,000 by Joseph M. Schenck.

Charges False Records

The producing companies which paid large sums to Bioff and Browne, charged Murray, falsified their records to conceal the "bribe payments" and, in 1942, when the "truth began to appear," called the bribe payments extortion.

"Bioff and Browne had full opportunity to speak," said Murray, "but they chose to remain silent until prison doors closed behind them. They then looked around for a way out of prison and are now trying to use these defendants as a vehicle on which to ride out of prison."

Pioneers to Invite LaGuardia to Dinner

Plans for the Picture Pioneer annual 'Harvest Dinner,' to be held Nov. 18 at the Waldorf-Astoria, were discussed at an executive committee meeting, yesterday at Toots Shor's Restaurant. William Brandt was named to invite Mayor La Guardia to the affair.

Nominations for the organization's 'Scroll of Honor' were called for and the list will probably be decided upon at the next committee meeting. The scroll names men in the industry who have, during the last year, rendered noteworthy service to the nation.

Memphis Police Stop Midnight Showings

MEMPHIS, Oct. 6.—City police suddenly banned Saturday midnight shows here ordering the Palace and State, both Loew's, and the Malco, to discontinue the performances, citing a municipal code which prohibits film showings after midnight unless permission is granted by police.

Thousands of service men and the younger set have patronized the performances. Warners' theatre, last July, discontinued midnight shows because they were "too rough." The The Malco crowds have overflowed, forcing the management to relay reels to the nearby Strand and Princess.

Press Goes to Bat For Sunday Films

Knoxville, Tenn., Oct. 6.—Maintaining that "Knoxville is the largest city in the United States that doesn't have Sunday films," the *News-Sentinel* here editorially blames lack of Sunday shows for late and meager picture schedules in local theaters. It says, "Naturally the theatre people are going to show their most sought-after films earliest in communities where there is the advantage of seven days and full week-end showing."

Exchange Workers Seeking Increases

Film Exchange Employees Union, Local F-51, IATSE affiliate, representing workers in Warner, RKO-Radio, Paramount, Universal, and Republic New York film exchanges, will seek wage increases under a job classification formula, when its contracts come up for renewal around Nov. 1.

Regional War Labor Board panel hearings on job classifications, wage increases, closed shop controversy between SOPEG and Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, and United Artists covering exchange white-collarites in New York, wound up yesterday. The panel is expected to make recommendations and report its findings to RWLB within ten days.

F-51 has moved its headquarters from 690 8th Ave. to 276 W. 43rd St.

Studio Mechanics Seeking Increases

M. P. Studio Mechanics Local 52, New York IATSE-AFL affiliate representing approximately 250 studio mechanics employed by 20th Century-Fox Movietone News, Pathe, March of Time, Eastern Service Studios, West Coast Studios, Minoco Productions, and others, plans to seek wage increases under the "little steel" formula when their contract comes up for renewal in a few weeks.

Studio mechanics in this area say they have not received any wage increases since Dec., 1938.

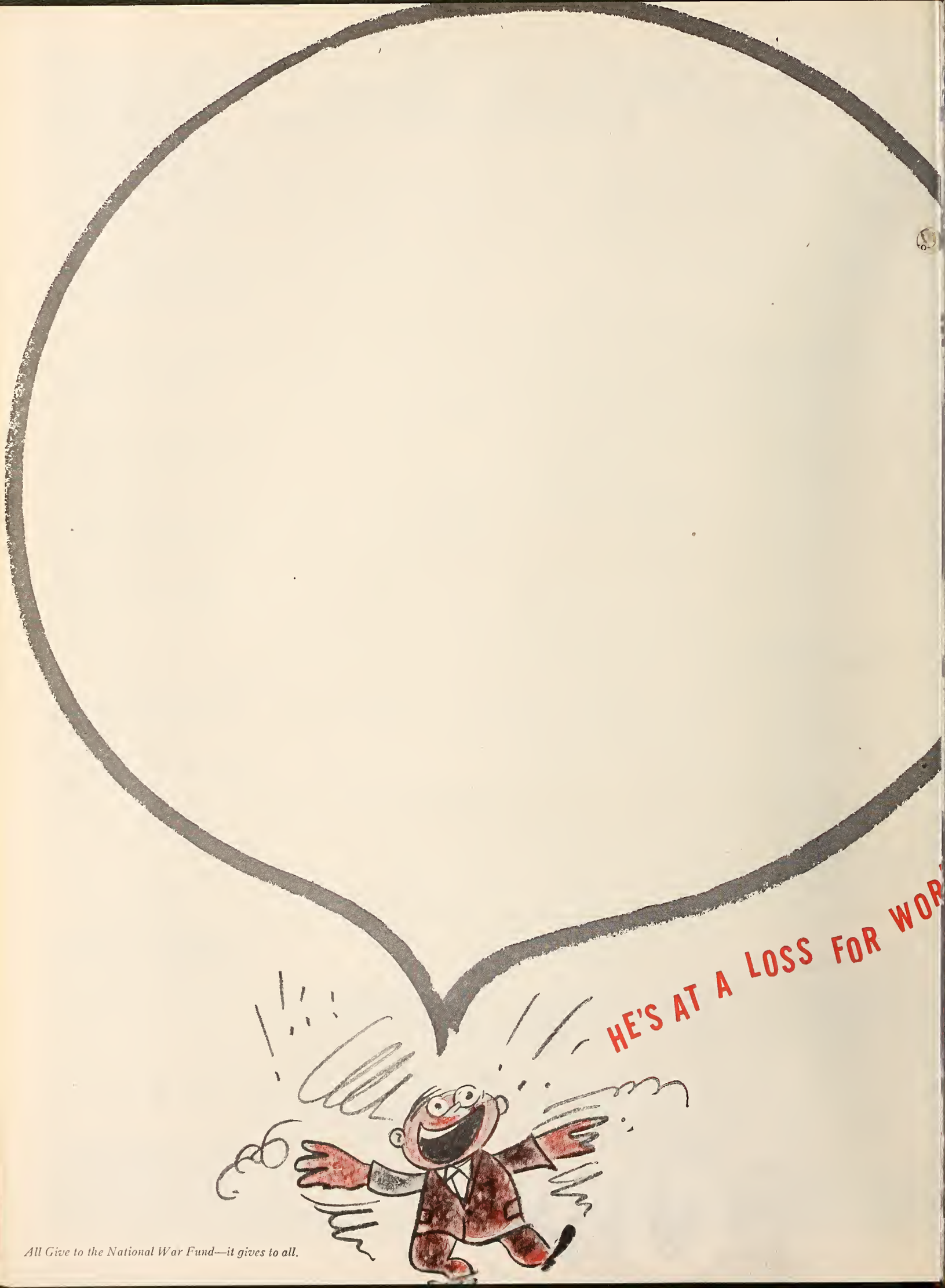
Hicks Finds British Business at Peak

Theatre attendance in London and elsewhere throughout Britain is at its highest peak in history, John W. Hicks, Paramount vice-president and foreign manager, who returned this week from a month's visit abroad, said yesterday.

London is one of the world's gayest spots today despite the blackout, he said. Plans are under way for a London opening of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" toward the year's end, Hicks said.

Raise for Stage Hands

CHICAGO, Oct. 6.—Regional War Labor Board here has rescinded its order denying the wage increase to members of the stage hands union and approved a five per cent raise retroactive to Sept. 1, 1942.



All Give to the National War Fund—it gives to all.

Frank Newman of Fox West Coast Wires:

HAVE NOT THE VOCABULARY TO ADEQUATELY

EXPRESS THE SHEER DELIGHT AND ENJOYMENT

EXPERIENCED PREVIEWING 'PRINCESS O'ROURKE'

'WHICH WILL BE ONE OF TOP GROSSING

ATTRACTIONS OF YEAR."

Better clear the slate when you set the date!

Commission Ceiling Near Clarification

(Continued from page 1)

felt there was a question whether they would be paid for all their efforts. And while officials refused to indicate the position they would take, an announcement that no one would be penalized for payments thus far made, provided the commission rate is unchanged, was seen as possibly paving the way for a ruling that the rate of commission and not the dollar amount of earnings would be the basis of control.

The proposed revision, however, will not run up the ladder as far as sales executives whose compensation is based in whole or in part on the total sales of their staffs. Under the regulations, if the dollar amount of such compensation exceeds that of a previous year, Internal Revenue Bureau approval is required for payment of the additional amount.

Bureau officials said that the regulations apply to employees generally and that no distinction is made between film salesmen and those in other lines. The regulations also cover salesmen working on salaries, defining what raises require approval.

Clark Reports Decree Progress

(Continued from page 1)

definite provisions of the decree, but that the matter is progressing. He will return to New York Friday for another meeting with the same group.

Possibilities that sessions will be held at frequent intervals from now on were raised by Clark's statement that his trip to the West Coast now is very indefinite.

Only about seven weeks remain before the present decree expires, Nov. 20, and it is probable that both sides desire to have some definite proposals up for discussion by that time. It is considered quite likely that once the negotiations get down to a definite formula, comparatively little time will be required to reach an agreement.

Senate Passes New Draft Measure

(Continued from page 1)

ten explanations to draft boards for all requests for occupational deferments and ordered the setting up of a medical commission to consider lowering Army and Navy medical standards to permit induction of many men now classified 4-F. According to information given on the Senate floor during discussion of the bill, there are 3,000,000 men in 4-F at the present time.

Trigger Is Seven Today

Republic's Roy Rogers will give his horse, Trigger, a "party" in the Hotel Dixie today on his seventh birthday. 'Sons of the Pioneers,' a singing group, will 'serenade' Trigger.

15th Edition of QP Almanac Out Today

(Continued from page 1)

Who' section of some 12,000 biographies of persons in every branch of the industry and in related fields. There are 13 other sections, embracing corporate structures, production and distribution listings, theatre circuits, guilds, unions, clubs and industry societies, lists of feature, short subject and serial releases, industry codes and outside censorship, the British market, Latin American market, theatre equipment, radio and television, the consent decree, industry statistics, facts and events of the past year, the trade press and film writers of the outside press, and a key section entitled: "The Motion Picture in the War." Each of the foregoing divisions are broken down into many sub-sections.

The war section is described as showing how the industry is functioning "as a surprisingly malleable instrument to serve any branch of the government while concurrently providing entertainment to the civilian millions at home and to soldier and sailor wherever they may be."

Another highlight is the assembling, for the first time, by Editor Ramsaye, of facts pertaining to the past film year in which the American screen was served with 50,486 minutes of entertainment film, all but a fraction of it of Hollywood origin.

Michigan Allied Reelects Branch

(Continued from page 1)

session this afternoon by Abram F. Myers, board chairman and general counsel of national Allied. Myers outlined the major decree recommendations forwarded by regional exhibitor organizations to Allied headquarters for submission to the Department of Justice, in response to the national organization's poll on the decree. He also reported on the recommendations and report which Allied will make to the Department on the basis of the poll.

M. A. Rosenberg of Pittsburgh, national Allied president, reported to the meeting on activities of the Allied Caravan. The two-day meeting closed with a banquet tonight.

Rinzler, Zukor on N.Y. Fund Committee

(Continued from page 1)

chairman of the commerce and industry division, reports.

Samuel Rinzler, exhibitor, has been named chairman of the entertainment group of the New York committee. Serving with him as chairmen of various committees of entertainment will be Adolph Zukor, motion pictures; William S. Paley, radio, and William Morris, Jr., theatrical agencies.

Whitebone Reelected

ST. JOHN, N. B., Oct. 6.—J. A. Whitebone, member of the operating staff of the Capitol here and long business agent of the IATSE projectionist local, has been reelected president of the New Brunswick Federation of Labor, a post he has held for the past decade.

$301,851,629 from Exhibitor 3rd Loan War Bond Premieres

(Continued from page 1)

hibitors taking part in the bond-premiere plan have already been accorded much praise for their initiative in organizing these "million dollar" shows and for the showmanship with which they were carried out, adding that the success of the plan is also in a great measure due to the support of the WAC distributor division which furnished preview films without charge to exhibitors who were able to turn over their theatre facilities to the bond shows.

Kelly to London For British Films

(Continued from page 1)

ey, and run. It will be a put-an-take proposition."

"With the coming of peace, England —and other countries in Europe and in Latin-America—will offer Hollywood serious competition in the world market," Kelly added.

"While Hollywood will continue to dominate the world market, it will no longer have a monopoly on good product. Improved production facilities abroad and local pride in and support of national pictures will make the native product powerful contenders at box offices around the world."

He said United Artists will welcome producers regardless of the country of origin.

While on the Coast, Kelly completed a deal with RKO for the distribution in South Africa by U.A. of five Samuel Goldwyn films: "The Little Foxes," "Ball of Fire," "Spitfire," "Pride of the Yankees" and "They've Got Me Covered."

Samuel Lewis Dies

HARTFORD, Conn., Oct. 6.—Samuel D. Lewis, 46, partner in the operation of the Conniston Theatre, Newport, N. H., died recently in Newport.

Lewis was also president of the Newport First National Bank and was a member of the staff of the late Governor Frank Rollins of New Hampshire.

Gene Oliver Dies

CHICAGO, Oct. 6.—Gene G. Oliver, 62, treasurer of All-America News, Negro newsreel, died Tuesday night at St. Luke's Hospital, following an illness of three weeks. Funeral services will be held Thursday at the Chapel and burial will be at Braidwood, Ill.

Frank Pepe Passes

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., Oct. 6.—Funeral of Frank V. Pepe, 58, owner of the Roosevelt Theatre, Swoyerville, who died during the week, was held in St. Anthony's Church at Exeter, with burial in Denison Cemetery.

William A. Harwood

News of the death in Devon, England, of William A. Harwood, actor and film producer, was received here yesterday from London. He was 43 years old.

Short Subject Reviews

"Sweet Jam"

(Universal)

Universal has made a good choice in featuring Jan Garber's band, since the music of this "old master" of swing continues to draw in important places, thereby marking his band as one of the few that have not faded after a short-lived "spurt" of popularity. Rounding out the reel are selections by the Delta Rhythm boys and a vocal number by Liz Tilton. Running time, 9 mins. Release date, Oct. 27.

"Over the Andes"

(FitzPatrick Traveltalk—M-G-M)

Beautiful panoramic shots of South America mark this release as another good Traveltalk. James A. FitzPatrick, in a flight over the hazardous South American Andes range from Valparaiso to Rio de Janeiro, comments on the rich unclaimed mineral deposits in the mountains. Rio at work and at play makes for some interesting sequences. An educational subject. Running time, 9 mins. Release date, Sept. 25.

"Stork's Holiday"

(M-G-M)

The war disturbs Dr. Stork in this amusing cartoon and endangers him at work with all the bombs and shells flying around him in his flights. He decides to go on vacation but his conscience reminds him of how his ancestors carried on through previous years. This is a clever Technicolor reel. Running time, 8 mins. Release date, Oct. 23.

"Figaro and Cleo"

(RKO-Disney)

Good musical background and Figaro's amusing antics make this an entertaining Technicolor cartoon. The appetite of Figaro, the cat, leads him into difficulties when he decides Cleo, the goldfish, would make a tasty morsel for his supper. Disney's latest has many laughs. Running time, 8 mins. Release date, Oct. 15.

Republic in '43-'44 Deal With Gt. States

CHICAGO, Oct. 6.—Republic has closed for its 1943-44 product with Publix-Great States circuit, operating 42 theatres in Illinois and Indiana. Circuit was represented by J. J. Rubens, and Republic by Midwestern district sales manager Ed Walton and Chicago branch manager Will Baker. J. R. Grainger, Republic president, came to Chicago to sit in on the deal.

Myron Blank to Navy

DES MOINES, Oct. 6.—Film men here gave a reception in the Hotel Fort Des Moines this week for Myron Blank, son of A. H. Blank, theatre corporation head, and secretary of Tri-State Theatres and Central States Theatres, prior to his entering the Navy as a lieutenant (j.g.) on Oct. 15. Staffs of the two corporations will give a banquet at the same place for him today.

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
FIRED WIFE
GO
STRANGE DEATH OF ADOLF HITLER
We've Never Been Licked
COBRA WOMAN
UNIVERSAL PICTURES
Make Way for
CRAZY HOUSE
CORVETTE K-225
TOP MAN
UNIVERSAL'S parade of HITS!

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

in **TECHNICOLOR** *starring*

NELSON EDDY • SUSANNA FOSTER • CLAUDE RAINES

Biggest boxoffice picture Universal ever had and looks like one of the biggest grossers the industry ever had . . . It's great to be in show business when there are pictures like "The Phantom" around . . .There's more good things to come!

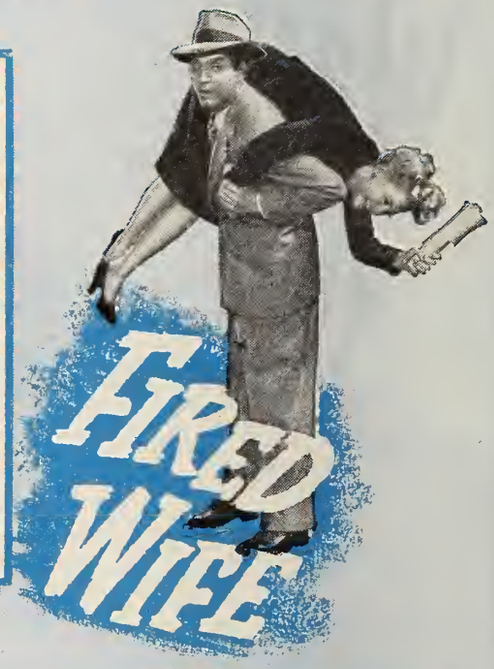
ROBERT PAIGE • LOUISE ALLBRITTON

in FIRED WIFE

. . . makes audiences roar with joy!

Motion Picture Daily knew something when it said: "It will have them rolling in the aisles."

And Universal backs audience and press judgment with smash advertising campaign to make this big money picture blow the roof off the boxoffice!



DONALD O'CONNOR • SUSANNA FOSTER
LILLIAN GISH • RICHARD DIX • PEGGY RYAN

in TOP MAN

What a thrill! The kind of picture that makes you glad you're showmen . . . grand, up-and-at-'em expansive entertainment full of the stuff that cheers.

With the three greatest youngsters in the business.

Top Man is going to be tops in any showman's book . . . bigger than that big one "Mister Big."

Congratulations
o Howard Hawks
for

CORVETTE
K-225

HOWARD HAWKS'

CORVETTE K-225

starring RANDOLPH SCOTT

But then . . . great pictures are expected from the man who made "Sergeant York" and "Air Force."

For advertising . . . for exploitation . . . for downright blood-and-guts melodrama and boxoffice there's no picture in the immediate offing that stacks up like "CORVETTE K-225."

WALTER WANGER'S *Sensational*

WE'VE NEVER BEEN LICKED

INSPIRED BY THE FIGHTING SONS OF TEXAS A & M

The spectacular Texas-to-Tokyo story of the spectacular fighting sons of Texas, U.S.A., who blazed a trail of vengeance against the treacherous, barbarous Jap!

We've Never Been Licked

Making Good Everywhere!

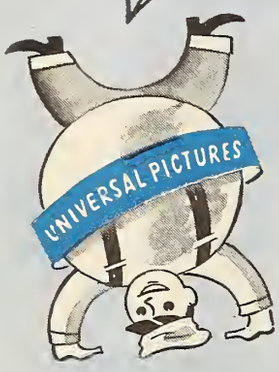
THE STRANGE DEATH OF ADOLF HITLER

SENSATIONAL TITLE!
SENSATIONAL IDEA!
EXPLOSIVE DRAMA!

THE STRANGE DEATH OF ADOLF HITLER

. . . a picture that is right up with the news . . . and crammed with exploitation possibilities . . . the kind of picture all good showmen like to sink their teeth into!

me-upside down



Laugh Stars!

Specialty Stars!

Sensational Bands!

You'll go crazy over this new Olsen and Johnson squirrel-cage opery!

CRAZY HOUSE

Song . . . dance . . . comedy . . . story and production value . . . meaning milling around to buy tickets at the boxoffice such as you never saw before.

Our prediction is that it's bigger than "Hellzapoppin"!

Crazy House

THE EXHIBITOR'S PIN-UP GIRL

AIN'T SHE SOMETHING!

Cobra Woman

COBRA WOMAN

in TECHNICOLOR starring

MARIA MONTEZ • JON HALL • SABU

Maria Montez at her wonderful best in a picture that is just her dish . . . and that's saying a doughbag full for the gal for whom they're coining new come-hither adjectives!

Yes Sir!

IT'S GREAT TO BE IN SHOW BUSINESS WHEN YOU'VE BOOKED **UNIVERSAL!**

and watch
for special
announcement about

Flesh and Fantasy!

'Sun's' $36,500 Is a Smash in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 6. — With no outstanding competing factors scheduled, downtown theatres all settled down to big business this week. Weekend business was overflowing, getting the new openings started off extra big with "Behind the Rising Sun" pointing to $36,500 at the Stanley to lead the local field. Holdovers and second runs are holding up big, with "So Proudly We Hail" figured on bringing in $13,200 for its fifth week at the Aldine.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 6-8:

"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $13,200. (Average, $10,300)
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
ARCADIA—(600) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,250. (Average, $3,500)
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,900. (Average, $19,000)
"Larceny with Music" (Univ.) (6 days)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (45c-57c-75c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Gracie Barrie's orchestra, Merry Macs, "Sharkey," Hal Sherman, Jimmy Palmer and Tex Mulcahy. Gross: $26,300. (Average, $23,900)
"Sleepy Lagoon" (Rep.)
FAY'S—(2,200) (35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days of vaudeville, including Earl Hines' orchestra, Sarah Vaughn, Four Blue Bonnets, Warren Evans, Babe Lawrence, Cook & Brown and The Appletons. Gross: $12,200. (Average, $10,000)
"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $4,700)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,800. (Average, $5,300)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,800. (Average, $22,900)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
STANLEY—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $36,500. (Average, $18,-300)
"Spitfire" (RKO)
STANTON—(1,700) (35c41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500). (Average, $8,400)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $26,800. (Average, $17,800)

Toronto's Best Is 'Lucky', at $15,800

TORONTO, Oct. 6. — "Thank Your Lucky Stars" promised $15,800 at the Imperial Theatre and the gross on the second week of "Heaven Can Wait" at Shea's Theatre looked like $10,700. "The Silver Fleet," on a dual at the Uptown Theatre, pointed to $9,800.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 7:

"First Comes Courage" (Col.)
"The Daring Young Man" (Col.)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,300. (Average, $4,300)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
IMPERIAL—(18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,800. (Average, $12,300)
"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"Air Raid Wardens" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $10,900. (Average, $11,400)
"Heaven Can Wait" (20th-Fox)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,700. (Average, $12,200)
"First Comes Courage" (Col.)
"The Daring Young Man" (Col.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $5,600. (Average, $4,600)
"The Silver Fleet" (British)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average, $9,800)

Review

"The Underdog"
(PRC)

Hollywood, Oct. 6

BUILT upon the solid foundation of an appealing story of a boy and his dog, this picture eventually loses itself in exploring too many bypaths. Among its divergences are a treatment of the populational relocation problem, juvenile delinquency, the derelict wives of war plant workers, the back-to-the-farm idea and an enemy sabotage plot. The story's solid foundation becomes all but obliterated beneath these varied branches.

Bobby Larson is the boy and Hobo his dog. Both acquit themselves creditably in their parts of the proceedings. They will appeal especially to the younger audience elements. The boy parts with his dog in response to an Army appeal, but Hobo fails while under training. Returned to his home, he subsequently proves himself in an emergency. The extraneous matter mentioned above is interspersed throughout this sure-fire basic theme.

The cast includes Barton MacLane, Jan Wiley, Charlotte Wynters, Conrad Binyon, Elizabeth Valentine, Kenneth Harlan, George Anderson and Jack Kennedy. Max Alexander produced and William Nigh directed from a script by Ben Lithman, from a story by Lawrence E. Taylor and Malvin Wald.

Running time, 65 minutes. "G."*

**"G" denotes general classification.*

'Hi Diddle' in Omaha Brings in $17,000

OMAHA, Oct. 6.—All four downtown first runs enjoyed terrific business. 'Hi Diddle Diddle" plus Joe Venuti's orchestra, and Connee Boswell on the stage at the Orpheum Theatre, brought in $17,000, but better comparative business was done by the Brandeis with a combination of "Thank Your Lucky Stars" and "Crime Doctor" grossing $8,000. Ideal weather and falloff of the polio scare were credited with helping receipts.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 7-8:

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
"Crime Doctor" (Col.)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (30c-35c-44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $5,500)
"Hit the Ice" (Univ.)
"Hitler's Madman" (M-G-M)
OMAHA—(2,000) (30c-35c-50c) 6 days, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $5,900. (Average, $8,300)
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (U.A.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (40c-50c-65c) 7 days. Joe Venuti's orchestra and Connee Boswell on stage. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $14,-900)
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
"All By Myself" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (30c-35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $9,900. (Average, $6,900)

Three Circuits Book Mono. '43-44 Program

Contracts from three circuits, operating 86 theatres, covering the entire Monogram product for 1943-44, have been signed. New outlets are Bijou Amusement Co., with 44 theatres in Louisiana, Florida, Mississippi, Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina and Arkansas; Ralph E. Snider Theatrical Enterprises, with 20 houses in Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island; and Simons Amusement Co., of 22 theatres in Idaho and Montana.

Open Colombia House

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6. — The Rialto, a new 950 seater owned by Cine Colombia, has opened in Medellin, Colombia, according to the film section of the U. S. Department of Foreign and Domestic Commerce here.

Baltimore Salutes 'Marines' for $18,500

BALTIMORE, Oct. 6.—New openings provided a strong start for grosses and weekend matinees were better than average. Top figures go to one newcomer and one holdover, namely, "Salute to the Marines," due for $18,-500 at the Century, and "This Is the Army," scoring $19,000 for its second week at the Stanley.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 7:

"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average, $15,000)
"The Strange Death of Adolph Hitler" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (15c-28c-33c-44c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $11,900)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (15c-28c-35c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $9,300)
"This Is the Army" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,800) (15c-28c-39c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $15,100)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (15c-28c-39c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage show: Lee Sims & Ilomay Bailey, Ladd Lyon Worth & Marcia, Billy Wells & Four Fays, Arthur Lafleur & Marie Manners. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $16,500)
"Frontier Badmen" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (20c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $6,100)

Mexico Plans Studio For Military Films

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 6.—The Ministry of National Defense has completed plans for establishing a studio here for the production of military, documentary and propaganda films.

Miguel Contreras Torres, Mexican producer, has been assigned by the Ministry to obtain equipment and material in the United States for the studio.

New Diaz Film Set

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 6 .— Rafael M. Saavedra has organized a company here to produce another film on the life of Gen. Porfirio Diaz, whose 30-year dictatorship of Mexico ended with the Revolution of 1910. Shooting will start late in October.

'Army's' $29,800 Is Week's Best of Boston 1st Runs

BOSTON, Oct. 6. — "This Is the Army," continuing at the Metropolitan, topped this week's grosses, taking in $29,800 at the Metropolitan. All other first runs were par or better.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 9:

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
"Prairie Chickens" (UA-Roach)
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $21,300. (Average, $19,300)
"This Is the Army" (Warners)
Shorts and News Reels
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $29,800. (Average, $27,-300)
"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,900) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,100. (Average, $17,100)
"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,400. (Average, $23,700)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(1,900) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $8,400)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
FENWAY—(1,200) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,100. (Average, $5,800)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
MAJESTIC—(1,400) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $4,800)
"Gals Incorporated" (Univ.)
RKO BOSTON—(3,980) (44c-55c-65c-85c) On stage: Guy Lombardo and his orchestra. Gross: $27,800. (Average, $26,800)

Montreal Puts Up $10,000 for 'Hold'

MONTREAL, Oct. 6. — "Hers to Hold" is expected to gross most for the week, with $10,000 at the Palace.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 7:

"Stage Door Canteen" (U.A.)
ORPHEUM—(1,100) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 13th week. Gross: $2,700. (Average, $3,-700)
"DuBarry Was a Lady" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,900) (35c-53c-67c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $9,000)
"Background to Danger" (WB)
"Honeymoon Lodge" (Univ.)
CAPITOL—(2,700) (30c-40c-52c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $6,500)
"Crime Doctor" (Col.)
"What's Buzzin', Cousin?" (Col.)
PRINCESS—(2,000) (30c-40c-52c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $4,300)
"Hers to Hold" (Univ.)
PALACE—(2,700) (30c-45c-52c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $8,500)

'Face It' Leads in Tulsa With $9,000

TULSA, Okla., Oct. 6.—"Let's Face It" was the leader here this week pulling over $9,000 at the Ritz for one of the top grosses of the season. "This Land Is Mine" at the Orpheum was close behind with $8,000, while all other films held up well. Weather was excellent and no competition existed.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 7th:

"Corregidor" (PRC)
MAJESTIC—(570) (25c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $3,100. (Average, $2,500)
"This Land Is Mine" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,400) (20c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. Average, $7,500)
"The Falcon in Danger" (RKO)
"Ghosts on the Loose" (Mono.)
RIALTO—(1,250) (20c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,650. (Average, $1,500)
"Air Raid Wardens" (M-G-M)
"Murder on the Waterfront" (WB)
RIALTO—(1,250) (20c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $2,550. (Average, $1,900)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
RITZ—(2,000) (25c-40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $7,750)

Army's' Gross n Chicago s $54,000

CHICAGO, Oct. 6.—"This Is the rmy" continues with sensational osses at the Chicago Theatre, do-OP $54,000 against a $43,000 average e take; likewise "For Whom the ell Tolls," which is headed for $34,-0, against a $23,000 average at the ate-Lake. Most other first run siness was 'way up.

Estimated receipts for the week ding Oct. 7:

Dood It" (M-G-M)
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. oss: $11,000. (Average, $10,000)
his Is the Army" (WB)
CHICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, h week. Gross: $54,000. (Average, $43,-0)
Dood It" (M-G-M)
GARRICK—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. oss: $11,000. (Average, $8,500)
Mr. Lucky" (RKO)
he Falcon in Danger" (RKO)
GRAND—(1,150) (40c-55c-65c-75c-85c) 7 ys, 5th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average, 100)
arceny with Music" (Univ.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c) days. Stage: Bonnie Baker. Gross: $25,-0. (Average, $22,000)
ehind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
dventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
PALACE—(2,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, d week. Gross: $24,000. (Average, $19,-0)
Vatch on the Rhine" (W.B.)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 ys, 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average, 7,000)
or Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 3 week. Gross: $34,000. (Average, $23,-0)
leaven Can Wait" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) days. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $18,000)
he Young Mr. Pitt" (20th-Fox) 5 days
o Escape" (Mono.) 2 days
lystery of the 13th Guest" (Mono.) 2 days
WOODS—(1,200) (40c-50c-55c-65c-75c-85c) oss: $8,000. (Average, $7,500)

elevision Webs For Post-War Era

Nationwide television networks ade possible by automatic radio re-y stations and other new develop-ents, which eventually are expected lead to finding the key to inter-ational television, are a post-war ospect, according to Ralph R. Beal, search director of RCA Labora-ries.

A new form of "lighthouse" radio lay station developed by RCA will ake relaying of television programs relatively simple matter, according Beal. He envisages unattended lay stations located 20 to 50 miles part.

Though it is expected that tele-sion stations will first go on the air such centers as New York, Chicago d Los Angeles, and that the first levision network linked by radio re-y stations will be formed along the tlantic seaboard, television will not limited to the larger cities, he lded.

Variety Dinner Oct. 30

CINCINNATI, Oct. 6.—Variety Club re will celebrate its 10th anniver-ry on Oct. 30 with a dinner-dance the Netherland Plaza. Arthur Fru-nfeld and F. W. Hess, chief barker, ve charge of arrangements.

Off the Antenna

CREDIT RKO with what is claimed to be the first use of a television broadcast to ballyhoo a film premiere with the sponsorship of a 45-minute telecast over DuMont station W2XWV on Oct. 10 to announce the New York opening of "Behind the Rising Sun." The telecast by arrangement with Will Baltin, program production director of the station and staged by Carl Rigrod of RKO-Radio's publicity department, will feature Margo and James R. Young, with Goerge Putnam as master of ceremonies.

WOR was used by 253 advertisers during the first half of 1943, an increase of 18 percent over the same period in 1942. . . . Charlie McCarthy, Bob Hope, and the Aldrich Family are one, two, three, in the latest Hooper survey.

• • •

Purely Personal—*Charles Smith, CBS assistant director of research, has been named supervisor of research for radio sales and CBS owned stations effective Oct. 11. . . . Dick Dorranee has joined CBS as director of promotion service for CBS-owned stations. . . . Fred M. Thrower Jr., vice-president in charge of Blue network sales, has been commissioned a lieutenant j.g. U. S. Naval Reserve. C. P. Jaeger has been appointed network sales manager, to take over Nov. 1 when Thrower rports for duty. . . . Bunty Fabian Keyser is the new promotion and publicity director of KFRC, Don Lee's San Francisco outlet. . . . Mrs. Lenore Oppenheimer Hershey has joined WOR's promotion department as copywriter and promotion assistant. . . . William B. Lodge has returned to CBS's general engineering department.*

• • •

Program Notes—Skouras Theatres, as part of their war effort presentations, are holding auditions in some of their N. Y. theatres for war workers who want to compete for final honors in the WJZ-Blue Network "Swing Shift Frolics" contest. . . . Ruth Warrick, featured in RKO's "The Iron Major" will be heard in an NBC "Hollywood Theatre of the Air" presentatiton of "A Great Man's Lady' during the week of Oct. 11. . . . Bob Hope will be an NBC "Cavalcade of America" guest on Monday, and Betty Hutton will be Hope's guest on the NBC Pepsodent show on Tuesday as part of Paramount's exploitation campaign on "Let's Face It." . . . Eddie Cantor will play host to Ida Lupino on his "Time to Smile" NBC show next Wednesday. . . . Charles Boyer will star in a CBS "Silver Theatre" drama dealing with the French underground on Sunday. . . . Paul Lukas, starred in Warners' "Watch On the Rhine," will be a guest on the Joan Davis-Jack Haley NBC show on Oct. 14. . . . Don Ameche will repeat his 20th Century-Fox film role in "Heaven Can Wait" on the "Lux Radio Theatre" program on Monday. . . . Gracie Fields' "Victory Show" resumes over WOR-Mutual on Oct. 18.

'Salute' Is Tops In St. Louis, on $20,500 Gross

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 6.—St. Louis fans are saluting "Salute to the Marines" with $20,500 at Loew's State this week, leading the local field. "Holy Matrimony" is the only other new picture in town and holds the runner-up spot with $17,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 6:

"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $20,500. (Average, $16,900)
"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
"Here Comes Elmer" (Rep.)
FOX—(5,038) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average, $15,800)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"A Scream in the Dark" (Rep.)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $12,500)
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $7,300)
"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"Yanks Ahoy" (UA-Roach)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $6,900)
"Union Pacific" (Para.)
"Souls at Sea" (Para.)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (35c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $4,400)

Dinner for Reelfellows

CHICAGO, Oct. 6.—Reelfellows Club of Chicago will hold a dinner meeting at the Blackstone Hotel on Sunday, Oct. 17.

'DuBarry' Grosses $7,000 to Lead In Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oct. 6.—Three new films and a hold-over in its third week marked bright figures on the tally sheets this week. The holdover was "Dixie," running a third week at the Tower after two at the Criterion, and showing a very good $3,200. Top grosser was "DuBarry Was a Lady" at the Midwest for $7,000. Weather was excellent with no competition.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 7th:

"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
CRITERION—(1,500) (25c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $6,000)
"Kid Dynamite" (Mono.)
"He Hired the Boss" (20th-Fox)
LIBERTY—(1,200) (20c-25c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $3,250)
"DuBarry Was a Lady" (M-G-M)
MIDWEST—(1,500) (25c-35c-45c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $5,600)
"Bombardier" (RKO)
"Mexican Spitfire's Blessed Event" (RKO)
STATE—(1,100) (25c-45c-50c) 3 days. Previous run 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average, $2,500)
"Mr. Lucky" (RKO)
"I Walked With a Zombie" (RKO)
STATE—(1,100) (25c-45c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average for full week, $4,-500)
"Dixie" (Para.)
TOWER—(1,000) (20c-25c-40c) 7 days. Previous run two weeks at the Criterion. Gross: $3,200. (Average, $2,500)

Teitel Gets Two Films

CHICAGO, Oct. 6.—Illinois state rights to "Scarlet Pimpernel" and "The Ghost Goes West" have been acquired from Palace Films by A. Teitel.

'Rosie' Tops in L.A., Taking $64,000 at 3

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 6.—Summerish weather and continued thronging of the area by servicemen on leave witnessed a smoothly prosperous box office week. "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" was strong with $64,000 over-all for the FWC first-runs, which usually average $49,500. "Hit the Ice" hit pay dirt for the Paramount houses, getting $39,000 against a $30,000 par. "Destroyer" doubled the Pantages average, getting $24,000, and clicked $26,000 at the Hillstreet, up about $9,-000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 6:

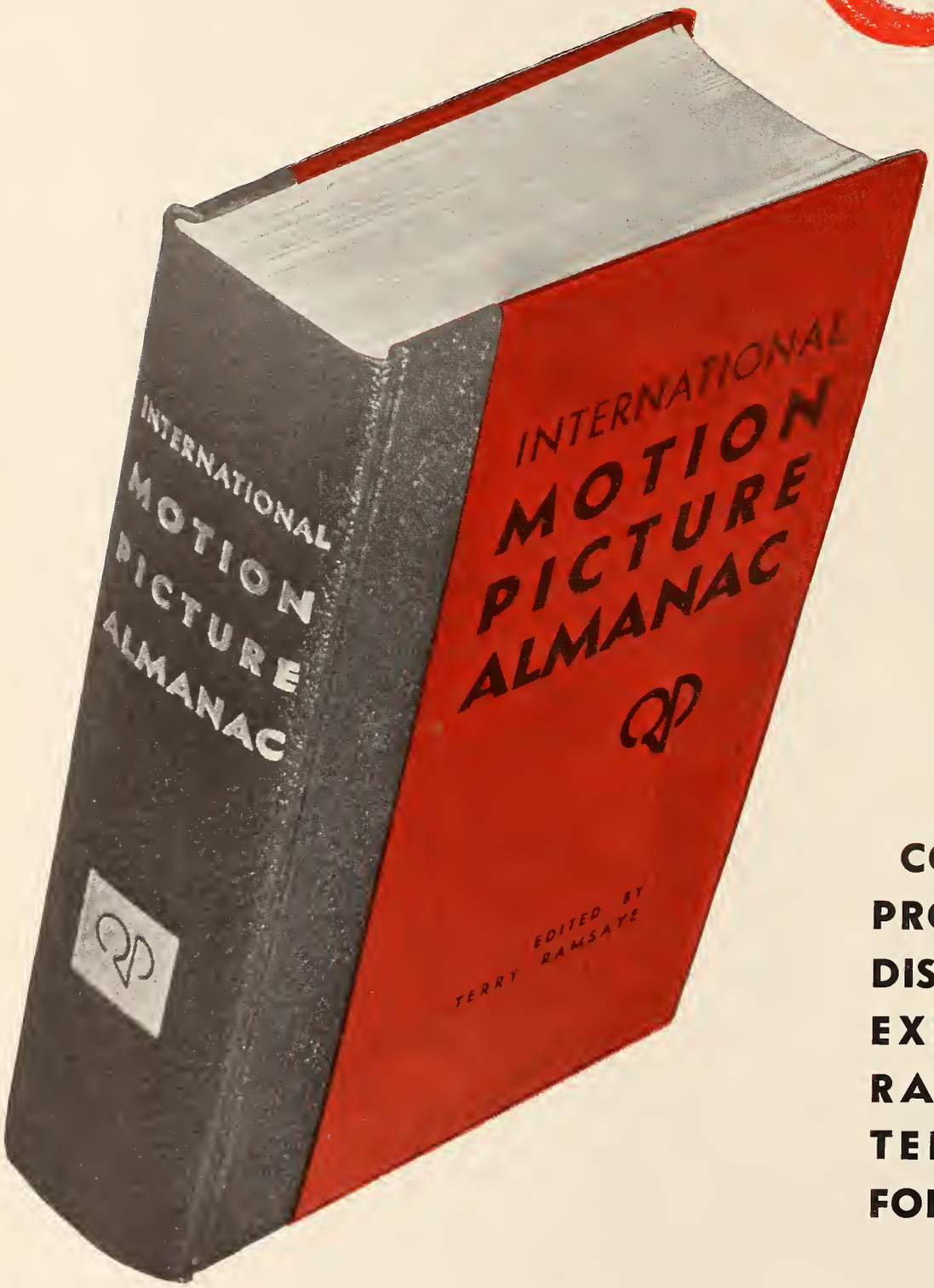
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,518) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $8,407)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Prairie Chickens" (Roach-UA)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $14,052)
"I Walked with a Zombie" (RKO)
"Leopard Man" (RKO)
HAWAII — (1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $4,300. (Average, $9,264)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average, $15,244)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Prairie Chickens" (Roach-UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average, $20,752)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average, $12,810)
"Hit the Ice" (Univ.)
"Salute for Three" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Hollywood)—(1,407) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. Average, $10,808)
"Hit the Ice" (Univ.)
"Salute for Three" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Downtown)—(3,595) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $19,768)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Prairie Chickens" (Roach-UA)
RITZ—(1,376) (45c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average, $9,416)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $27,700.
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Hollywood)—(3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,112. (Average, $13,651)
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Downtown) — (3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,681. (Average, $16,094)
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
WARNER BROS. WILTERN—(2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,905. (Average, $12,794)

Florida Court Finds In Favor of Ascap

The supreme court of Florida, final court of appeal in the state, has upheld a lower court decision that Ascap is complying fully with the provisions of the statute known as Florida's anti-Ascap law at the time of its enactment.

The original suit, in which the Palm Tavern, an Ascap licensee, was plaintiff, was tried in August, with Louis D. Frohlich of Schwartz & Frohlich, Ascap counsel, representing the Society. The action sought to have Ascap barred from doing business in Florida on the grounds that it was not complying with the statute. The lower court found in Ascap's favor and the plaintiff took an appeal to the state supreme court.

Out



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PICTURE ALMANAC

CENTER, NEW YORK (20)

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Sept. 11		(Fourth Block) HARRIGAN'S KID D—70 mins. (329) PRESENTING LILY MARS Judy Garland M—104 mins. (330)	HERE COMES KELLY Maxie Rosenbloom C—64 mins. (222)	(Sixth Block) SO PROUDLY WE HAIL Claudette Colbert Paulette Goddard Veronica Lake D (4228)	TIGER FANGS Frank Buck Duncan Renaldo June Duprez D—(406)	HOOSIER HOLIDAY C (1943-44) A SCREAM IN THE DARK Robert Lowrey Marie McDonald D	(Seventh Block) PETTICOAT LARCENY Ruth Warrick Joan Carroll C—61 mins.		THE KANSAN Richard Dix Jane Wyatt O—79 mins.	THE STRANGE DEATH OF ADOLF HITLER D LARCENY WITH MUSIC M	(Re-Issue) THE OKLAHOMA KID James Cagney Humphrey Bogart D—80 mins. (330)
Sept. 18	HAIL TO THE RANGERS Charles Starrett Arthur Hunnicutt O	THE YOUNGEST PROFESSION C—81 mins. (331) PILOT #5 Franchot Tone D—70 mins. (332)	REVENGE OF THE ZOMBIES Veda Ann Borg John Carradine D—61 mins. (215)	DIXIE (Technicolor) Bing Crosby Dorothy Lamour M—89 mins. (4230)	TRAIL OF TERROR James Newill Tex O'Brien O—63 mins. (356)	BEYOND THE LAST FRONTIER Eddie Dew Smiley Burnette O—56 mins. (351)	THE SKY'S THE LIMIT Fred Astaire Joan Leslie M—90 mins.	WINTER TIME Sonja Henie Jack Oakle Woody Herman & Orchestra M—405		SHERLOCK HOLMES FACES DEATH TOP MAN Donald O'Connor	MURDER ON THE WATERFRONT Warren Douglas Joan Winfield D—49 mins.
Sept. 25	THE DANGEROUS BLONDES Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D	DU BARRY WAS A LADY (Technicolor) Red Skelton M—101 mins. (333) HITLER'S MADMAN D—84 mins. (334)	SPOTLIGHT SCANDALS Billy Gilbert Frank Fay M—(24)	HENRY ALDRICH SWINGS IT Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith C—65 mins. (4226)		DEATH VALLEY MANHUNT O—55 mins. (375)	THE FALCON IN DANGER Tom Conway Joan Brooks D—70 mins.	(Re-issues) IN OLD CHICAGO 94 mins. CALL OF THE WILD 80 mins.		ALWAYS A BRIDESMAID Andrews Sisters Patric Knowles Grace McDonald C	THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS All Star Musical M—127 mins.
Oct. 2	FOOTLIGHT GLAMOUR Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—68 mins.	RANDOM HARVEST Ronald Colman Greer Garson D—126 mins. (370) HUMAN COMEDY Mickey Rooney D—117 mins. (380)		ALASKA HIGHWAY Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—68 mins. (4227) SUBMARINE ALERT Richard Arlen Wendy Barrie D—67 mins. (4229)	GIRL FROM MONTERREY Armida C		BEHIND THE RISING SUN Margo Tom Neal D—88 mins. MEXICAN SPITFIRE'S BLESSED EVENT Lupe Velez Leon Errol C—64 mins.	SWEET ROSIE O'GRADY Betty Grable Robert Young (Technicolor) M—76 mins. (408)	BAR 20 William Boyd Andy Clyde O—54 mins.	CORVETTE K-225 Randolph Scott Andy Devine D A Howard Hawks Production	(Re-Issues) Song of the Saddle Prairie Thunder The Cherokee Strip Empty Holsters Guns of the Pecos Land Beyond the Law
Oct. 9	DOUGHBOYS IN IRELAND Kenny Baker Jeff Donnell M	(First Block) (1943-44) ABOVE SUSPICION D—90 mins.	BLAZING GUNS Hoot Gibson Ken Maynard 54 mins. O	(Re-Issue) UNION PACIFIC Barbara Stanwyck Joel McCrea D—138 mins. (4250)	LONE RIDER IN RAIDERS OF RED GAP					CRAZY HOUSE Olsen & Johnson Martha O'Driscoll Count Basie & Band M	ADVENTURE IN IRAQ John Loder Ruth Ford D
Oct. 16	SAHARA Humphrey Bogart Bruce Bennett J. Carroll Naish 97 mins. D (43-'44)	BEST FOOT FORWARD Lucille Ball M—94 mins. DR. GILLESPIE'S CRIMINAL CASE Lionel Barrymore D—89 mins.	OUTLAWS OF STAMPEDE PASS Johnny Mack Brown (O)	(Re-Issue) SOULS AT SEA Gary Cooper George Raft D—93 mins. (4254)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN THE RETURN OF THE RANGERS THE UNDERDOG Barton McLane (316)	SCREAM IN THE DARK Marie McDonald (229) OLD BARN DANCE (Re-issue) Gene Autry—(2307)	Special Releases COASTAL COMMAND D—60 mins. SPITFIRE Leslie Howard David Niven D—90 mins.	PARIS AFTER DARK George Sanders Brenda Marshall Philip Dorn 85 mins. (409)		HI-YA SAILOR Elyse Knox Donald Woods M	
Oct. 23	THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME Chester Morris George E. Stone Jeanne Bates D (43-'44)	GIRL CRAZY Mickey Rooney Judy Garland C—99 mins. LASSIE COME HOME Roddy MacDowall D	THE UNKNOWN GUEST Victor Jory Pamela Blake D	(First Block) (1943-44) LET'S FACE IT Bob Hope Betty Hutton M—76 mins. (4301)	SUSPECTED PERSON Clifford Evans Patricia Roc D—(315)	MAN FROM THE RIO GRANDE John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O—55 mins.	(First Block) (1943-44) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C			YOU'RE A LUCKY FELLOW, MR. SMITH Allan Jones Evelyn Ankers M	PRINCESS O'ROURKE Olivia DeHavilland Robert Cummings D
Oct. 30	IS EVERYBODY HAPPY? Ted Lewis and his Band M	SALUTE TO THE MARINES Wallace Beery Fay Bainter D—(101) SWING SHIFT MAISIE Ann Sothern C—86 mins.	BULLETS AND SADDLES A Range Buster O	TRUE TO LIFE Mary Martin Franchot Tone Dick Powell C—94 mins. (4303) HOSTAGES Luise Rainer Arturo de Cordova Paul Lukas D—88 mins. (4305)		MAN FROM MUSIC MOUNTAIN Roy Rogers Ruth Terry O	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)	THE GUNMASTER Claire Trevor Albert Dekker D	FLESH AND FANTASY Edward Robinson Charles Boyer Barbara Stanwyck D	
Nov. 6	SILVER CITY RAIDERS Russell Hayden Adele Mara O	ADVENTURES OF TARTU Robert Donat Valerie Hobson D—103 mins.	MYSTERY OF THE 13th GUEST Dick Purcell D	THE GOOD FELLOWS Cecil Kellaway Helen Walker James Brown C—70 mins. (4302)	THE DEVIL RIDERS Buster Crabbe O—(460)	OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY "Wild Bill" Elliott Ann Jeffreys	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C			SON OF DRACULA Robert Paige Louise Allbritton—D THE MAD GHOUL Evelyn Ankers David Bruce—D	
Nov. 13	RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE Nina Foch Bela Lugosi D	YOUNG IDEAS Susan Peters Mary Astor D—77 mins. THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER D—103 mins.	NEARLY EIGHTEEN Gale Storm Bill Henry D—61 mins. (226)	TORNADO Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—83 mins. (4304)		HERE COMES ELMER Al Pearce Dale Evans C	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D			COBRA WOMAN Maria Montez Jon Hall Sabu D (in Technicolor)	
Nov. 20		I DOOD IT D—102 mins. WHISTLING IN BROOKLYN Red Skelton Ann Rutherford	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43)	(Special Release) THE CITY THAT STOPPED HITLER—HEROIC STALINGRAD 58 mins. (4331)		MYSTERY BROADCAST Frank Albertson D	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C			NEVER A DULL MOMENT (Walter Wanger Production) Randolph Scott	

First in Film and Radio News Brie Ac and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 71 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1943 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Vandalism in Theatres is Serious: U.S.

Exhibitor Complaints Mounting

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10.—Vandalism in motion picture theatres has reached a stage where it threatens to become a serious national problem, the Office of War Information revealed today in a comprehensive report on juvenile delinquency.

So many complaints have been received from exhibitors by the film industry's War Activities Committee, OWI said, that it has been necessary to ask the help of child-welfare agencies.

In mind is a plan for directing

(*Continued on page 7*)

Seidelman Hits at Army Film Critics

Declaring that the Army M. P. Overseas Service is doing a good job in view of the difficulties which confront it, Joseph H. Seidelman, Universal vice-president and foreign manager, who is special consultant to the Army film unit, in a statement issued for publication today, deplored the

(*Continued on page 10*)

Aubrey Flanagan Dies Suddenly

London, Oct. 10.—Aubrey Flanagan, 47, London editorial representative of Quigley Publications since 1937, died suddenly yesterday.

Flanagan, well known in the trade here, was born in Dublin on March 3, 1897. From college he entered civil service and in 1926 turned to the publishing business, joining the staff of the *Sunday Worker*. Meanwhile he became associated, also, with film trade journalism on the staff of *Today's Cinema*, from which he resigned in Nov., 1937, to become London representative of all Quigley Publications. He was elected a director of Quigley Publications, Ltd., in June, 1938.

Bioff Describes Attempt to 'Frame' Joseph M. Schenck

Joseph M. Schenck, former chairman of the board of 20th Century-Fox, was selected by the Capone gang in Chicago to be the "fall guy" for William Bioff at the latter's trial two years ago, when Bioff and George E. Browne, former president of the IATSE, were convicted of extorting $1,000,000 from the film industry.

That was Bioff's testimony Friday in Federal Court, where eight defendants, seven of them remnants of the old Capone mob, and Louis Kaufman, business agent of Local 244, Motion Picture Operators Union, Newark, are on trial before Federal Judge John Bright and a jury charged with being "the boys from Chicago" who muscled in on the shakedown.

Bioff charged also that Pat Casey,

(*Continued on page 10*)

Phil Dunas of Col. Fatally Stricken

Phil Dunas, Columbia mid-western division sales manager, died at St. Luke's Hospital, Chicago, Saturday night following an illness of several weeks. Dunas was 47 years old and had been with Columbia the past 15 years. Columbia home office executives headed by Abe Montague, general sales manager, left for Chicago last night to attend the funeral.

Reject Schine Deal For Reade Circuit

The Schine Circuit sought the approval of the Department of Justice recently for acquisition by it of the Walter Reade Circuit, but the request was rejected, Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General, revealed here Friday. Clark earlier had rejected a similar application made by Loew's.

The Reade Circuit of 40-odd theatres has a price tag of $18,000,000, it is reported.

Industry to Study 'Propaganda' Plaint

Weekend newspaper reports incorrectly gave the impression that the industry Production Code will be extended to include provisions for the regulation of "propaganda" films, as a result of a conference in Washington late last week between Will H. Hays and Rep. Walter C. Ploeser, sponsor of a proposal for Congressional investigation of alleged political bias in recent films. Actually, Hays said yesterday, it was agreed that the subject would be taken up for study by industry officials.

Rep. Ploeser agreed to suspend action until Oct. 25 on his proposal for an investigation of "propaganda" films while the subject is under consideration by the industry.

Decree Firms Are Asked for 'Best Offer'

Exhibitor Reactions to It Will Be Sought

By JACK BERK

The five consenting companies have been asked by the Department of Justice to prepare in writing a program setting forth the concessions they are willing to make in answer to exhibitor complaints against the consent decree and prevailing trade practices, Tom C. Clark, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, said at the close of an all-day conference with heads of consenting companies at the American Arbitration Association headquarters here on Friday.

This draft, which is believed to be

(*Continued on page 7*)

5-Film Block Sales Fair, Depinet Says

By FRED STENGEL

Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO Radio, declared Friday that he is in favor of continuing the current sales policy of licensing pictures in blocks of five.

"I have been through this many

(*Continued on page 7*)

'Decree Fails', Allied Demands 'Sterner Stuff'

"Consent decree has not and can not achieve the objects and purposes of the Department of Justice as set forth in the original petition (in the New York anti-trust case); we urge that the Department now insist upon sterner measures better calculated to curb the trust and to insure fair competitive conditions." This is the conclusion of National Allied obtained from decree findings of a cross section of the country's exhibitors in reporting on their decree experiences.

Wash. Press Photo Bureau
Abram F. Myers

Allied's brief has been forwarded to U. S. Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark, and was signed by Abram F. Myers, Allied's general counsel, copies of which Myers released to the press at the weekend.

"The unhappy truth is that the picture monopoly is more powerful and in general its practices are more oppressive today than when the consent decree was entered," Myers charged. "The three-year test period afforded the defendants ample time in which to put their house in order, but this they have utterly failed to do," he declared.

Myers' statement said 210 exhibitors, operating 652 theatres, reported that unwanted features still are being

(*Continued on page 10*)

Exhibitors Ask Hearing on Tax

Virtually every exhibitor organization will be represented in the opposition to the Treasury's proposed 30 per cent admission tax when hearings on that phase of the new Federal tax bill are held by the House Ways and Means Committee in the near future.

In an effort to limit appearances to a reasonable number, the committee has set today as the last day on which applications to be heard on the bill will be received. Applications made after today may encounter some difficulty. It cannot be accurately estimated yet when the admission tax phase of the bill will be reached and the exhibitor representatives heard.

Personal Mention

CHARLES SKOURAS, president of National Theatres, and RICK RICKETSON, president of Inter-Mountain Theatres, Denver, stopped off in Omaha, enroute from a pheasant hunt in South Dakota, to visit branch manager J. G. McBRIDE of Paramount and JOE SCOTT of 20th-Fox.

•

JACK PAINTER, chief Movietone News cameraman here, will marry Anna Coates, early next month, at Steubenville, O., at the home of his fiancee's parents.

•

ROGER FERRI, editor of 20th Century-Fox's house publication, *Dynamo,* will return to New York today from Detroit and Chicago.

•

LT. MONROE RUBINGER, former Warner field representative, placed on the inactive list last week, leaves today for Hollywood.

•

OSCAR A. MORGAN, Paramount short subjects sales manager, is expected to return here tomorrow from the Midwest.

•

MAXWELL WEINBERG, assistant to Herb Morgan, M-G-M Eastern short subjects head, was in Baltimore over the weekend.

•

ROY HAINES, Warner Southern and Western division sales manager, left over the weekend for Detroit and Chicago.

•

SGT. CHARLES MOSCOVITZ, formerly of the Warner New York publicity department, is in New York for a furlough.

•

LT. MICHAEL S. MANNING of Eastman Kodak, Rochester, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

•

LEON GOLDBERG will leave for the Coast tonight to take over his new post of RKO Radio studio manager.

•

MAX J. WEISFELDT, Columbia short subjects sales manager, left over the weekend for Chicago and Des Moines.

•

HENRY E. BYERS of the U. S. Navy, formerly of Eastman Kodak, Rochester, has been wounded.

•

FRED MARSHALL of Universal's exploitation staff, left over the weekend for Ottawa.

•

R. J. O'DONNELL, general manager of Interstate Circuit, is here from Dallas.

•

LES KAUFMAN, ad manager of Fanchon & Marco, St. Louis, is in town.

•

LEON NETTER, Paramount home office theatre executive, is on vacation.

•

SAMUEL GOLDWYN and MRS. GOLDWYN arrive from the Coast today.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

REGULATION of film terms, percentages and flat rentals, through consent decree provisions is highly unlikely despite the attention given to exhibitor complaints by decree company presidents and Tom C. Clark and Robert L. Wright of the Department of Justice at the New York conference last week. If decree companies are unwilling or unable to accept provisions regulating film terms, there is no apparent legal precedent for making them a part of the decree, regardless. There is, however, industry attorneys say, some legal basis to prevent such provisions from being added arbitrarily to the decree.

• •

The difficulties of arriving at a voluntary agreement on the regulation of film prices are numerous. The most formidable, however, is described by trade authorities as the virtual impossibility of developing a workable formula. It is conceivable that decree companies might agree not to charge more than "X" amount for productions which cost "X" amount to make. Provisions of this kind, however, would entail the maintenance of a large staff of accountants by the Department of Justice to investigate the merit of all price complaints received.

Moreover, such a restriction would discourage producers from taking an occasional flyer in experimental or out-of-the-ordinary subject material. With sales terms tied to production costs, it is extremely doubtful whether one of those rarities that thrill both the exhibition and the distribution markets, such as "Hitler's Children," comparatively modest in cost and magnificent in returns for all concerned, ever would occur. The producer who assumes the entire original risk never would be able to share proportionately in the bonanza of his creation.

• •

Yet, on the other hand, any decree provision attempting to regulate selling terms which did not tie film price to film cost obviously would discourage the production of better pictures and would drastically curtail the making of all high budget productions in brackets which made the restricted financial returns on them an unwarranted risk. Certainly, a "Gone With the Wind" never could be undertaken by a producer in a price controlled market.

Not unlikely, however, is a decree provision committing signatories to an anti-discrimination price policy. Under such a clause prices might be directed into more uniform channels for theatres in comparable business situations even though far removed from each other. Prices would be based more exactly on ability to pay, in other words. Extraneous considerations which are now a part of some film deals, such as the purchase or non-purchase of a distributor's entire lineup, or of an entire block, rather than part of it, probably would be eliminated under such a provision.

• •

Clark's procedure in determining the future of the decree is fundamentally different from that pursued by his predecessor, Thurman Arnold, in first evolving the document. Arnold negotiated mainly, if not exclusively, with counsel for decree companies. Clark, to date, has not included counsel in his negotiations at all. With a variety of exhibitor views in his possession, he addressed himself only to the heads of the five companies.

It is to be expected that this procedure will be continued; that when the lawyers eventually are called in, it will be for the purpose of drafting agreements reached previously.

• •

Paramount has extended its short term, exclusive operating lease on the Rivoli into November and probably will reextend it thereafter to the year's end, as indications still point to the likelihood of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" remaining as a Rivoli tenant for that length of time. Paramount's exclusive lease on the house for the run of "Bell" is entirely apart from the deal by which Paramount and Skouras Theatres acquired a 50-50 operating interest in the house from United Artists Theatre Circuit earlier. Under the "Bell" lease, operation is exclusively Paramount's and the regular Rivoli staff was given leaves of absence for the film's tenure, with the key posts being staffed by Paramount.

Meanwhile, the house has been much in demand. It was Samuel Goldwyn's first choice for "North Star"; Universal wanted it for "Flesh and Fantasy"; 20th-Fox for "Song of Bernadette."

Coming Events

Oct. 16 — Warner Club election o board of governors and officers New York.

Oct. 18-19—Annual Convention, Al lied Theatre Owners of Wester Pennsylvania, Roosevelt Hote Pittsburgh.

Oct. 18-22 — SMPE Conferenc Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel.

Oct. 21—AMPA's "Salute to H oes," Hotel Astor, New York.

Oct. 22—Paramount Club "Victor Ball," Hotel Astor, New York.

Oct. 24—NEIC Rally, New York

Oct. 26—Annual Convention, Asso ciated Theatre Owners of Indian Athletic Club, Indianapolis.

Oct. 30—Local Variety Club 10t anniversary dinner, Netherlan Plaza, Cincinnati.

Nov. 9 — New York Labor Wa Chest pageant, Madison Squar Garden, New York.

Nov. 16 — "Night of Stars" show United Jewish Appeal, Madiso Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 18—Fall Dinner, Picture Pior eers, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, Ne York.

Nov. 26-28—Annual Still Photogra phy Show, Academy of M.P. Art Hollywood.

Kingsberg Elected To RKO Board Soo

Malcolm Kingsberg, who on Sep 20, was named vice-president an treasurer of RKO Corp. by the boar of directors, a promotion from h former post of vice-president of Keitl Albee-Orpheum, will be elected to th RKO board at its meeting next weel it was reliably learned at the weel end.

The elevation of Kingsberg resulte in added responsibilities for Edwar L. Alperson, general manager o RKO Theatres, who now reports di rectly to N. Peter Rathvon, presider of RKO Corp., on all matters per taining to theatre operations. A treasurer for KAO is also expecte to be named shortly, although Alper son has taken over responsibility fo theatre leases, policy and other mat ters formerly handled by Kingsberg

Some Home Offices Close Tomorrou

Offices of RKO, 20th-Fox and th American Arbitration Associatio here will be closed all day tomorrow Columbus Day. Closing at 1 o'cloc will be M-G-M, Paramount, Unite Artists and Universal.

Companies whose Tuesday plans a the weekend were undetermined in cluded Columbia, Monogram, Repub lic, Warners and MPPDA.

Kalmenson Lists Two

Release of two new Warner fea tures in November was announced b Ben Kalmenson, general sales man ager, at the weekend. "Find the Black mailer" goes into distribution Nov 6; "Northern Pursuit," starring Erro Flynn, will be released Nov. 13.

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BETTY GRABLE

TYRONE POWER

SONJA HENIE

JOHN PAYNE

VICTOR MATURE

DON AMECHE

RITA HAYWORTH

ALICE FAYE

GENE TIERNEY

GEORGE MONTGOMERY

DOROTHY McGUIRE

LYNN BARI

RODDY McDOWALL

THE STAR-MAKERS OF 20 CENTURY FOX, THE STUDIO THAT HAS CREATED YOUR GREATEST BOX-OFFICE NAMES, NOW PREDICT THE SAME SUCCESS FOR THE NEW FINDS OF 1943-44...

10 STARS OF TOMORROW!

Look

MARY

ANDERSON

She scored a personal triumph on the Broadway stage! It will be surpassed by her performances in 20th's "The Song of Bernadette" and "Lifeboat"!

GALE

ROBBINS

Blonde loveliness and rare singing talent! She will be featured in 20th's big forthcoming musical hit "Greenwich Village"!

TRUDY

MARSHALL

Model, then poster girl, and now starlet! Her theatrical debut will be in "The Sullivans" sharing the feminine lead with Ann Baxter!

JUNE

HAVER

A stage debut at six, then unusual musical success, climaxed by a great screen chance which comes in 20th's Technicolored "Home In Indiana"!

JEANNE

CRAIN

Beauty contest winner, cover girl, her striking charm will score its first immediate and indubitable success in the forthcoming "Home In Indiana"!

PERRY
COMO

The sensation of Broadway and the nation's networks! In 20th's "Blue Skies" he will be acclaimed the screen's newest, greatest singing star!

JOHN
HARVEY

The fans are waiting, thrilled, expectant . . . for his appearance in the romantic lead opposite Betty Grable in the Technicolor hit "Pin-Up Girl"!

LON
McCALLISTER

Unanimously applauded in his first screen roles . . . he now reaps a golden opportunity in "Home In Indiana" . . . from which he will zoom to stardom!

WILLIAM
EYTHE

Another great marquee name in the making! Exciting plans are under way for his film future—and the announcement will be forthcoming shortly!

DICK
HAYMES

A personality and voice that will win the hearts of millions on the screen as on the air! The star build-up is already under way with great publicity campaigns!

Watch Mr. Showman...

MARY ANDERSON

PERRY COMO

JOHN HARVEY

GALE ROBBINS

TRUDY MARSHALL

LON McCALLISTER

JUNE HAVER

WILLIAM EYTHE

JEANNE CRAIN

DICK HAYMES

20th CENTURY-FOX

in 1943-44

5-Film Block Sales Fair, Depinet Says

(Continued from page 1)

times," Depinet said at a press conference, "and am thoroughly convinced that the policy is equitable both from the distributor and exhibitor point of view."

Depinet announced that 20 pictures have been completed or are nearing completion for 1943-44. Plans for 1944-'45 are already in the making. He believes that the current schedule of 35 from RKO and at least five from outside producers will also be the program for that season.

"The Iron Major," "Around the World," "Government Girl," "Tender Comrade" and "Higher and Higher" were seen by the RKO Radio president while on the Coast. He predicted that Frank Sinatra will be "bigger" in pictures than he is on the air or in night clubs. "Higher and Higher," featuring the singer, will be released around Christmas time, Depinet said.

Two of Samuel Goldwyn's 1943-44 features are also finished. "North Star" will open on Broadway Nov. 4, while "Up in Arms" will be released early next year, he said. Goldwyn is committed to another for RKO distribution in his one-year pact with the company. It will star Bob Hope.

Next Disney in February

Walt Disney's "Let's Go Latin," in which cartoon characters and "live" actors are portrayed, will be released in February or March, Depinet said. Work on Eddie Cantor's initial producing venture will start in a month or so, while plans for "Sister Kenny," starring Rosalind Russell, and "None But the Lonely Heart," second Cary Grant picture for 1943-44, will start in April. Depinet declared "RKO's 'Mr. Lucky' is one of the biggest grossers in the company's history."

RKO will release two pictures made by the company in England during the current season. They are "Yellow Canary," with Anna Neagle and Richard Greene, and "Escape to Danger," with Ann Dvorak and Eric Portman. "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" and some other features will be re-issued by RKO.

Producing Committee Working on 'Stars'

Plans for the 10th anniversary presentation of "Night of Stars" have been drawn by a committee of 60 leaders of the amusement industries, under the chairmanship of Robert M. Weitman, manager of the Paramount Theatre. The show will be held at Madison Square Garden, Tuesday evening, Nov. 16.

Weitman said, "Our goal this year is to raise $100,000 for the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Aid and Palestine. This will bring to $1,000,000 the amount accumulated since 45,000 New Yorkers responded to the first 'Night of Stars' in 1934."

Rossi in California

SANTA ROSA, Cal., Oct. 10.—Pvt. Joseph Rossi, former exhibitor of Schroon Lake, N. Y., who also managed the DeWitt Theatre, Bayonne, N. J., for Warner Bros., has been put in special services of the Army air field here, to handle entertainment at the base.

Decree Firms Are Asked To Draw Up Concessions

(Continued from page 1)

the first attempt to put into writing proposals for a revised consent decree, may be in readiness by next Friday, when the decree-company heads will meet here with Clark again.

When the companies' proposals have been received and studied, Clark said, he will present them to exhibitor organizations and representatives to obtain their reactions. If and when a final agreement is set, permitting the rewriting of the decree, the Department of Justice then will give the non-consenting companies, Columbia, United Artists and Universal, an opportunity to accept the same formula before proceeding further in the government action in which they are defendants, Clark said.

Rodgers Attends Session

The presence of William F. Rodgers, Loew's vice-president and general sales manager, at the meeting Friday was interpreted by observers as indication that the discussions had reached the point where new trade practice proposals were under discussion. Rodgers has led several attempts within the industry to develop a voluntary trade practice agreement among distributors and exhibitors. He is the first industry official other than a ranking head of a decree company to sit through a complete session with the decree conferees to date.

Louis Phillips, Paramount home office attorney, sat in at the first half of Friday's session, presumably to present data on industry arbitration, which Clark said was under discussion. Clearance, move-overs, withholding of prints and preferred playing time accorded affiliated theatres, subjects which have formed the basis of numerous exhibitor complaints to the Department of Justice, were discussed, Clark said. He added that affiliated theatre divorcement also was taken up and so was the question of film prices and terms. Clark declined to elaborate on these topics but he had revealed earlier that the company heads had been asked to bring data pertaining to production costs in relation to current sales terms to the meeting last Friday.

'Satisfactory Progress': Clark

"We made satisfactory progress," Clark said, "and got down to specific subjects."

Clark said that all interested parties would be given an opportunity to express their views on company proposals when they have been made. All exhibitor complaints and decree recommendations are being given careful consideration by the government, he said, adding that "the public interest" also is involved in the discussions.

Declaring that he believes an agreement is possible by Nov. 20, Clark said that, failing one, the government has four alternatives. He named them in the following order: trial of the anti-trust suit; the bringing of new suits in various parts of the country; revision of the present decree, and extension of the decree in its present form.

Theatre Vandalism Serious, Says U. S.

(Continued from page 1)

adolescent energy into something as exciting but less destructive and to consider the formation of a chain of clubs across the country to which youthful patrons of the neighborhood theatre might belong.

While upholstery slashing appears to be the most widespread practice—one Cleveland theatre reporting 60 seats mutilated in one night—the most dangerous vandalism is the setting of fires, one of which caused $35,000 damage to a Berkeley, Cal., theatre.

OWI also cited a Philadelphia instance of thievery, where a "gang," led by a six-year-old boy, crawled under seats, opening purses in the dark.

The report admitted that the problem is perplexing and enumerated plans adopted in various communities to deal with juvenile delinquency, but concluded it is a question which must be dealt with locally under plans developed to meet the particular conditions of the community.

'Sensations' in Cinecolor

"Sensations of 1944," Andrew Stone's second independent production for United Artists release, will be filmed in Cinecolor, it was announced here by U. A. Producer-director Stone has for the past five weeks been working with the company's engineers to work out new processes.

Peskay Takes Over Sales for Bronston

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 10.—Ed Peskay, Eastern representative for Hal Roach, officially assumed sales supervision of Samuel Bronston Productions on Friday. He takes the place of the Samuel Goldwyn sales organization as Eastern representative for Bronston. Fact that Peskay would get the post was exclusively reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Sept. 27.

Bronston, who will produce independently for United Artists distribution, recently completed "Jack London," and it is understood that he has financing for 15 top-budget pictures. Both Bronston and Peskay are expected to leave here for New York shortly.

5 RKO Screenings Set for Nov. 1–4

Five 1943-44 RKO Radio pictures will be trade screened nationally between Nov. 1 and 4, it was announced at the weekend by Ned E. Depinet.

Dates and times of screenings are: "The Iron Major," Nov. 1, except St. Louis, Nov. 2, and Boston and New Haven, Oct. 20; "Gangway for Tomorrow," Nov. 1, except St. Louis, Nov. 2; "Government Girl," Nov. 3; "Gildersleeve on Broadway," Nov. 3, and Nov. 20 in New Haven; "The Falcon and the Co-Eds," Nov. 4.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 10

SCREEN ACTORS GUILD has assets of $347,465, of which $114,786 is in cash and $201,328 is represented by U. S. bonds. Class A members paid $93,967 in dues and Class B members remitted $94,513 during the year Sept. 1, 1942 to Sept. 31, 1943. Entrance fees were received as follows: Class A members, $45,833; Class B, $37,674. Year's expenses were $188,095, leaving net income of $90,076.

•

Screen Actors Guild's nominating committee has submitted to the membership a list of candidate officers for the coming year, to vote, by mail, for election prior to the annual meeting of Class A membership on Nov. 14. All encumbents, headed by James Cagney, president, stand for reelection, with the exception of the treasurership, for which Russell Hicks has been nominated to succeed Porter Hall.

•

Paul Lazarus, Jr., director of advertising and publicity at United Artists, is due here Monday from New York.

•

Illness caused Al Lichtman, M-G-M executive, to postpone his departure East today for a contemplated trip to London.

•

Charles Chaplin, Jr., 18-year-old son of the screen comedian, has been inducted into the Army.

•

RKO has bought "Situation Out of Hand," an original, to star Ginger Rogers.

•

PRC Pictures has signed Edgar Ulmer to a director's contract.

'North Star' Opens Nov. 4 on B'way

Samuel Goldwyn's "The North Star," Lilliam Hellman film about the Nazi invasion of Russia, will have its world premiere here on Thursday evening, Nov. 4, simultaneously at Broadway's RKO Palace and the Victoria, on a reserved basis. Subsequently, the Palace will operate on a continuous-run policy, while the Victoria will have two shows daily with all seats reserved. Goldwyn will arrive in New York from Hollywood today.

"North Star" will be released by RKO Radio.

Lee, Kurtz and Sanders Shifted

Joseph Lee, 20th Century-Fox sales supervisor for Northern New Jersey, Long Island and New York State, has been named to a sales post in the home office, the company reported at the weekend. Lee will be succeeded by Morris Sanders, assistant to Ray Moon, New York branch manager, and Morris Kurtz, member of the sales staff. Kurtz will be sales supervisor in Northern New Jersey and upstate New York while Sanders will supervise sales in Manhattan, Bronx, Brooklyn and Long Island.

Ole Olsen Passes

Ole Olsen, 80 years old, film pioneer and head of Denmark's largest film company, Nordisk Film, died at the weekend in Copenhagen.

LISTEN!
more talk about
OLIVIA
deHAVILLAND
ROBERT
CUMMINGS
CHARLES COBURN · JANE
All Give to the National War Fund

"'PRINCESS O'ROURKE' is one of those laugh-explosive comedy-romances that come along too infrequently! Picture will clock upper-bracket biz in all bookings with holdovers clearly indicated! Brimming with hilarious sequences!" VARIETY

"Delicious fun! 'PRINCESS O'ROURKE' spreads a royal feast of entertainment! Delightful from first to last!" FILM DAILY

Warners!

"Brilliant! Hilarious! Excellent! 'PRINCESS O'ROURKE' cannot miss its inevitable destination as a sure boxoffice hit!" BOXOFFICE

"Hilarious comedy! 'PRINCESS O'ROURKE' will be rated among the screen's top laugh pieces of the year!" DAILY VARIETY

"'PRINCESS O'ROURKE' is the sort of sparkling hit that will be greeted with wide enthusiasm to spur on its boxoffice reception." HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

JACK
ARSON IN

"Princess" O'ROURKE

HAL B. WALLIS
PRODUCTION
Written and Directed by NORMAN KRASNA

Bioff Describes Attempt to 'Frame' Joseph M. Schenck

(Continued from page 1)

studio labor relations official, was responsible for the extortion indictment against Bioff and Browne, which led to the indictment of the rest of the gang.

In the Spring of 1941, Bioff said, Casey pleaded with him to negotiate some contracts in the Hollywood studios. The contracts had been left open, Bioff said.

"I told Casey that the industry still owed $400,000 that had never been paid under the agreement (the shakedown agreement entered into in 1936 when Bioff and Browne threatened to cripple the industry by strikes) and that the Coast agreement (the labor contracts) were going to be kept open until the $400,000 was paid up."

Casey's Answer: Indictment

"Casey's answer was the indictment," whined Bioff.

Bioff testified that the mob and he agreed that his defense at his trial would be that the money he took from the motion picture companies was turned over to Joseph M. Schenck to be used as a slush fund in Washington and Sacramento, Cal. He said that they hoped that it might be possible to sell this story to the jury.

Earlier Friday Bioff told the old story of how the mob met the desire of Nicholas M. Schenck, chairman of the board of Loew's, for the appearance of legality in the shakedown of that corporation. The annual tribute of Loew's, he said, was $50,000, the amount fixed for Paramount, Warner's and 20th Century-Fox.

"Nick Schenck paid cash the first fiscal year (of the gang's shakedown)," Bioff said.

For subsequent payments, said Bioff, Schenck arranged to have Bioff's brother-in-law, Norman Nelson, of Chicago, receive seven per cent commission on all raw film purchased by M-G-M, Loew's chief subsidiary. The film was purchased through the firm of Smith and Aller, Hollywood, he said, that firm being the agent of the Du Pont people. To make this deal, Bioff said, M-G-M had to switch their business from the Eastman Kodak representatives, who had previously supplied the raw film.

Bioff Up Before 'The Gang'

Bioff told the jury of a gang "trial" he underwent in a Chicago hotel when he was accused of exceeding his authority in the IATSE. He said he was ordered from California to Chicago to tell why he had dared to revoke the actors' union charter just as the mob was preparing to "move in" on the union.

"Nitti said that George Browne had made promises to Sophie Tucker and to George Whitehead," said Bioff, "and that I had forced Browne to revoke their charter after he had made the promises. Nick Circella said that I had overruled him in the matter."

The general tenor of the "trial" was marked by the suspicion of Nitti and Circella that Bioff was trying to steal the actors' union for himself, according to Bioff.

The trial was adjourned until next Thursday due to other demands on Judge Bright's time this week.

'Decree Fails', Allied Demands 'Sterner Stuff'

(Continued from page 1)

forced upon them. Forcing of shorts with features was claimed by 204 owners of 460 theatres. On the question of whether the decree's five-picture selling proviso "had eliminated the evils of block-booking," Allied said "the negative vote was overwhelming."

"Failure of the decree to afford any right to cancel pictures resulted in depriving the exhibitors of the limited cancellation privileges which they enjoyed prior to the decree," Myers said. Distributors are charged with "enormously scuttling the decree."

Allied's original questionnaire offered exhibitors four separate selling plans from which to select one they favored; the plans and the votes thereon were listed for Clark as follows:

Five-picture plan, with trade showings, as provided in the consent decree, only 7 exhibitors and 26 theatres in favor; selling of trade-shown pictures in such groups as the distributor and exhibitor may agree upon, 60 exhibitors, 148 theatres; selling of trade-shown or identified pictures in groups containing approximately one-fourth of the annual output with 20 per cent cancellation, 84 exhibitors, 286 theatres; selling of a full season's output, identified, with 20 per cent cancellation, 217 exhibitors, 627 theatres.

'High Rentals Unjustified'

"Thus the consent decree method received virtually no support," it was said.

"The blunt facts revealed by the questionnaires are that under the consent decree the distributors have raised film rentals to levels wholly unjustified by any increase in the cost of improvement in the quality of the product."

Returns showed that distributor demands for preferred playing time had increased in about the same proportion as demands for percentage playing.

Exhibitors also complained of a shortage of product, said to be further aggravated by the distributors' withdrawal of prints earlier than usual, making it impossible for exhibitors to get relief even by licensing older product.

Complain Against 'Blind Pricing'

Blind pricing was also a key complaint. Exhibitors demanded a contract provision requiring prices and allocations to be written into their contracts and not decided by the distributor upon a picture's availability. The practice of distributors in "selling away" to an account's competitor "is serious," Allied told Clark, and that affiliated circuits are "extending their monopoly" by other means, including the creation of additional first runs.

Principal criticisms of arbitration were: expense incident to the conduct of proceedings, principally for attorneys; unfair tactics employed by company lawyers; lack of available legal talent for exhibitors to combat distributors' "tradewise lawyers"; delay in obtaining relief; ultra-conservative nature of members of some local boards, especially the Appeals Board, and the latter's "pro-distributor point of view." Some exhibitors demanded that the Appeal Board be abolished and the awards of the local arbitrators made final.

Arthurs to Open New St. Louis First Run

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 10.—Opening of the Shubert here on Oct. 21 as a "deluxe" first-run and moveover policy house, was announced by Fanchon & Marco Service Corp., which will operate for Service Group Theatres, a partnership formed last week by three brothers and two sons of Harry C. Arthur, Jr., general manager of F. & M., and all of whom are either in the armed services or are scheduled to be inducted shortly.

Partners are Edward B. Arthur, formerly assistant general manager of F. & M., currently attending Armored Forces Officers Candidate School at Fort Knox; 2nd Lieut. Harry C. Arthur, III, now in the Pacific with the Marines; 2nd Lieut. Thomas G. Arthur, navigator in the Army Air Force; James H. Arthur and David G. Arthur, counselor and assistant general manager respectively, for F. & M., and Edward L. Murphy, treasurer, who will supervise the theatre in the absence of the partners.

More 'Sahara' Screenings

Columbia's "Sahara" will have two trade showings in key cities this week, in San Francisco, at the Orpheum, on Oct. 13, and at the Orpheum, Des Moines, on Oct. 15.

Grid Game to Herald RKO's 'Iron Major'

A football game before an expected audience of 50,000 will serve as the curtain raiser to the world premiere of RKO's "The Iron Major," which opens Monday, Oct. 25, at Keith's Memorial theatre, Boston.

The game will pit the varsity team from Boston College against a picked U. S. Army team from Hingham Field near Boston, and will take place Sunday, Oct. 24, at Fenway Park. Receipts will be equally divided between the athletic funds of Boston College and Hingham Field.

Pat O'Brien, star of "Iron Major," and Charles Koerner, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of production, coming from Hollywood to attend the picture's premiere, will be present, as well as a home office delegation headed by N. Peter Rathvon, Ned E. Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Robert Mochrie, E. A. Alperson and S. Barret McCormick.

Leewood on Field Staff

Jack Leewood, veteran theatre manager, for many years in charge of Warner houses in and around Newark, has been added to Charles Einfeld's West Coast exploitation staff. He will cover the Rocky Mountain territory, with headquarters at the Warner exchange in Denver.

Seidelman Hits at Critics of Army's Overseas Service

(Continued from page 1)

recent criticisms by the War Activities based upon reports that insufficient new films are being provided overseas servicemen.

"I am sorry," Seidelman said, "that the WAC found it necessary to publicly criticize this Army service and to ask for an 'official investigation.' If Francis Harmon had taken the time to visit the office of the Army M. P. Overseas Service in the RCA Building, he could have found the answer to many questions without the need for an 'official investigation.' It is really too bad that many motion picture industry men who have given up their lucrative positions for the American Army uniform should be subjected to this kind of back-biting by individuals who do not take the trouble to inform themselves of the true state of affairs."

Films, Press Follow Radio on News: Fly

FCC chairman James L. Fly claimed that "press and motion pictures are far behind radio as disseminators of news," in an address at New York's Hotel Shelton before the Radio Executives Club at the weekend, urging the broadcasting industry to revise its whole approach to the problem of free speech on the air.

FCC Chairman Fly declined to elaborate on his views regarding motion pictures, explaining that he did not feel prepared at this time to set forth his position in detail.

The FCC head took exception to virtually all major planks in the National Association of Broadcasters' code of ethics, which most radio stations in the country have used as a guide in handling controversial issues, and condemned the policy of CBS against "opinionated" commentators.

Fly urged the sale of time for presentation of controversies and for solicitation of memberships in such groups as labor unions and cooperatives, but strongly disapproved of commercial sponsorship of debates or forums. He warned that radio's present policy did not allow "a healthy growth and expansion in the field of free speech," but gave the networks unstinted praise as a medium for the dissemination of news, saying, "Here we have the most intelligent news service and the most capable people in the business. We can, if we will, capitalize on this great reservoir of talent, radio's own great power and its broad, tolerant management."

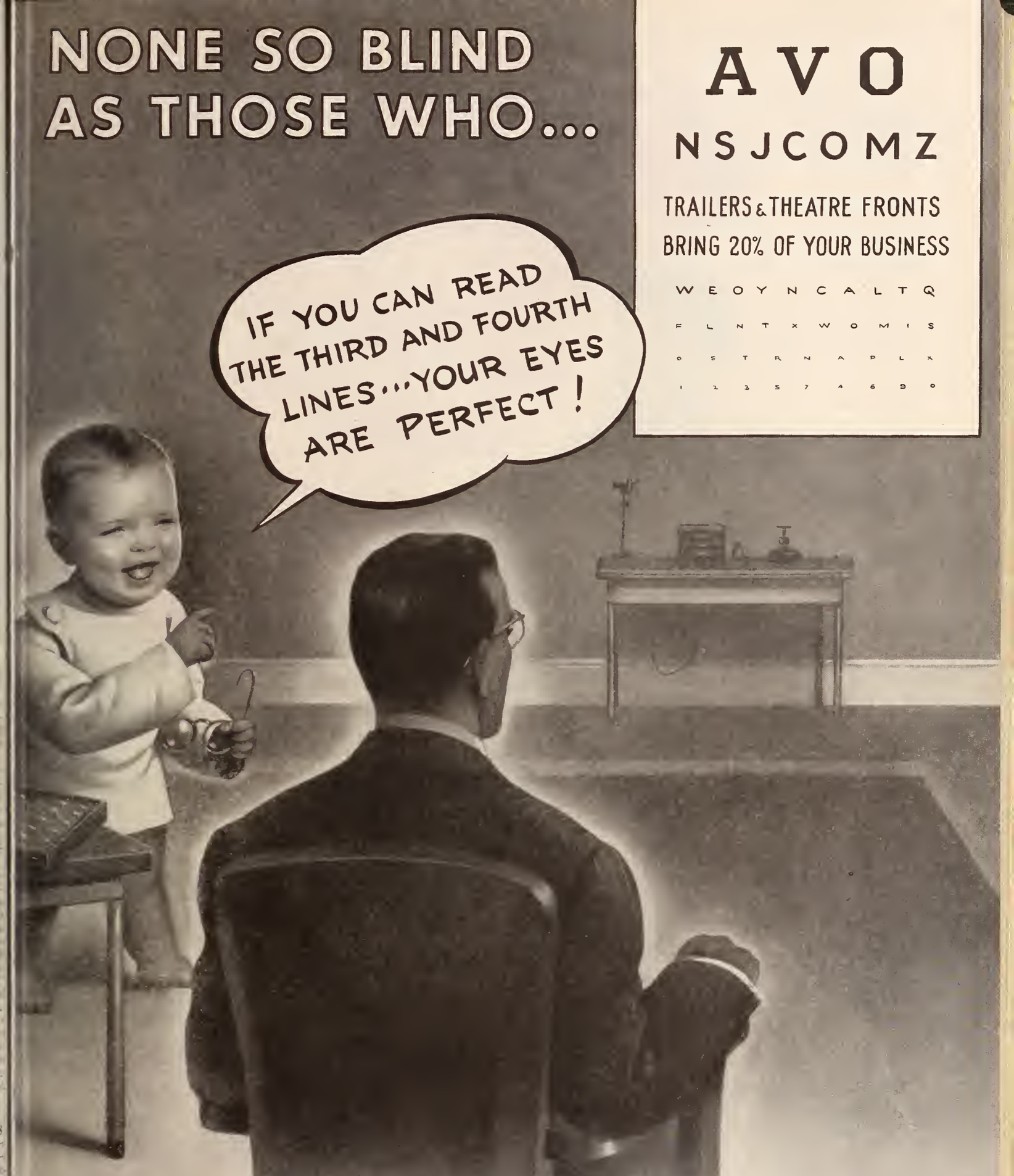
U. A. Gives Two Bonds

Ida Garretson, head of United Artists' home office purchasing department, and Terry Tedesco of the publicity department, each won a $50 War Bond offered by United Artists in connection with the company's recent war bond drive.

Sochin Promoted

CINCINNATI, Oct. 10.—Lev Bugie, 20th-Fox manager has announced the promotion of Irvin Sochin from city salesman to sales manager, a new post at the local exchange.

NONE SO BLIND AS THOSE WHO...



On June 28th, Motion Picture Daily stated that a survey conducted by Dr. Leo Handel for Metro, proved that "Trailers are responsible for 16.4 per cent draw; attractive theatre fronts, 3.6 per cent."

Let every American GIVE so the National War Fund may LIVE!

IATIONAL SCREEN SERVICE CORPORATION

"TOP MAN" TOPS "Mister BIG" in first 10 openings!

The only tune that he can play is GREAT at the box office every day...

UNIVERSAL PICTURES *presents*

DONALD O'CONNOR • SUSANNA FOSTER
LILLIAN GISH • RICHARD DIX
and **PEGGY RYAN** *in*

"TOP MAN"

with
ANNE GWYNNE • NOAH BEERY, Jr. • BORRAH MINEVITCH RASCALS
BOBBY BROOKS QUARTETTE and COUNT BASIE and His Orchestra

Screen Play, Zachary Gold • Original Story by Ken Goldsmith
Directed by Charles Lamont • Associate Producer Bernard W. Burton

Let's All Give!
National War Fund
Which Gives to All!

Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 70 — NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1943 — TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Bioff Tells Of Payments To Racketeers

Demands Made on All Chicago Theatres

William Bioff, convicted film industry extortioner, told with evident relish yesterday how he and "the boys from Chicago," remnants of Al Capone's crime empire, extorted thousands of dollars from motion picture producing companies in 1935.

Bioff, chief Government witness at the trial of six Chicago hoodlums and two others, including Louis Kaufman, business agent of Local 244, Motion Picture Operators Union, who are accused of aiding Bioff and George E. Browne in looting the film industry, has been on the Federal Court witness stand for two days and will resume his testimony today.

The payments of money, in sums ranging up to $25,000 or more each, from high executives of leading film companies, was a repetition of Bioff's testimony at his own trial two years ago, but yesterday, for the first time, he revealed that two-thirds of the

(Continued on page 4)

Basic Pact Awaits Extort Trial End

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 7. — Indefinite postponement of the planned New York meeting of producer representatives and union officials to discuss a new studio basic agreement covering working conditions of 30,000 industry employes, due to the trial in that city of alleged extortionists, has created no producer, union difficulties. The basic pacts involved run to the end of the year.

If new terms and conditions are not

(Continued on page 4)

New Ross Executive Post for W. I. Brown

Walter I. Brown has been named assistant general manager of Ross Federal Service, H. A. Ross announced here yesterday. Brown was formerly Ross Midwest division manager at Chicago and has been with the organization for the past 13 years, having also been manager at Cincinnati, Boston and Chicago.

Brown will be assistant to D. A.

(Continued on page 4)

Film Board to Call Exhibitors to Help Get Film Trucks

New York Film Board of Trade, composed of distributors' representatives, will call key New York exhibitors to form a committee to meet with representatives of Metropolitan film delivery systems and with Louis Nizer, board counsel-secretary, to work out a plan for obtaining WPB priorities for new trucks to replace deteriorated vehicles which threaten a breakdown of print deliveries throughout this territory with its 1,100-odd theatres.

After having received repeated rejections by the WPB of applications for trucks, the Contract Film Carriers of New York appealed to the Film Board for help, and meetings have been held between representatives of both groups. Decision by the board to have all interests institute action is understood to have been taken this week.

In addition, it is likely that exhibi-

(Continued on page 6)

Herries Named Pathe News Treasurer

James Herries has been elected treasurer of Pathe News, Inc., effective as of Nov. 1. He will fill the dual vacany created by the resignations of Leon Goldberg, treasurer, and A. J. MacPhail, assistant treasurer. Goldberg has been appointed manager of RKO Radio Pictures Hollywood studio, and MacPhail, who has been with Pathe News since 1931,

(Continued on page 4)

Chicago Theatres Start Dimming

Chicago, Oct. 7.—Lights in Chicago's Loop, which has been one of the brightest spots in the nation in the war, are starting to dim.

Cooperating with the requests of the WPB and other government agencies in a voluntary program to save manpower, transportation, fuel and critical materials, Balaban & Katz has ordered a 50 per cent reduction in all exterior lighting and other theatres are following.

Decree Talks Are Slated for Today

Consent decree signatories and Assistant U. S. Attorneys General Tom C. Clarke and Robert L. Wright are scheduled to resume discussions here today on the nature of a new or revised decree to replace the existing document which expires on Nov. 1.

At today's conference, which will again be held in the Arbitration Association's chambers at Rockefeller Center, it is expected that the com-

(Continued on page 4)

Treasury Rules on Salesmen's Salaries

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7. — The Internal Revenue Bureau announced tonight that employers, without formal approval, may pay salesmen's com-

(Continued on page 6)

WPB Orders 50% Cut in Tube Supply

Effect on Theatres Is Held Uncertain

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—An accentuated shortage of electronic tubes has necessitated a reduction of about 50 percent in War Production Board allotments to all claimant agencies for the current quarter, it was learned here today. The tubes are used in theatre reproducing and studio recording systems, besides their use in numerous other fields, including radio.

How much, if any, of a cut will be necessary in supplies for producers and exhibitors has not yet been worked out, but Allen G. Smith, chief of the WPB theatre equipment section, was hopeful of continuing to secure at least a fair allocation of tubes for theatres as he has in the past.

While the overall allocation for ci-

(Continued on page 6)

Congress Probe of OWI Seen Near

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—Congressional investigation of OWI's activities abroad was in the cards tonight after five U. S. Senators, just returned from a 40,000-mile tour of the battlefronts, told the Senate in a closed session what they saw and heard during their 65-day trip.

(President Roosevelt today sent to Congress a request for an additional appropriation of $5,000,000 for the OWI.)

The Truman Committee is ex-

(Continued on page 6)

Majors in Australia Cut To 8 Prints Per Picture

By MILT LIVINGSTON

"The raw stock situation in Australia has become exceedingly acute and American distributors are not permitted to make more than eight prints of any picture," Harry Hunter, Paramount's managing director for Australia, here for conferences with home office executives, revealed yesterday.

"The U. S. Government's 25 per cent restriction on the exportation of raw stock, coupled with the Australian government's taking 20 per cent of the raw stock for its own use, has cut footage available to American distributors in Australia by 45 per cent," Hunter explained.

Film rental ceilings in Australia

(Continued on page 6)

Canadian Dimout Rules to Be Changed

TORONTO, Oct. 7.—H. J. Symington, Canadian Power Controller, today announced that preparations were under way for modification of dimout restrictions in business sections of Canadian cities to provide outdoor illumination in the interests of public safety, but it is understood that the ban will continue on lighting of billboards and window displays to conserve electricity for war factories.

Expectation here is that theatres will be able to increase lights in entrances but marquee lighting will continue restricted.

World Release for Good Films: Hicks

"Paramount would like to see the British industry make good pictures. The more they make, the better it will be for us," John Hicks, Paramount vice-president and foreign manager, who returned from a month's visit abroad this week, said here yesterday.

"Competition is the life-blood of trade," he declared. "If J. Arthur Rank makes the type of pictures that

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

PAUL LAZARUS, JR., United Artists advertising and publicity director, will leave for Hollywood tonight.

•

ELLIOTT D. TROTTA, 17-year-old son of Vincent Trotta, National Screen Service Art director, was feted at a party yesterday prior to his reporting to the Navy.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount Western division manager, will leave today on a tour of exchanges in his territory.

•

FRANK WEINSTEIN, manager of the Eastwood Theatre, East Hartford, Conn., has resigned to go into defense work.

•

WOLFE COHEN, Warner Canadian district sales manager, will return to Toronto over the week-end after several days in New York.

•

T. J. BRAGG of General Theatres Corp., Toronto, has returned from vacation.

•

SAM GLAZER, of the Toronto office of Columbia, has been ordered to take a three-months' rest for his health.

•

FRED JOYCE, special representative of David O. Selznick, has left Hollywood for an Eastern visit.

•

IRA MEINHARDT, attorney for Contract Film Carriers, New York, reports today for induction.

•

MAJOR THORNTON FREELAND of the U. S. Army Signal Corps, is now in Italy.

•

SIDNEY HYAMS, British exhibitor, is expected to return to England over the week-end.

•

ANCIL WEINSTEIN, manager of RKO Proctor's, Newark, has been inducted into the Marine Corps.

•

GEORGE KURLANSIK, owner of the Transit, Allentown, Pa., is on a Florida business trip.

•

JAMES CAGNEY is expected here today from the Coast.

20th-Fox 1943-44 Reissues Up to 4

"Banjo On My Knee," 1936 release, will be added to the revised schedule of 20th-Fox re-issues which includes "In Old Chicago," "The Rains Came" and "Under Two Flags" according to Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of world-wide distribution of 20th-Fox.

The revised schedule now stands as follows: "In Old Chicago" and "Banjo On My Knee," to be released Oct. 29, and "The Rains Came" and "Under Two Flags" to be released Nov. 26.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 7

THE Theatre Committee of Southern California, in a final report on the Third War Loan drive today, showed a bond sales total of $42,243,005 with 450 theatres and 11 exchanges cooperating. The total includes bond premieres of 46 theatres which, chairman David Bershon of the exhibitors estimated, sacrificed a $25,999 normal revenue through eliminating ticket sales.

•

"Louisville Lou," a musical, was announced today by 20th-Fox for William Perlberg's schedule. Perry Como will have one of the top roles.

•

Irving Cummings was today signed to a one-year 20th-Fox director deal. He will report to the studio after finishing "Ten Percent Woman" at Columbia.

•

Monogram added "Broadway Follies" to its schedule today with Reiger Simmons producing.

•

Margaret Ettinger will leave here Monday for the East.

'U' Declares $1 Common Dividend

J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of directors of Universal Pictures Co., Inc., stated yesterday that at a meeting held during the day, the board declared a dividend of $1.00 per share on the common stock, payable Oct. 30 to stockholders and voting trust certificate holders of record at the close of business Oct. 25. "Thus, for the first time in the history of the company, the common stockholders will receive a return on their investment," a company statement said.

In announcing the action, Cowdin stated that, "Improved earning power, plus a sounder financial framework, brought about largely through the merger of the holding and operating companies, culminated in today's action."

Schaefer in Business With 'Burma Bound'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 7.—George J. Schaefer, former president of RKO Radio and currently chairman of the War Activities Committee, will start on his own with "Burma Bound," travel exploration film of Africa, Burma and India made by the Leah Roosevelt-Armand Denis expedition three years ago.

The film is now being edited to 6,500 feet with distribution to be announced upon its completion.

Goetz, Eckman on Way to England

Ben Goetz, M-G-M's British studio managing director, and Samuel Eckman, Jr., managing director of M-G-M, Ltd., in Great Britain, are expected to leave today for Montreal to continue from there to England, where they will resume their duties.

Gallagher Is Named Herald Ad Manager

Ray Gallagher, 33 years in this industry, has been named advertising manager of *Motion Picture Herald.* He was formerly *Herald* advertising representative with Herbert V. Fecke, who this week was named ad manager of QP's MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Gallagher started in 1910 on the publicity-ad staff of the old Vitagraph in Brooklyn, later becoming private secretary to Commodore J. Stuart Blackton, head of that company's production. In 1916 he joined the late Sidney Kent's sales staff at General Film and in the same year was made branch manager of General's Albany exchange.

He returned to New York in 1918 to join the motion picture department of the *Morning Telegraph,* remaining there until 1921 when he joined the advertising department of *Motion Picture News,* later becoming ad manager. He joined *Motion Picture Herald* when the *News* was merged with *Exhibitors Herald-World* to form the *Herald.*

Industry Heads at Aldrich Fund Meet

Executives of film companies and circuits met here yesterday with Winthrop W. Aldrich, Chase National Bank board chairman, at the latter's office to discuss the industry's role in the $125,000,000 National War Fund Campaign. Aldrich outlined the industry's participation and expressed appreciation to the industry for its production of the short subject, "The Last Will and Testament of Tom Smith," which is to be shown in theatres during the campaign.

Adolph Zukor was named national chairman for the industry, and Sam Rinzler New York committee chairman. Those who attended, in addition, were Nicholas M. Schenck, Barney Balaban, N. Peter Rathvon, Spyros Skouras, Joseph Hazen, Joe McConville, Fred Schwartz, Walter Trumbull, Emile Schram and Harry P. Whelan.

Reagan, Walsh Meet With Chicago Branch

CHICAGO, Oct. 7.—Paramount's Chicago exchange staff will begin a series of conferences with home office officials today when Charles M. Reagan, assistant sales manager, and Joseph Walsh, assistant to Neil Agnew, sales manager, arrive. Tomorrow Oscar Morgan, short subject sales manager, will meet with the group, and next Monday, George Smith, Western division sales manager, will be in town.

Odlum's Atlas Buys Plaza Hotel Here

Floyd B. Odlum's Atlas Corp., large stockholders in Radio-Keith-Orpheum, Paramount and other film companies, has acquired all holdings of the U. S. Realty and Improvement Co. in the Plaza Hotel, 59th St. and 5th Ave., Odlum announced yesterday.

Cops Needed in All Mexico City Houses

Mexico City, Oct. 7.—Political differences being what they are these days exhibitors in this city are compelled to have policemen and special guards on duty within their theatres at all times.

Typical experience was the riot provoked here this week at the Cine Magerit, first-run, over the showing of Spain's Franco in a March of Time reel from the U. S.

NEW YORK THEATRE

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
ERIC KNIGHT'S beloved novel
"LASSIE COME HOME"
with RODDY McDOWALL—DONALD CRISP
An M-G-M Picture in Technicolor
Gala Stage Revue Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-460

RADIO CITY MUSIC HAL

Jean Arthur • John Wayne
In
"A Lady Takes a Chance"
IN PERSON
VAUGHN MONROE
AND BAND
BOB EVANS
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE BACK THE ATTACK

★ SONJA HENIE
Jack OAKIE • Cesar ROMERO • Carole LANDIS
Wintertime
20th
WOODY HERMAN and Hi Orchestr
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
In Technicolor!
'Du BARRY WAS A LADY'
Red Skelton Lucille Ball Gene Kelly
IN PERSON
JOE RINES and Orch.
LULU BATES
Extra!
CHICK CHANDLER

RKO PALACE B'WAY 47th S
BASIL RATHBONE NIGEL BRUCE
"SHERLOCK HOLMES FACES DEATH"

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SRO (as if you didn't know!) stands for **SWEET ROSIE O'GRADY**

It's **SRO** in Los Angeles! Three day-and-date runs are doing a terrific **133%** of "Coney Island" grosses! And in smaller towns (like Long Beach and Riverside) or the in-between towns (like Albuquerque) it's the same **SRO** sock!

BETTY GRABLE,
ROBERT YOUNG and
Adolphe Menjou-- in
WEET ROSIE O'GRADY
n technicolor - - - -
directed by Irving
ummings --produced by William
erlberg -- William Goetz in
Charge of Production--
rom the studio
SRO hits!...

"LET'S ALL GIVE TO THE NATIONAL WAR FUND WHICH GIVES TO ALL!"

20th CENTURY-FOX

'Sandy' Lazar 'A Hero of the War'

Gloversville, N. Y., Oct. 7.—Termed one of "the great heroes of this war" by Brig. Gen. U. G. Ent, headquarters, U. S. Ninth Army, Sergeant Sander (Sandy) Lazar, formerly Schine assistant publicity chief, has been recommended for a gallantry award, and the recommendation approved by Maj. Ben. Lewis H. Brereton.

Sergeant Lazar, young flier son of Major and Mrs. Lou Lazar, was officially reported missing. In a stirring letter to his mother, General Ent revealed that he took part in the historic raid on the Ploesti oil fields and refineries in Roumania, Aug. 1. It was on this raid that the bomber, of whose crew he was a member, was forced down. No word has been heard from the men aboard since.

WLB Approves Ace Film Lab. Raises

Regional War Labor Board here has approved salary increases ranging from $4 to $6 weekly retroactive to Jan. 15, 1943, for 25 employees of Ace Film Laboratories, represented by M. P. Office Employees Union, Local 23169, AFL. WLB has also approved six job classifications established by the union and the company with minimums and maximums ranging from $24 to $60.

MPOE contract with Ace Film Lab., a Warner subsidiary, is for two years and provides for a reopening of salary negotiations on Mar. 1, 1944. Classifications, job definitions and rates were worked out by Joseph R. Spray, representing the company, and Russell M. Moss, union president.

Allport, Reeve Speak To Publicity Heads

Fayette Allport, London representative of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, now here, spoke on industry activities in the United Kingdom during wartime, and Arch Reeve, secretary of the Western division of the MPPDA public relations committee, discussed studio public relations problems at a meeting yesterday of the Industry Service Bureau.

S. Barret McCormick, RKO adpublicity head, presided at the session, due to the absence of Maurice Bergman of Columbia, head of the bureau.

Decree Talks Are Slated for Today

(Continued from page 1)

pany representatives will submit information on film terms and playing policies requested by Clark and Wright at a session last Monday.

Film terms and prices in relation to present day production and operating costs are understood to be high on the list of decree topics.

Clark, on Monday, indicated that future procedure in connection with the decree may be completed soon after the session today, pointing out that many decisions may hinge on the outcome of the meeting.

Bioff Tells of New York And Chicago Shakedowns

(Continued from page 1)

money he collected went to members of the Capone ring, under an "or else" command, and one-third went to Browne and Bioff, the IATSE, of which Browne was president, getting nothing.

Strike Threats Voiced

Strike threats against operators of large chains of theatres, including Loew's, Warner Brothers, Paramount and 20th Century-Fox, Bioff testified, caused the heads of those companies to "come across" with large sums rather than face the alternative of having their businesses crippled.

Some of those who made large payments to Bioff, the racketeer said, after Nicholas M. Schenck and "others" had agreed to pay the racketeers $50,000 a year from the major companies and $25,000 a year from the minors, including RKO and Columbia, were Albert Warner; his secretary, "a young lady"; Austin Keough, Sidney Kent and the auditor for Warner Brothers.

After the "boys from Chicago" moved in and took command of the IATSE through the election of Browne as president, Bioff said, Nick Circella, Chicago hoodlum, who has pleaded guilty to a similar extortion charge, was placed in charge of the projectionists union in Chicago, Local 110.

Soon after, he said, relatives and friends of most of the defendants on trial were given jobs as projectionists at wages of between $90 and $100 per week, while the regular union members had to seek employment elsewhere."

Not in IATSE

Judge John Bright, presiding at the trial, brought out that none of the defendants on trial was a member of the IATSE, although Bioff testified that John Rosselli, former husband of June Lang, film actress, was on the payroll of a West Coast local for $194 a week.

"What did he do for the money?" asked the judge.

"Not a thing," replied Bioff.

Bioff said he met Rosselli in Al Capone's Florida home and was told by Capone to "do something for him."

Bioff testified earlier that Circella valued Rosselli because the latter presumably had the confidence of Pat Casey, in charge of labor relations for Hollywood studios. Bioff described an incident which he said occurred when he and Browne went to see Casey about the IATSE regaining jurisdiction over certain Hollywood locals which had been lost several years earlier. Circella was to have accompanied them, Bioff testified, but because they believed him to be intoxicated at the time and did not wish to introduce to Casey a person who was not "presentable," they made the call without him. Subsequently, Bioff said, Circella conferred with Rosselli and was able to relate thereafter what occurred at the meeting with Casey.

Election of Browne

Bioff also testified earlier that after the Chicago racketeers had interested themselves in the IATSE they were able to have Browne elected president by contacting their outside "connections" for the purpose of overcoming the opposition to Brown which had cost him the presidency in 1932. Bioff identified the "connections" as Abe Zwillman in New Jersey; Louis (Lepke) Buchalter and Lucky Luciano in New York; Al Palizzi in Cleveland, and Johnny Dougherty in St. Louis. Lepke and Luciano were ordered, Bioff said, to see that Local 306, New York, voted for Browne. Bioff quoted Lepke as saying he could handle New York and New Jersey himself.

Bioff said yesterday that in addition to the money obtained from the film companies here, $100,000 was obtained from Chicago circuits after a two-men in a booth demand had been made, and $150,000 from New York circuits for disposing of wage increase demands by Local 306.

Demand $60,000

Bioff said that in the Chicago extortion Jack Miller, former head of the Chicago Exhibitors Association, was asked for $60,000 as the Balaban & Katz share; that the sum was subsequently paid in the form of a bill submitted by a lawyer for the racket; that the Warner Circuit there paid $30,000 after demands had been made upon James Coston, and that Essaness Theatres, an independent circuit, paid $10,000. He said that demands also were made upon independent exhibitors in Chicago through Allied Theatres of Illinois. The demands in this instance, Bioff said, were made upon the late Aaron Saperstein, then president of the organization, and payment was made through William Pacelli, former Chicago alderman and politician.

Chicago Union Is Worth $162,000

CHICAGO, Oct. 7.—Complete financial statement was sent, for the first time, to all members of the Chicago Operators Union yesterday including a statement of income and expenditures with all salaries and expenses itemized. Net worth of $162,000 is shown in the balance sheet.

John Devine Switches

John E. Devine, former advertising manager of Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Co., has joined the executive staff of Anderson, Davis & Platte, Inc., advertising agency. Devine will be in charge of traffic and production.

Basic Pact Awaits Extort Trial End

(Continued from page 1)

set by the end of the year, the current status will continue and adjustments, if necessary, will be made retroactive to the expiration of the current pact. Producers and unions did this once before.

New Ross Executive Post for W. I. Brown

(Continued from page 1)

Ross to allow the latter to devote more time to executive operation and personal contact with branch offices.

J. C. Page of Dallas has been made Chicago branch manager.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Oct.

WHEN "Mr. Co-Ed", starrin Red Skelton and Esther Wil liams, comes to the screen it will pre sent to theatregoers something new i Latin American rhythms.

It is a "pasillo," a native Venez elan rhythm which Xavier Cugat an his band play for the first time in an picture in the M-G-M production no before the cameras with George Sid ney directing.

Listening to Cugat rehearse th "pasillo," which has something of th conga, the rumba and the samba, an is yet distinctive, prompted an inquir Cugat described it as an America waltz with the hot foot. The band leader was recently awarded Vene zuela's Simon Bolivar cross.

•

Paul Henreid has been assigned t play the part of the concert pianist i Warner's remake of "Outwar Bound," according to Jack L. Warne . . . The same studio has elevated Jac Carson to stardom because of h work in recent productions. . . . Har Sherman's "Buffalo Bill" resume shooting at Fox when Joel McCre the star, arose from the sick bed. . . . George Raft and Zorina are dancin to a "beguine" tune in "Three Chee for the Boys" at Universal. It is new one by Walter Donaldson ent tled "Tonight."

•

Victor Saville returned from Ne York and put his "Heart of City," starring Rita Hayworth an Janet Blair, into preparation a Columbia . . . Fritz Lang is testin possible feminine leads for "On Off Guard," PCA production f UA release, while on his curre trip to New York the studio a nounced. . . Art work of Bernar Herzbrun for "Knickerbocker Hol day," will become a traveling e hibit for leading universities, Pr ducer Harry Joe Brown announce

Sec. Perkins Again Lauds Film Industr

BOSTON, Oct. 7.—The motion pi ture industry came in for added prai today from Secretary of Labor Fra cis Perkins in an address before t national convention of the Americ Federation of Labor here. She d clared that the industry had adapt itself quickly to changed war con tions and deserved much praise f its efforts.

"The film industry can take gre praise in what it has done in this w and organized labor can likewise ta pride in its accomplishment," she sa In a speech to the convention la Tuesday, Miss Perkins praised su pictures as are calculated to keep morale among soldiers.

Herries Named Path News Treasur

(Continued from page 1)

retires to his farm at Searsmo Maine.

George Ronan will continue wi Pathe News as an assistant treasur

EYES ON FAMED MUSIC HALL!

Watch the World Premiere at Radio City Music Hall!
M-G-M's "LASSIE COME HOME" starts its hit career.
A huge magazine campaign spans the nation.
Chosen by editors as The Picture of the Month.
Tell your patrons: "Watch for 'LASSIE COME HOME'!"
Its thrills and throbs all in glorious Technicolor.
A topper among M-G-M's great group "12 Toppers"!

•

"LASSIE COME HOME" with RODDY McDOWALL • DONALD CRISP • LASSIE • Dame May Whitty • Edmund Gwenn Nigel Bruce • Elsa Lanchester • Screen Play by Hugo Butler • Based Upon the Novel by Eric Knight, author of "This Above All" • Directed by FRED M. WILCOX • Produced by SAMUEL MARX • A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

WPB Orders 50% Cut In Tube Supply

(Continued from page 1)

vilian use may be cut 50 per cent or more, it was explained, the actual cut for individual uses will depend upon their importance, with motion pictures high on the priorities list.

Efforts are being made to expand production facilities to provide for the increasing military demand, thus easing the civilian supply situation. Tube conditions have been tight for many months, but it has been possible to secure enough to meet actual needs of exhibitors and studios.

WPB Modifies Radio Equipment Rules

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—All controls affecting maintenance, repair and operating supplies for broadcasting were today consolidated by the WPB in one order.

Broadcasters will continue to enjoy an AA-2 rating and "MRO" symbol for obtaining maintenance, repair and operating supplies, but a new provision was incorporated denying the use of ratings and allotment symbol for the purchase or repair of tubes unless the applicant's supply of tubes is at a prescribed minimum. The restriction, however, will not seriously affect the average section, it was stated.

WPB Relaxes Photo Equipment Curbs

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7. — The War Production Board tonight lifted restrictions on the sale of photoflash and photoflood incandescent lamps for civilian use heretofore acquired only under preference ratings.

Only a limited quantity of the lamps will be made available through wholesalers and dealers who have previously been required to reserve their stocks for rated orders, it was said, since WPB will maintain control of production and distribution.

Relaxation of the restrictions was made possible because the demand has decreased due to the restrictions on sales of film.

Carter to Handle Radio in East for 'U'

David Carter has been appointed radio co-ordinator for the New York office of Universal Pictures, it was announced yesterday by Maurice Bergman, Eastern advertising and publicity manager.

Carter will serve under Bergman and Robert D. Hussey, director of radio activities, handling Eastern contacts on all phases of radio including publicity, advertising and exploitation in connection with the company's product and personalities.

Herkowitz Honored

Fred Herkowitz of RKO Theatres' publicity department, who goes into the Army next week, was honored at a luncheon at the Hotel Abbey here, yesterday, by associates.

Among those present were: Harry Mandel, H. R. Emdee, Charles McDonald, Rutgers Neilson, Louis Goldberg, Leon Bamberger, Edward Snideman, Michael Edelstein and others.

Majors in Australia Cut To 8 Prints Per Picture

(Continued from page 1)

which would fix film rental prices at the level of April 15, 1942, are still in the discussion stage, Hunter revealed. They have been ordered but have not yet been enforced.

"Staffs of the distributors are now pretty well stabilized since the 20 per cent personnel cut effected in June and July," Hunter said in commenting on the distributor manpower shortage created by the calling up of men for armed services and the directing of women into war industries.

"American films in Australia are enjoying long runs," he said. "But distributors are having difficulty in getting playing time," Hunter revealed in pointing out that the Prince Edward, one of the leading theatres playing Paramount product, will only have six programs this year as compared to a 16 to 18 average in previous years.

Want War Films

"Australian patrons want some war films," Hunter said. "They have been taught to expect and demand a three-hour show," he explained in commenting on the future of double features in Australia.

Charles Chauvel's production of "Rats of Tobruk" is the only production activity in Australia at the present time. Two theatres in Brisbane and two in Sydney give Sunday showings for servicemen, but there are no Sunday showings in Melbourne.

Hunter plans to return to Australia by boat some time in November.

Exchanges Join in Appeal for Trucks

(Continued from page 1)

tors, truckers and the exchange members of the Film Board will call upon the industry's War Activities Committee for its help in presenting the acute delivery problem to the War Production Board in Washington, for relief to maintain schedules which have already been curtailed by gas and tire reductions.

Irving Dollinger, Fred Schwartz and Sam Rinzler are among those who have been mentioned as candidates to represent the exhibitors.

The truckers, it is said, can now obtain half-ton trucks, under a recent easing of WPB prohibitions on commercial truck purchases, but this size vehicle would require several trips daily in lieu of the present single-trip daily under OPA regulations.

'Army' to Benefit Canadian Army Fund

TORONTO, Oct. 7. — Arrangements were completed today for diversion of a substantial percentage of the rentals of Canadian bookings on "This Is the Army" to the Canadian Army Show and Recreation Fund while a further percentage will go from Canadian rentals to the U. S. Army Fund as in the case of playdates of this picture in the States under the original arrangements of the distributing company. The picture is scheduled for its next opening at the Imperial Theatre here.

World Release for Good Films: Hicks

(Continued from page 1)

stand up, he will get the world release for his pictures which he seeks," Hicks added. This would also apply to Rank's releasing his films in the American market which he is believed anxious to do.

Commenting on British reaction to American war films, Hicks explained that it all depends upon the approach to the war in the picture. "If you have a good story and give it a good production, and your approach is different, you will make money," Hicks said in pointing to the business being done by some Hollywood war films in England.

Paramount at present has no plans to make additional pictures in England—besides the two for which they have already made arrangements with Rank. Rank will continue to operate Paramount's eight theatres in England under a leasing arrangement which has been in effect since 1939. Hicks held discussions on Paramount's post-war plans while abroad but would not divulge their nature other than to reveal that David Rose, Paramount's British managing director, will come here for another conference at the end of the year for post-war purposes.

Speaking about manpower problems in distribution in England, Hicks revealed that in most cases female employees are under 18 since women between 18 and 40 must serve in a war service or war industry. The film industry is still losing men to war and war industries, and the turnover is tremendous, Hicks commented.

Theatre attendance in Britain is at its highest peak in history, Hicks reported.

Treasury Rules on Salesmen's Salaries

(Continued from page 1)

missions due for September or October if neither the rate of commission nor other compensation has been increased since Oct. 2, 1941. However, it was ruled, in cases where there has been an increase in either the rate of commission or other compensation, application must be filed for approval.

Payment of commission for the remainder of the year will be dealt with in a statement to be issued within the next few days following further consideration of representations received during conferences which were held this week with employers and employees.

B-51 Donates $1,679

Film Exchange Employees Union, Local B-51, IATSE, has turned over to Thomas Murtha, president of the Central Trades and Labor Council of Greater New York, a check for $1,679 representing contributions of one day's pay by each member of Local B-51 to the New York Labor War Chest. The members earmarked $500 to be contributed to the Will Rogers Memorial. Lou Johnson is president of B-51.

30,869 Donors from New York Theatres

New York City's film houses which since Feb. 8 have been participating in a drive to recruit blood donors for the Red Cross, have to date sent 30,869 volunteers to that organization, it was announced yesterday by Eddie Dowden, of Loew's, who is handling the campaign for the WAC.

The New York plan of having Red Cross nurses stationed in four or five different theatre lobbies each week, has met with such success that it was adopted in other key cities throughout the country.

Congress Probe of OWI Seen Near

(Continued from page 1)

pected to go into the OWI situation without delay. Criticism of OWI, it was said, ranged all the way from failure to disseminate the news to efforts to sell "the American way of life" in India through a large organization maintained in that country.

Today's disclosures on OWI activities, the first to be made on the basis of actual studies abroad, capped repeated criticisms in Congressional circles of the OWI's film and radio operations and led to a demand for immediate investigation.

The committee headed by Sen. Truman has sifted many phases of the war effort and its reports have forced many changes in the policies of departments and agencies. Its study of OWI, therefore, promises to be a complete airing of just what the Elmer Davis organization is doing and how it does it.

Paley, Head of CBS, Accepts OWI Post

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—William S. Paley, president of Columbia Broadcasting System, has accepted a special assignment for a limited time to head up OWI's radio work at General Eisenhower's headquarters abroad, it was announced tonight by Elmer Davis, director of OWI.

Paley will join C. D. Jackson, director of all OWI operations in Italy, North Africa and the Middle East, and will operate with the Army's Psychological Warfare Branch.

Kesten Promoted

Paul W. Kesten, formerly vice-president and general manager of CBS, has been elevated to the post of executive vice-president by an unanimous vote of the CBS board of directors yesterday.

Harry Silver Dies

HAMILTON, O., Oct. 7.—Harry Silver, 62, who, with Harry Turberg, managed the Northio Palace Theatre here, died this week of a heart condition in the Henroitan Hospital, Chicago, where he had been undergoing treatment. Burial will be in the Jewish cemetery here. Two brothers and a sister survive.

BETTER THAN EVER

The high quality and exceptional uniformity of Eastman motion picture films not only have been maintained, but have been improved under the tremendous pressure of wartime production—a real triumph of precision manufacturing. Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*
Fort Lee Chicago Hollywood

EASTMAN FILMS

'Bell Tolls' Does Tremendously in Denver: $30,000

DENVER, Oct. 7.—"For Whom the Bell Tolls" at the Denham Theatre is expected to gross $30,000, while "Destroyer" on a dual at the Denver will probably hit $13,750, and "Ravaged Earth," on a twin bill at the Paramount, pointed to $7,500 for the week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 4-6:

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (30c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $3,750. (Average, $2,500)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
"Mexican Spitfire's Blessed Event" (RKO)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (30c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $2,500. (Average, $2,500)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
DENVER — (2,600) 40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,750. (Average, $11,00)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
DENHAM — (1,750) (77c-$1.12-increased prices) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average, $6,400)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,750. (Average, $3,000)
"Ravaged Earth" (States Rights)
"Here Comes Kelly" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $5,000)
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
"Spotlight Scandals" (Mono.)
RIALTO—(900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $4,725. (Average, $3,500)

'Bell' a Startler On $27,000 Take

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 7. — Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" is doing a startling business at the Circle here at advance prices, for a gross of $27,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 5-7:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
CIRCLE—(2,800) ($1.10) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average, $11,000)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (W.B.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $11,500)
"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"That Nazty Nuisance" (UA)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $9,900)
"Heaven Can Wait" (20th-Fox)
LYRIC—(2,000) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $4,500)

'Country Gentleman' Polling Film Tastes

Country Gentleman magazine is polling 350,000 farm and small town filmgoers to determine whether rural folks have the same taste in pictures as suburbanites.

The poll is being conducted through 11,000 clubs, representing a cross section of America's farm and small town population. Each club is being given a list of pictures released between Nov. 1, 1942, and Oct. 31, 1943, for balloting.

Hodge to Speak

CHICAGO, Oct. 7.—Thomas Hodge, film officer of British Information Service, will address the opening fall meeting of the Better Films Council of Chicagoland on Friday, Oct. 15, in the Republic Building. His subject, "Mobilizing the Movies," will be illustrated by short films.

Review

"Footlight Glamour"
(Columbia)

Hollywood, Oct. 7

"FOOTLIGHT GLAMOUR," newest in the Blondie series, produced and directed by Frank Strayer, stands up well with the others for comedy in spite of a slow-moving story.

Blondie becomes infected with the theatre bug when Dagwood brings home the daughter of a client of his boss to stay a couple of weeks while a big deal is being closed. The girl's father is against the stage and had brought his daughter to town to get her away from it and away from a would-be stage director whom he thinks is a fortune-hunter. In spite of his efforts to keep the latter away, the father of the stage-struck girl returns to find her entangled in a play, with the fortune-hunter he despises and Blondie and Dagwood in the midst of it. Just as he's about to renounce the deal, Dagwood's blundered efforts to act expose the director to the girl, she renounces all interest in the stage and everyone is happy. Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake carry on as usual with excellent support from Jonathan Hale, Larry Simms and Daisy and her pups. Script is by Karen DeWolf and Connie Lee from the Chic Young comic strip.

Running time, 70 minutes. "G."* JACK CARTWRIGHT

"G" denotes general classification.

Pittsburgh's Best, 'Claudia' at $10,500

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 7. — Three war bond previews, with total sales of $3,890,000 in bonds, made this an historical week in Pittsburgh entertainment. Even with schedules interrupted by the previews, regular shows did better than might have been expected. "Claudia" was still going great at the Fulton, getting $10,500 in its third week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 12-14:

"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
FULTON—(1,700) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $7,700)
"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-60c) 6½ days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $9,300)
"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
PENN—(3,400) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days (exclusive of bond premiere). Gross: $14,500. (Average, $16,800)
"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week, on a moveover after one week at the Penn, one at Warners. Gross: $3,500. (Average, $2,800)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-60c) 6½ days, 2nd week, on a moveover after one week at the Harris. Gross: $3,750. Average, $3,200)
"Hitler's Madman" (RKO)
STANLEY—(3,800) (35c-50c-75c). On stage: 6 days of vaudeville, including Clyde Lucas' band and the Ink Spots. Gross: $23,000. (Average, $19,200)
"Johnny Come Lately" (U.A.)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover after one week at the Penn. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $6,900)

'U's' Non-Theatrical Department Moves

Universal's non-theatrical department under Herman Stern has moved its offices from the home office in the RCA building and will be quartered in the Universal exchange at 630 9th Ave., from now on. The move results in added quarters for Universal's publicity and exploitation department at the home office.

Clyde B. Davis Resigns

Clyde Brion Davis, "This Is America" writer, has resigned from Pathe News to become an associate editor with Farrar & Rinehart, book publishers.

K.C. Pays $18,000 For 'Matrimony'

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 7. — "Holy Matrimony" is grossing an estimated total of $18,000 at three day-and-date first-runs, at the Esquire, Uptown and Fairway, to lead. Largest single take is for "Swing Shift Maisie," accompanied by "Appointment in Berlin," grossing approximately $17,500 at the Midland. Generally, receipts are better than for the previous week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 6-7:

"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $5,000)
"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
"Appointment in Berlin" (Col.)
MIDLAND—(3,600) (35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average, $14,000)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (35c-50c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $10,900)
"The Constant Nymph" (WB)
"Mexican Spitfire's Blessed Event" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (35c-50c, except Saturday and Sunday, 40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average, $10,000)
"It's a Great Life" (Col.)
"Honeymoon Lodge" (Univ.)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $9,400)
"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,250. (Average, $5,600)
"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $2,150. (Average, $1,450)

Ohio Reverts to Central War Time

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 7.—Ohio is reverting to Central War Time, as prescribed by the State legislature last Spring, in shifts. Some areas made the switch a few weeks ago; others turned the clocks back last Sunday and the rest will make the change next Sunday.

Steubenville, East Liverpool and Bellefontaine will remain on Eastern War Time, as well as transportation companies, federal offices and certain war industries.

Foreign House Reopens

CHICAGO, Oct. 7.—Herman Kal, formerly of the RKO Palace, has been made advertising and house manager of the Yiddish Opera House, only foreign language theatre in Chicago, which will reopen Oct. 9.

Westerns in Heavy Demand on Coast

San Francisco, Oct. 7.—Western pictures are getting a heavier play by exhibitors than ever before here, due to presence of thousands of visitors, workers and service men from the mid-West and Southwest corn and cattle belts. Grind houses are featuring Westerns almost exclusively, and the downtown Warfield, big first-run, went so far as to feature Roy Roger's "Silver Spurs" on the screen while presenting Rogers and his horse on the stage, following with "Oklahoma Kid."

Minneapolis 'Bell' Run Gets $25,00(

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 7.—"For Who the Bell Tolls" was due for an ind cated $25,000 gross in its first si days at the Orpheum Theatre, whi "Stage Door Canteen" did a health $16,000 at the State.

Estimated receipts for the wee ending Oct. 9:

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
LYRIC—(1,250) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2 week. Gross: $6,400. (Average, $4,500)
"Mr. Lucky" (RKO)
CENTURY—(1,600) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2 week. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $7,000)
"Bomber's Moon" (20th-Fox)
WORLD—(350) (40c-50c-55c-75c) 7 da Gross: $2,400. (Average, $2,200)
"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
GOPHER—(998) (35c) 7 days. Gros $4,400. (Average, $3,400)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (75c-$1.10) 6 da Gross: $25,000. (Average, $11,600)
"Stage Door Canteen" (UA)
STATE—(2,300) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gros $16,000. (Average, $12,000)
"Revenge of the Zombies" (Mono.) 3 da
"The Kansan" (UA) 3 days
ASTER—(900) (20c-30c) 7 days, with m week change. Gross: $2,800. (Avera $2,300)

'Destroyer', Dualle Gets Nice $10,00

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 7.—"Destroye and "Footlight Glamour" took $1 000 at the Loew-Poli and moved ov to the College for a second wee The dual holds at the College. the Bijou first week of "Wintertim grossed $4,000.

Estimated receipts for the we ending Oct. 7:

"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
BIJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gro $4,000. (Average, $3,600)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
COLLEGE—(1,565) (40c-50c) 7 days, 2 week. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $3,200)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
LOEW-POLI—(3,005) (40c-50c) 7 da Gross: $10,000. (Average, $9,300)
"We've Never Been Licked" (Univ.)
"Good Morning, Judge" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,373) (40c-55c) 7 da Gross: $4,500. (Average, $6,200)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (W.B.)
"Hidden Hand" (W.B.)
ROGER SHERMAN—(2,037) (40c-50c) days. Gross: $7,800. (Average, $6,200)

1,000th 'Army' Premier

The 1,000th special advanced pri local premiere of Warners' "This the Army" has been set for Wal Reade's Madison Theatre, Madis N. J., Oct. 26.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 72 — NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1943 — TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

·illion, 906 Million Bond Sale by Films

avalcade Alone Raised $1,079,586,819

The industry's participation in Third War Loan has brought nal reported total of $1,906,115,-205 in bond sales, L. C. Griffith, WAC general chairman for the campaign, reports.

L. C. Griffith

Inclusive are bond sales by the Hollywood Bond Cavalcade, the War Veteran's Bond Airmada, War Bond Premieres and miscella-us bonds sold by exhibitors during tions, rallies, "Free Movie Day,"

(Continued on page 7)

berson Probing Equipment Supply

VASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—A thor-gh canvass of the whole theatre-ipment supply situation has been tituted by John Eberson, theatre hitect and head of the theatre and tion picture unit of the Office of ilian Requirements, it was learned e today.

The study was undertaken for the pose of developing a comprehen-e picture of conditions with respect the supply of such materials as bons, electronic tubes, imitation ther for seats, steel, copper cable, pets and other items required for maintenance of theatres.

Eberson also has gone into the situ-on with suppliers to the chains and presentatives of supply houses and ns to confer with others.

hicago NSS Pays $3-$8 Pay Rise

CHICAGO, Oct. 12.—National Screen rvice employees here have received ary increases of from three to eight llars, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1943, r shipping room employees and to ct. 1, 1942, for office workers.

Several Hundred Thousands Lost By Vandalism

Wave of vandals' destruction to theatres in many parts of the country is causing damage of hundreds of thousands of dollars a year, an authority in New York conservatively estimates, with the culprits fast getting out of control in some places. Current-period climactic escapades occurred only the other day in Boston, where police were compelled to summon the aid of Army's Military Police and the Navy's Shore Patrol.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reports from the field for many weeks have repeatedly told of damage wrought, of physical attacks on members of theatre staffs, particularly ushers assigned to watch for vandalism, of slashed seats and drapes, of smoking room equipment destroyed and plumbing actually torn from walls. Even ladies' rooms have not been overlooked, both by equipment destruction and lipstick smearings on decorations, causing ruination.

Hundreds of towns have enforced nightly curfews to keep youngsters off the streets, and, thereby, out of theatres, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian, in efforts to prevent vandalism, with stiff fines facing parents for violations.

Some reasons given are: Reactions setting in on juvenile minds in the hysteria of war; war-plant occupation of thousands of mothers, with the resultant liberty of many children from parental supervision; growing independence of the modern-day youngster, et al.

Theatre operators are handicapped in curbing the rowdies by manpower shortages, and the resultant inability to sufficiently "police" their houses.

WMC Delays L.A. 48-Hour Decisions

Los Angeles, Oct. 12.—Decision by the War Manpower Commission on the appeal of Los Angeles exchanges over the local WMC mandatory 48-hour work week has been delayed due to the reshuffling of authority in the Commission's war-work-week division, here, the government agency told *Motion Picture Daily* today.

Broadway Grosses Good; $111,000 For MGM's 'Lassie'

Business at Broadway key houses this week is generally good. Aided by rave notices from newspapers, M-G-M's "Lassie Come Home" is headed for $111,000 on its first week at the Radio City Music Hall to top the list for the week.

Second week of "Wintertime" at the Roxy, with Paul Haakon, Bert Lahr, and Patricia Bowman heading the stage show, is headed for a healthy $80,000 and holds for a third and final week. Fourth and last week of "Lady Take a Chance" and Vaughn

(Continued on page 7)

Metzger to Assume WAC Post Shortly

Lou B. Metzger, West Coast theatre operator, stricken in Kansas City while on his way here last month to assume an executive post with the War Activities Committee, transferred to Lenox Hill Hospital in New York last week and left the hospital yester-

(Continued on page 7)

Sees 20% Cut, Superior Equipment In Post-War Theatre Construction

Chicago, Oct. 12.—Cost of theatre construction in the post-war period can be reduced 20 per cent according to Roy Blass, Chicago theatre architect, if the freedom from local building codes and union restrictions which the Army is now enjoying is made available to exhibitors. Plastics for facing material, inside walls, plumbing and hardware will contribute to the reduction in cost, he said.

Many changes are sure to be witnessed with the release of new construction materials such as glass, aluminum and alloyed metals but radical changes in architectural design are not to be expected, Blass said. Modern construction in theatres is more likely to conform to other new building projects. Mechanical equipment of new theatres should be far superior to present standards, he added.

Exhibitors in Protest Today On 30% Tax

Kuykendall, Myers May Be Key Spokesmen

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—Exhibitor representatives will appear before the House Ways and Means Committee tomorrow in opposition to the Treasury's proposal for a 30 per cent admission tax, and committee officials today were seeking to secure an agreement to have the whole industry represented by but one or two speakers.

Ed Kuykendall

It was pointed out that the committee has a long

(Continued on page 7)

War Prisoners to Get Brit. Theatres Fund

LONDON, Oct. 12.—Highlight of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association general council session here tomorrow will be the announcement that theatres have collected approximately $1,200,000 for the British War Prisoners Fund.

Another significant issue to be settled at the meeting is recognition of the theatre managers combination. There are two groups in the field; one, the Cinema Managers Association, has adopted a left-wing attitude demanding the right of affiliation with the trades union movement; the other, the newly formed Managers Federation, proposed "professional" recognition.

Archibald Due in New York in Week

George Archibald, director of the film division of the British Ministry of Information here, scheduled to return from London yesterday, will be delayed a week, it was stated by BMI authorities.

On his return, it is expected that negotiations will be resumed with American distributors on the latter's continuing distribution of BMI shorts.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, left New York yesterday on a sales trip that will take him to the West Coast.

•

E. T. (Peck) GOMERSALL, Universal's assistant general sales manager, will be in Chicago today on a Detroit-Chicago trip, returning to New York on Friday.

•

BARNEY COHEN has been discharged from Jewish Hospital, Philadelphia, following a kidney ailment, and has returned as manager of the Park Theatre in that city.

•

SAMUEL D. SCHWARTZ, Warner circuit real estate head in Philadelphia, is local film chairman of the United War Chest campaign, which will start on Nov. 28.

•

ALEX HILLMAN, publisher of *Movieland* magazine, has returned from his Chicago office and a five-day visit with MRS. HILLMAN at Saratoga Springs.

•

ALAN MELTZER and IRVING YERGIN of MORT BLUMENSTOCK's promotional staff at Warner Bros. are back from Midwest assignments.

•

PEARL FRISCH, daughter of Brooklyn circuit owner LOUIS FRISCH, was married Sunday to MILTON SNIDKOFF at Garfield Temple, Brooklyn.

•

SHERRILL COHEN, Hollywood circuit operator, will arrive here late this month for a New York-Baltimore visit.

•

NICHOLAS NAPOLI, President of Artkino Pictures here, has left for a tour of Artkino agencies in Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland and Minneapolis.

•

LOU BROWN, New England Loew Theatre publicity director, and HARRY SHAW, district manager, were in Hartford.

•

MRS. HAL ROACH, wife of MAJOR HAL ROACH, has arrived in town for a short visit.

•

BEN GOETZ's and SAM ECKMANN, JR.'s scheduled trip to England via Montreal has been deferred.

•

SAMUEL MARX, producer, and FRED WILCOX, director for M-G-M, are expected to leave for the coast today.

•

MARVIN SCHENCK, M-G-M Eastern talent head, has returned from Chicago.

•

FRED MEYERS, Universal's Eastern division sales manager, is due back in New York today from Cleveland.

•

VINCENT MCFAUL, Loew's Buffalo theatre affiliate, is in town.

•

ROBERT O'DONNELL, of the Texas Inter-State Circuit, is in town.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Oct. 12

CONTROL, of course, but common sense as well guides War Production Board policy on raw stock. The control is allotment to 11 distributors on the established basis of their 1941 consumption, as is widely known. It has worked so well that sqawks about film are nix.

The problem was never one for Hollywood anyway because all the negative used is infinitesimal alongside the real equation which is the tremendous footage going into release prints.

■

Since the distributor is in possession of the film and a producer cannot produce without it, there has been some feeling that new companies have been blocked unless the producer has made his releasing deal first. If and when he has, the necessary raw stock has been forthcoming, of course, and the man was in business.

Some observers have found this state of affairs highly interesting. It has been described as a perpetuation of the 11 distributors and their producing affiliations by a government ruling in effect surrounding them with a high wall of protection against new competition. The viewpoint took into account the fact the government had moved against an alleged monopoly and settled for the consent decree which expires Nov. 20. That's on the one side. On the other has been the impression a monopoly has been encouraged by freezing production through denial of raw film unless business was transacted with these existing 11 distributors.

■

In New York last fall there was excitement generated by what was organized as the Committee for the Preservation of the Independent Motion Picture Industry. Protest meetings finally ended at the office of Harold Hopper, chief of the WPB's motion picture section.

Later the committee reported its small independent producer-distributor-laboratory members would be allowed their 1941 footage along with the 11. That was a decided step in the direction of relieving misgivings and qualms.

■

The current phase in this running history focalizes in the formation of International Pictures by Bill Goetz and Leo Spitz. They have no releasing plans, but they have ambitious production plans. Goetz was an active producer in 1941, but for 20th Century-Fox which is credited with the negative and positive film required to make and release his pictures. What does Goetz do for film now?

This is the exact point where the common sense enters. As an established producer, Goetz cannot be denied the right to continue his career, nor is there any intention whatsoever to apply existing controls to such an end. His distribution may be undetermined, but not so his proposed program. International, therefore, will get whatever negative it may need out of the special raw stock pool set aside for independents.

■

Actually and practically, there is no genuine problem here although there has been much curiosity and interest over International's releasing outlet. Hopper is perfectly well aware that the company will wind up with one of the existing major distributors.

Therefore, whatever film is advanced to start International on the way is to be viewed as a consignment later to be knocked off the stockpile credited to whomever the distributor eventually turns out to be.

■

Thus, as it proves itself, established producers may change affiliations and new producers find no doors closed to them under the prevailing arrangement. What appears to be out for the duration, however, is the establishment of new distributors, for without a 1941 film backlog there is no film available unless a change in ownership takes place.

■

The common sense is Hopper's. He gets along very well with the industry which gets along very well with him. It is quite apparent his film background is the essential which serves both WPB and the business in very good stead.

As with him so does it appear reasonable to conclude it will be with Stanton Griffis in his new post with OWI. Both suggest a pattern for effective government - industry relationships in the war effort.

Washington papers, please copy.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 1

JULES LEVEY will arrive in Ne York tomorrow for a three-wee stay. While in New York he will sig additional players for "The Hair Ape." Levey has signed for four mor films for United Artists release. Pri to his leaving here, he signed Robe D. Andrews to write the final versi of "Hairy Ape."

•

PRC Pictures made a cash purcha of $60,000 worth of electrical, set, ar other equipment for its recently a quired former Fine Arts Studio. T transaction brings the total cost of t studio to $401,000.

•

W. R. Frank has added $75,000 the $500,000 budget for "Goebbels, H Life and Loves," and extended t shooting time nine days.

•

Joseph M. Schenck has arrived Mexico City where he will remain f about two weeks.

NEW YORK THEATRE

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
ERIC KNIGHT'S beloved novel
"LASSIE COME HOME"
with RODDY McDOWALL—DONALD CRISP
An M-G-M Picture in Technicolor
Gala Stage Revue Symphony Orchestra
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RADIO CITY MUSIC HAL

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"TRUE TO LIFE"
IN PERSON
THE INK SPOTS
TONY PASTOR and His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
In Technicolor!
'Du BARRY WAS A LADY'
Red Skelton Lucille Ball Gene Kelly
IN PERSON
JOE RINES and Orch.
LULU BATES
Extra!
CHICK CHANDLER

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St
Starts Tonight at 6 P.M.
"Behind the Rising Sun"
MARGO and TOM NEAL

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to just plain N-U-T-S!

Coast Manpower Problem Serious

Los Angeles, Oct. 12.—Outline of a Los Angeles-Hollywood city and countywide movement to induce vast numbers of "white collar" workers to take extra employment of four hours daily in war plants, has been made public by the Emergency Manpower Committee of the Chamber of Commerce here. Drive will be launched through a house-to-house canvass backed by meetings and the printed and spoken word, all stressing the fact that James F. Byrnes, director of the Office of War Mobilization, has served notice that the vital Los Angeles area may lose many of its war contracts if the necessary manpower fails to be produced.

125 Clevelanders Fete Harry Goldstein

CLEVELAND, Oct. 12.—Approximately 125 honored Harry Goldstein, Paramount district manager, with a farewell dinner recently at the Hollenden, prior to his leaving for a six months leave in Florida. Lester Zucker, Columbia branch manager, master of ceremonies, presented Goldstein with a wrist watch.

Local exchange men and leading exhibitors attended, as well as a large contingent of out-of-towners which included John Harris, John J. Maloney, Dave Kimmelman, Bill Brooks, Ed Steuve, Harry Feinstein, Saul Bragin, Bill Weiss, William Borack, Archie Feinman, Mike Shapiro and Dave Rigoumont of Pittsburgh; Kenneth Ray, Walter Miles of the Ohio Censor Board; J. Realneth, Max Stearns, William Pullen, Leo Yassanoff, Columbus; Joe Oulahan, Harry David, Cincinnati; A. R. Taylor, Indianapolis, and others.

Cowan to Release Two Through U.A.

Lester Cowan has signed to produce two top-bracket pictures for United Artists release, it was announced at the weekend.

"Tomorrow the World," Broadway stage play recently acquired by Cowan, will be the first. Second will be announced later, according to Edward C. Raftery, U.A. president, and George L. Bagnall, who represented the distributing company in the deal with Cowan.

Key Witnesses in Extort Case Found

Boris Kostelanetz, special Assistant U. S. Attorney-General in charge of the prosecution of the "boys from Chicago" on charges of shaking down the motion picture industry, revealed that two important witnesses, long fugitives, have been apprehended.

They are Robert McCullough, of Burnham, Ill., and Nicholas Avolio, formerly of Chicago and recently of Brooklyn.

Reviews

"The North Star"

(Samuel Goldwyn-RKO)

THE powerful human drama of playwright Lillian Hellman's story of a conquered Russian village weights this fine Samuel Goldwyn production with emotion, excitement and suspense. It is the story of civilians and, particularly, children overtaken by the catastrophe of war. Its theme, its cast, production and direction are more than likely to win it widespread and deserved critical acclaim. That is a factor which may discount a title of obscure meaning and a cast lacking in top flight star names.

Audience reaction is likely to be as diversified as individual emotions. Many who will appreciate its sincerity and its stirring drama may find it too intense to recommend to others without reservation. But it is, nevertheless, an outstanding motion picture and as such should command out of the ordinary patronage.

Miss Hellman's screenplay is a story of the war, yet not a "war story" in the sense that its emphasis is upon defenseless civilians in the path of war, rather than upon the military who wage it. The stage for its telling is set in the peaceful Russian village of North Star before the German invasion. It is a frontier village near Kiev, which with the successes of the present Russian drive has again come into the war news headlines after more than two years.

In the village there are happy families. There are the comforts, the pleasures, the romances of peaceful days, dwelt upon, it may be said, overlong and to the detriment of the early part of the film. War strikes and families are separated and there is death and suffering and destruction. And there is also the will to resist and to go on resisting. The younger men of the village become guerrillas and the elders and the children are left behind to destroy what would be useful to the enemy and to maintain liaison with their townsmen in the hills. An effort to arm the guerrillas is delayed by the advance of German troops. Meanwhile, word of the cruelties visited upon the townspeople by the invaders is brought to the men in hiding. The delayed firearms reach them as they attack the village. The Germans are annihilated and the surviving townspeople pack their effects and seek refuge in the interior.

The story in no wise is "propagandistic." Though its locale is the Soviet, it could be any other country overrun by an invader. It has the touch of universality of experience of civilians caught in the vortex of the war, and its outcry is against war itself, even more than against the German invader.

The direction of Lewis Milestone is expert and correspondingly effective. Uniformly fine performances are contributed by a large and talented cast, among them Anne Baxter, Dana Andrews, Walter Huston, Walter Brennan, Ann Harding, Jane Withers, Farley Granger, Erich Von Stroheim, Dean Jagger, Eric Roberts and many others. William Cameron Menzies was associate producer.

Running time, 105 minutes. Classification, "G."* SHERWIN KANE

"Here Comes Elmer"

(Republic)

AL PEARCE and his gang, with the able support of Jan Garber and his band, turn Republic's "Here Comes Elmer" into a pleasing little musical comedy.

The plot concerns Pearce and his double, Elmer Blurt, a salesman, and the difficulties encountered when the salesman keeps popping up at the wrong moment. Pearce's gang tie Al up with a wealthy stage aspirant, Arlene Harris, who is out to catch both a man and a career. Her money takes the gang to New York where they plan to go on a national radio hook-up, but run into obstacles through Al's connections with Elmer. Pearce portrays himself and Elmer in fine fashion and the audience is led a merry chase keeping up with both characters. Gloria Stuart is good as Pearce's fiancee and Frank Albertson and Dale Evans also turn in ample performances as band leader and vocalist, respectively. The gang is up to par, as usual, with Artie Auerbach, as Kitzel, getting in that "could be" phrase which he helped make famous, at the proper moments. Wally Vernon provides a number of good slapstick sequences and Miss Harris proves to be as good a screen comedienne as she is a radio comic.

Joseph Santley has done a good job of directing from the original screenplay by Jack Townley and Stanley Davis. It gives plenty of opportunity for cast members to show off their talents to advantage. Morton Scott's musical direction is commendable. Producer Armand Schaefer has something here that will especially appeal to film followers who are looking for escapist entertainment. Running time, 74 mins. Release date, Nov. 15. "G." HELEN MCNAMARA

"G" denotes general classification.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Oct. 12

A GREAT many of Hollywood's top stars of yesterday have gone into defense work, but Dorothy Sabastian is the first one who has risen to an important post in a highly technical job having to do with turning out fighting planes.

Miss Sabastian is now laboratory technician in charge of the department which X-rays samples of vital airplane parts at a war plant in southwest Los Angeles. She signed up as a war worker last June and holds a record of never having missed a day's work.

•

Warners reports "Watch on the Rhine," Bette Davis-Paul Lukas starrer, outstripped "Casablanca" at three first runs here by 18 percent. . . . Dana Andrews gets the male lead in Darryl Zanuck's "The Purple Heart," with Lewis Milestone directing.

•

Al Cohen put his "Fighting Seabees" before the cameras at Republic with Edward Ludwig directing Susan Hayward and John Wayne in the star roles. . . . The Art Directors Guild has elected Stephen Goosson, president; Ralph Berger secretary-treasurer; Bernard Herzbrun, re-elected vice-president, and Billy Leyser continues as business representative.

Balaban Buys Block Of AMPA Tickets

Ticket-selling Committee of the Associated M. P. Advertisers that met this week at the Edison Hotel, reported progress on the midnight preview at the Paramount Theatre of "Riding High," to be held for the benefit of the Motion Picture Relief Fund, at midnight, Oct. 22. First block of an undisclosed number was purchased by Barney Balaban, Paramount president. Leon Bamberger, member of the ticket selling committee reported that in all likelihood Frank Sinatra will attend.

Those present at the session were Vincent Trotta, president of AMPA, Jacques Kopfstein, chairman of the fund raising committee; Bamberger, Bill McKee, David Bader, Don Gillette, Max Stein, Herman Schleier, James Zabin and Charles Alicoate.

Rites for Phil Dunas Of Columbia Held

CHICAGO, Oct. 12.—Funeral service for Phil Dunas, 47, Columbia mid-Western sales manager who had been with the company for the past 15 years and who died at St. Luke's Hospital here Saturday night following an illness of several weeks, were held this morning at the Furth Chapel here.

Among those present at the rites were a Columbia home office delegation comprising Jack Cohn, Abe Montague, Rube Jackter, Joseph McConville and Lou Astor.

Bartholmew Dies

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 12.—Arthur P. Bartholomew, secretary-treasurer of Eastman Kodak Savings and Loan Association for the past 22 years, died here this week.

Bell' Breaks Cincy Rule, Gets $23,000

INCINNATI, Oct. 12.—With a few ceptions, roadshow pictures have oved unprofitable here, but "For om the Bell Tolls" promises to be of the exceptions at the RKO pitol. Based on a big opening and avy weekend business, this should around $23,000 on its initial week. Estimated receipts for the week nding Oct. 13-16:

The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 ys. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $15,800)
Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-55c) days. Gross: $12,500. (Average, $12,-0)
Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (33c-40c-44c-55c) days, 2nd week, moveover from Albee. ross: $6,000. (Average, $5,000)
For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (75c-$1.10) 7 ys. Gross: $23,000. (Average, at 33c-c-44c-55c, $6,200)
Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 ys. Gross: $4,800. (Average, $5,200)
The Strange Death of Adolph Hitler" (Univ.)
Honeymoon Lodge" (Univ.)
RKO LYRIC — (1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 ys. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $3,900)
Murder on the Waterfront" (WB)
Tenting Tonight on the Old Camp Ground" (Univ.)
RKO FAMILY (1,000) (22c-33c) 4 days. ross: $1,300. (Average, $1,400)
Hoosier Holiday" (Rep.)
Underground" (WB)
RKO FAMILY (1,000) (22c-33c) 3 days. ross: $800. (Average, $800)
Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (30c-33c-44c-55c) 7 days, d week, moveover from Palace. Gross: ,300. (Average, $5,200)

New Clearance Case, Consent Award Filed

Clearance complaint has been filed Detroit and a consent award en-red in Buffalo, the American Arbi-ation Association reported here this eek.

At the Detroit tribunal, the Claw-on Amusement Co., operator of the lawson Theatre, Clawson, Mich., led a clearance complaint against e five consenting companies. The mplainant alleges that the present earance held by the Royal Oak and Washington Theatres, Royal Oak, ver the Clawson is unreasonable and sks the arbitrator to grant a maxi-um clearance of not more than sev-days.

A consent award by stipulation was tered at the Buffalo tribunal in the mplaint of Fulton Enterprises, Ful-n, N. Y., against RKO, Loew's, arner Bros., 20th-Fox and the chine Circuit. The stipulation stat-that the Fulton's State Theatre, ulton, N. Y., may play on the second unday following the conclusion of e first run Schine's Strand and apitol, Oswego, N. Y., provided, owever, that pictures shall not be-me available to the State earlier an ten days following the conclu-on of the first runs at Oswego.

Lindau Buys Two

CHICAGO, Oct. 12.—Charles Lindau, wner of the Lewis and Garfield heatres here, has acquired the Kedzie d Kedzie Annex Theatres.

Billion, 906 Million Bond Sale by Industry

(*Continued from page* 1)

and the specially sponsored tours of Western stars.

The Hollywood Bond Cavalcade grossed $1,079,586,819 in the 16 cities visited, as follows: Boston, $200,000,000; Philadelphia, $100,000,000; New York, $152,962,500; Pittsburgh, $87,000,000; Cleveland, $143,702,000; Detroit, $47,000,000; Cincinnati, $19,961,064; Chicago, $150,000,000; Minneapolis, $19,512,000; St. Louis, $32,941,655; New Orleans, $39,015,000; Fort Worth, $13,110,000; Dallas, $37,518,000; San Antonio, $15,250,000; San Francisco, $21,614,600.

The War Veteran's Bond Airmada, which was broken up into five flight zones, each with its own company of film personalities and decorated war veterans, brought an additional $257,663,975.

Final figures for the War Bond Premieres now total $315,845,179, with 1,447 premieres contributing to this total instead of the slightly lower figure previously reported.

All reported sales in the "miscellaneous bonds" bracket reached $253,019,232. This group includes all exhibitor activities such as bond sales by theatre issuing agents, theatre bond rallies, auctions, "Free Movie Day" and bonds sold by the "Rangers." In announcing this figure, Griffith added that it did not include all exhibitor sales but took into account all those that had been reported.

Summing up his report, Griffith again expressed "appreciation to all in the industry who had cooperated so whole-heartedly in achieving a result of which the entire industry could be proud," according to the WAC announcement.

Rehearing Denied in Book Suit vs. Loew's

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12. — The Supreme Court has denied Harry Beacker, author of a book, "We Who Are Young," a rehearing of his suit against Loew's, Inc., for the recovery of damages for alleged infringement in the company's picture of the same name.

The case was heard by the court at its last term, and a decision of the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals in favor of the company was affirmed.

Astor in Canada Opening 4 Branches

TORONTO, Oct. 12.—H. G. Price, general manager of Astor Pictures, Ltd., here, changed from Superior Films, Ltd., has left to open branch offices in St. John, Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver.

Toronto office of Astor has been moved to 21 Dundas Square. An office in Montreal has also been opened.

M-G-M Story Award

M-G-M will award $100,000 to the author and $25,000 to the publisher of the best book of the year to be selected by a board, members of which will be announced later. Only manuscripts approved by class A publishing houses will be considered. M-G-M will receive film rights to the winning novel.

Broadway Grosses Generally Good

(*Continued from page* 1)

Monroe and his orchestra at the Paramount are headed for $57,000. "True to Life" and a stage show headed by Tony Pastor and his orchestra open at the Paramount today.

A $58,000 take is estimated for the third and final week of "Johnny Come Lately" at the Capitol. Universal's "Phantom of the Opera" will make its Broadway bow at the Capital on Thursday with a stage show headed by Duke Ellington and his orchestra, and featuring Lena Horne. Second week of "Thank Your Lucky Stars" and a stage show headed by Sammy Kaye and his orchestra at the Strand are headed for $50,000 and remain for a third.

'For Whom the Bell Tolls" in its 12th week at the Rivoli should hit a neat $25,000, and remains for a 13th week. The Hollywood's 11th week of "This Is the Army" is headed for $23,000, and stays for a 12th. Paramount's "Hostages" at the Globe should do $20,000 on the initial week and remains for a second. Fourth week of "As Thousands Cheer" at the Astor will bring $16,500 and holds for a fifth. Some $11,500 is estimated for the first week of "The Strange Death of Adolph Hitler" at the Rialto, and the picture holds for a second week.

"Hit the Ice" is expected to gross $16,500 on its third week at the Criterion, and remains for a fourth. Palace, with "Sherlock Holmes Faces Death," is doing $14,500, with RKO-Radio's "Behind the Rising Sun" arriving tonight.

Metzger to Assume WAC Post Shortly

(*Continued from page* 1)

day to continue his convalescence from a serious gallstone attack, in a New York hotel.

It is expected that Metzger will be ready to assume the WAC post in two or three weeks. The nature of Metzger's WAC duties have not yet been defined by Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator.

Myron Blank Feted

DES MOINES, Oct. 12.—Myron Blank of the Tri-States and Central States Theatre circuits was presented with a watch at a party and banquet given in his honor by approximately 100 employees of the two organizations and held in the Hotel Fort Des Moines the other day. H. G. Groves of Davenport and William Miskell, Omaha Tri-States district managers, were out-of-town guests. Blank will leave Friday for the Navy.

Wasserman Incorporates

HARTFORD, Oct. 12.—Certificate of incorporation has been filed with Secretary of State Mrs. Frances Burke Redick here for Wasserman Theatrical Enterprises, Inc., of New Haven, listing incorporators as Samuel Wasserman, Rose B. Wasserman, and Abraham I. Lapides.

Exhibitors in Protest Today On 30% Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

list of witnesses to hear on various phases of the tax bill and since there is no division among exhibitors as to the undesirability of the higher admission tax, the committee is anxious to avoid duplication of testimony.

If the committee' plan goes through Ed Kuykendall, president of the MPTOA, and Abram F. Myers, general counsel for Allied States, may carry the ball for the exhibitors, although it is believed more likely here that leaders of associations not affiliated with either will insist on being head spokesmen.

Among those who so far have asked for an opportunity to testify are Thomas E. Orr, secretary of the Alabama Theatre Owners Association; W. F. Crockett, president of the Virginia MPTOA; Henry Reeve, president of the Texas Theatre Owners; Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners Association; Lewen Pizor, president of United Motion Picture Theatre Owners, and M. Loewenstein, president of the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma.

In telegrams reaching the committee Myers was also named as spokesman for Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania, Allied of Iowa-Nebraska, and North Central Allied Independent Theatres, as well as the national Allied organization.

Service Men to Get Christmas Boxes

Nearly 2,500 former Loew-M-G-M employees from all branches now in the armed forces will receive Christmas packages from that company; 400 boxes, each containing 11 items have already been sent overseas. Parcels for those still in this country will be dispatched in time for holiday delivery.

Included in the gift boxes are food items and greetings from Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew president.

'Army' Is Army Champ

Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army," Warner production for Army Relief, was the top boxoffice picture in Army theatres for September, it was announced by the U. S. Army M. P. Service, Warners declare.

Four runners-up, in order of attendance they drew, were: "Johnny Come Lately," "Destroyer," Best Foot Forward" and "Let's Face It."

Variety Dinner Oct. 30

CINCINNATI, Oct. 12.—Following committee has been named for the local Variety Club's 10th anniversary dinner-dance at the Netherland Plaza, Oct. 30: Arthur Frudenfeld, Harry David, Maurice White, F. W. Huss and Noah Schecter.

AVAILABLE

A good man, 34, army-rejected, college graduate, seasoned newspaperman-publicist; experience: 7 years on newspapers, wire-service, syndicate as feature-writer, amusements specialist, reporter, deskman, rewriteman, caption-writer; 2½ years in radio, campaign, political, relief, institutional, entertainment, road-show publicity handling all phases of operation; seeking new connection with salary, responsibilities, future commensurate with experience and ability; references. Box 222, MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

News from Stage Twice Nightly

Charlotte, Oct. 12.—Something new in the way of steady news presentation will be inaugurated tomorrow at the Carolina Theatre here. Twice nightly, at 7:10 and 9:20, the management will present a five-minute news broadcast from the stage, the news coming direct from the wires of Station WBT, Columbia network outlet. This is the first time such a stunt has been used in a local playhouse. Jack Austin is manager.

MGM Staff Changes In Indianapolis

Seven promotions in M-G-M's sales personnel department at the Indianapolis exchange have been announced by the company's home office here.

Val Klaiber, former office manager, has been promoted to salesman, and is succeeded by Don MacLeod, former booker. Madalyn Cornet has been advanced from second to first booker and Marjorie Richter, former secretary to the office manager, is the new second booker. Harriet Harmon, former chief contract clerk, has been promoted to third booker. Ann Cummins and Doris Stewart, former clerks, have been advanced to chief contract clerk and booker's clerk, respectively.

SMPE Officers from East to Convention

Eastern officers of the Society of M. P. Engineers who will attend the society's fall convention in Hollywood, Oct. 18-22, include the following: E. Allan Williford, secretary and past president; Donald T. Hyndman, engineering vice-president; Arthur C. Downes, editorial vice-president; M. R. Boyer, treasurer, and Harry Smith, executive secretary. William C. Kunzmann, convention vice-president, has already arrived in Hollywood to supervise advance arrangements.

Emphasis of the technical sessions, which feature papers by many prominent motion picture engineers and executives, will center around wartime applications of motion pictures.

'Fantasy' Bows in Cincinnati, Oct. 29

"Flesh and Fantasy," Universal's Charles Boyer-Julien Duvivier production, will have its world premiere at the Albee, Cincinnati, on Oct. 29, W. A. Scully, "U's" vice-president and general sales manager, has announced.

The company will give the film an intensive premiere campaign, according to Maurice Bergman, Eastern advertising head. Hank Linet, assistant Eastern ad manager, will leave for Cincinnati later this week to supervise plans. Radio announcements, already being used, will be supplemented by a newspaper campaign.

'K-225' 1st in Ottawa

World premiere of "Corvette K-225," Universal feature produced by Howard Hawks and starring Randolph Scott, will be held Oct. 19 at the Center Theatre in Ottawa.

Off the Antenna

MEXICO's radio stations broadcast 1,518,484 programs during the year ended Aug. 31, of which 1,364,654 were commercial; 1,639 were handled by foreign networks. Of official government programs, 35,594 were "cultural" and 11,597 were "informative." The programs occupied 494,950 hours, setting a new record for Mexican radio. . . . Standards of radio news writing and radio news broadcasting curricula in schools and colleges will be discused on Friday by a sub-committee of the Radio News Committee of the National Association of Broadcasters. . . . Improvement of daytime programming; increased pickups from affiliated outlets; expansion of world-wide news coverage; concentration of services of "home-town" market stations for Mutual sponsors; and plans for FM and television, are five major conclusions to come out of the recent Mutual conferences in New York.

• • •

Purely Personal: *Marga, starred in RKO's "Behind the Rising Sun," has been chosen 'woman of the week' by Alma Kitchell's WJZ "Woman's Exchange" program. . . . Robert C. Colesan will be West Coast radio representative of the 1944 "March of Dimes" campaign. . . . Ted Lloyd of 20th Century-Fox's radio department has returned to New York after six weeks in Hollywood. . . Bob Venables, with the Chicago Opera Company for 13 years, has joined the announcing staff of WJJD in Chicago. . . . John Carney has been named a producer in CBS's program department. . . . John Simpson, former WLW newscaster, has joined the staff of WKRC in Cincinnati. . . . RKO, 20th Century-Fox and M-G-M are said to be interested in securing the services of Beatrice Kay, who will soon make a four-week personal appearance at the Roxy Theatre, New York.*

• • •

Program Notes—Jerry Lawrence of WMCA's "Theatre of the Air" is being offered a program on DuMont's television station. . . . Richard Carlson will star in a CBS "Stars Over Hollywood" drama on Oct. 16. . . . Mary Martin will do a "preview" of her new Paramount picture, "True To Life," when she guest-stars on the Kate Smith show on Friday. . . . Rosalind Russell will be a CBS "Silver Theater" visitor on Oct. 17. . . . "Here's To Romance," starring Dick Haymes with Jim Ameche acting as emcee, makes its CBS debut tomorrow. . . . Phil Silvers, currently working in Columbia's "Cover Girl," will be Dinah Shore's guest on her CBS program tomorrow. . . . Raymond Massey will be featured in a CBS "Radio Reader's Digest" drama on Oct. 17. . . . Jane Darwell, Academy Award winner, will be featured in a Civil War drama on the NBC "Cavalcade of America" program, Oct. 18. . . . Jose Iturbi, who turned actor in M-G-M's "As Thousands Cheer," will try his hand at "boogie-woogie" on the Amos and Andy NBC show on Friday. . . . Bud Abbott and Lou Costello plan to resume their regular NBC spot on Nov. 4. . . . Carmen Miranda heads the guest list on Saturday's RCA "What's New" Blue network show.

MPTO Postpones Special Election

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 12.—Special meeting of the MPTO of Washington, D. C., to elect a national representative to the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, has been postponed. The meeting was set after Carter Barron, Loew division manager, who had been elected to the post, declined due to the press of work for the WAC and other activities.

Election of a representative to the MPTOA will be held at the next scheduled meeting of the local MPTO on Nov. 2, it was announced here by Nat Browne, secretary.

Approve Site for New Sylvania Plant

New York Board of Estimate has approved the application of Sylvania Electric Products, radio tube and equipment manufacturer, to build a $2,000,000 office and laboratory on a 27½-acre tract in the Beechhurst section of Queens.

Work on the project will be started by the end of the month.

Will Examine Vogel And Pimstein Soon

Depositions of Harry M. Pimstein of RKO and J. R. Vogel of Loew's will be taken on Oct. 19 and 20, respectively, in connection with the $5,000,000 anti-trust suit pending in the Connecticut Federal Court.

Record 3rd Quarter ASCAP Royalties

Third quarter royalties estimated to be in excess of $1,300,000, claimed to be the largest July-September period on record, will be distributed to ASCAP members.

Royalties for the similar quarter last year were $1,055,447, with $1,261,586 being shared by ASCAP membership for the period ended June 30, 1943. Third quarter royalties usually run below the other periods of the year.

W. Va. Managers Annual Meet Oct. 19

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Oct. 12.—S. J. Hyman, president of the West Virginia Managers Association, has called the annual meeting of the organization for Oct. 19 at the Prichard Hotel here. Ed Kuykendall, president of the MPTOA, will address the convention. Many leaders from the industry will attend also. J. C. Shanklin is convention chairman.

Short Is 2nd Feature

Paramount's two-reel "Mardi Gras" musical has been booked by Paramount into the Hollywood and Downtown theatres, Los Angeles, to take the place of the second feature, with "Let's Face It," opening on Oct. 14, reports Oscar Morgan, company short subject sales manager.

U. S. Drops Civil Suit Against CB

CHICAGO, Oct. 12.—Civil anti-tru suit filed in 1941 by the Governme against Columbia Broadcasting Sy tem has been withdrawn by Daniel Britt, assistant U. S. Attorney-Ge eral, since a recent Supreme Cou ruling decided that the FCC has th power to supply the remedy. Simil suit against National Broadcastin still pending.

The two suits alleged that CB and NBC held a monopoly of radi broadcasting. The actions charge that by ownership of key radio st tions and by the use of exclusiv contracts the two chains controlled th broadcast time of 268 of the 800 com mercial broadcasting stations in th country, and that 50 of the 52 clea channels were among the 268.

"Combined, the two chains contr 85 per cent of the night time rad power in the country," the charges s forth.

Chicago Censors Sa 196 Fewer Picture

CHICAGO, Oct. 12. — Number of pi tures examined by the Chicago Poli Censor Board in 1942-43 season, whic ended Sept. 30th, dropped to 1,2 from 1,402 in the previous year, i dicating the trend toward fewer r leases. Total footage was 4,473,0 against 5,465,800 in 1941-42.

Sept., 1943, totals were 91 pictur and 302,000 feet. Censors made on four cuts during the month with rejections and none classified f adults only.

SPG to Hear Report On Negotiation

Screen Publicists Guild membersh will hear a report on the progress negotiations with the major con panies at a meeting tomorrow nig at the Hotel Picadilly here.

SPG members at Warner Brother not covered by the present negoti tions, have set a meeting for tomo row noon with Warner Eastern a vertising and publicity head, Mo Blumenstock, and E. K. Hessber Warner attorney, to discuss a SP classifications system.

Probes Exhibitors On Selective Servic

TORONTO, Oct. 12.—National Sel tive Service is probing exhibitors he in search of non-deferrables. Inves gators of the NSS have been calli on Toronto owners and requesti that they produce their payrolls show that all employees are register for compulsory labor transfer.

Ulmer, Others in New Producing Fir

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 12. — Edg Ulmer, formerly associated with lantis Pictures as director and writ and Theodore Jahns, Mary Gend and Shirley Castle have filed inc poration papers in Sacramento Aurora Films, a new film produci company in California.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 73 — NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1943 — TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE

Will Counter A Drop from New Gas Cuts

West Has Campaign in Readiness

Los Angeles, Oct. 13.—Office of Price Administration's 25 per cent reduction in A, B and C gasoline ration coupons in the West is generally expected to have slight if any detrimental influence on theatre attendance, a theatre managerial survey by Motion Picture Daily discloses. Consensus among independent operators is that neighborhood houses in crowded areas might benefit slightly. States affected by the order are California, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

In any event, a campaign for offsetting any possible decline is in readiness. Prepared by the Los Angeles Theatre Defense Bureau when rationing was originally instituted, it has been held in abeyance since an expected drop in box office returns did not materialize. Plan includes the use of a "Don't Ration Your Entertain-

(Continued on page 6)

Noble Takes Over Blue Web Today

Edward J. Noble, multi-millionaire Lifesavers' executive, will take over the Blue Network from the Radio Corporation today or tomorrow, also assuming an active interest in management, but continuing the same executive set-up with Mark Woods as Blue president.

Approval of the transfer of ownership to his American Broadcasting System, with Noble the owner of its entire stock, was granted by the Fed-

(Continued on page 8)

76 Writers Accused Of Red Sympathies

Los Angeles, Oct. 13.—California Legislature's fact-finding sub-committee on un-American activities, in a report submitted to the committee, attributed Communistic sympathies, and even closer ties to Communism, to 76 screen, radio and press writers participating in the Writer's Congress held here recently. State Senators Jack Tenney and Hugh Burns participated in preparing the report.

Treasury Reveals 1941 Compensation Of Film Leaders

Washington, Oct. 13.—Scores of film and radio executives and artists are listed again this year in the Treasury Department's annual report of persons receiving compensation from corporations for personal services in excess of $75,000 for 1941. The report, released here for publication today, lists more than 200 members of filmdom's leading executives and stars.

The report shows a large increase in the compensation paid to Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, reflecting the rapid gain in popularity of the comedy team in the 1940-'41 period. It also revealed top star earnings for Claudette Colbert, Ginger Rogers, Cary Grant, Charles Boyer, Fredric March, Barbara Stanwyck, Ronald Colman and Jack Benny. In the executive salary ranks, Louis B. Mayer

(Continued on page 6)

Eastern Pa. Allied Asks End of Shorts

Philadelphia, Oct. 13.—Allied Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania, has unanimously gone on record for the immediate discontinuance of production of "unnecessary" short subjects, Sidney E. Samuelson, business manager of the organization, announced here today. He emphasized, however, that the action does not refer to Government short subjects which the group is supporting fully.

A survey by the Allied unit, accord-

(Continued on page 6)

U.S. TAX ESTIMATES HELD INCORRECT

Studio Unions Hit Clemency for Bioff

Los Angeles, Oct. 13.—Herbert Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio unions, told *Motion Picture Daily* today, "We are taking action protesting any move toward dropping the income tax evasion indictment against William Bioff pending in Federal Court here. It appears likely that Bioff's turning state's evidence (in the present extortion case in the East) will be rewarded with a light sentence. If this case is dropped here, the studio unions will have him back on their necks again." The conference includes painters, film technicians, cartoonists, machinists, and set designers.

U.S. Calls 20 in Union Extort Case

Twenty Chicago film executives, lawyers and labor leaders have been subpoenaed to testify at the million-dollar film extortion trial of the "boys from Chicago," which resumes here today before Judge John Bright in

(Continued on page 6)

Tax Will Close Hundreds Of Houses; 'No Revenue Raiser'

Washington, Oct. 13.—Warning that no credence should be given U. S. Treasury estimates that an increase from 10 to 30 per cent in the admission tax would bring about a three-fold increase in revenue and that, instead, hundreds of theatres throughout the country might have to close their doors, representatives of exhibitors today urged the House Ways and Means Committee to leave the ticket tax where it is.

The presentation for the exhibitors was made by Ed Kuykendall, of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, and Abram F. Myers, of National Allied, and representing a number of other associations, with William Crockett, president of the Virginia MPTO, the only one to appear of a half dozen other organization officials who originally asked to be heard.

Decision to permit Kuykendall and

(Continued on page 4)

Wage Increase Is Demanded by Extras

Hollywood, Oct. 13.—Wage increases for extras, day players, stunt men and other divisions of Class B membership of the Screen Actors' Guild are made in demands presented to producers as the first step in the previously stipulated arbitration to be held here under auspices of the American Arbitration Association.

Demands include an increase in the minimum daily pay of extras from

(Continued on page 6)

Capital Discloses Industry Part in New War Bond Campaign Next Month

Washington, Oct. 13.—First public disclosure of *Motion Picture Daily's* exclusive report of Sept. 29 that the Treasury would ask the industry for nationwide aid in another war bond drive came today when it was revealed here that film theatres will be asked to participate in a campaign now being readied for the holiday season to divert into war loans as much as possible of the money normally spent for gifts.

The drive will open early next month and will run until Christmas, with special emphasis upon four days: Nov. 11, Armistice Day; Nov. 25, Thanksgiving; Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Day, and Dec. 21, "the shortest day of the year, but still long enough to buy war bonds."

With supplies of goods, while more ample than anticipated some months ago, far from sufficient to stand up under the expected heavy holiday demand, based on high-wage conditions, without serious impairment, the Government will seek to channel gift money into bonds under the slogan: "The Present With a Future."

Main burden of the campaign will be borne by retail merchants of the country, and exhibitors will be asked to participate with special promotion features.

Percentage Buying Resistance Ends

Minneapolis, Oct. 13.—Effective resistance to percentage buying by Northwest independent owners is understood to have virtually ended here when one major company reported all holdouts but one had signed up under original terms. Product passed up during the controversy has been included in new deals. The situation was identical at other exchanges.

Proportion of pictures offered on percentages in the new year looms even larger than last.

Personal Mention

LEO SPITZ is expected here from the Coast at the weekend.

•

E. E. WHITTAKER, formerly general manager of the Lucas and Jenkins circuit of Georgia, has been commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Army. He is in New York on furlough.

•

LT. RALPH S. HARPER, formerly of the auditing department of Tri-States Theatres, Des Moines, and HAZEL HILL, of Ottumwa, Ia., have announced their engagement.

•

WILLIAM MISKELL, district manager for Tri-States Theatres, Omaha, was one of Nebraska's representatives at the National Safety Council Congress in Chicago.

•

EARL HUDSON, head of United Detroit Theatres, returned yesterday to that city from conferences at the Paramount home office.

•

CHARLES SMAKOWITZ, assistant zone manager of the Warner circuit in the Albany territory, is in town for the day.

•

ARTHUR S. ABELES, JR., Warner manager in Montevideo, is en route back to South America following a New York visit.

•

WALTER KLINGER, member of the Warner studio foreign department publicity staff, has been inducted into the Army.

•

HENRI ELMAN, PRC franchise holder in Chicago, will return to that city today from New York.

•

WILLIAM BISHOP, M-G-M exploiteer with headquarters in Chicago, is a New York visitor.

•

JOEL LEVY, Loew out-of-town theatre booker, returned yesterday from a four-day Canadian trip.

•

GENE KRAEMER, manager of the Wisconsin, Wisconsin Rapids, has been called for Army service.

•

HUNT STROMBERG and MRS. STROMBERG are at Waldorf-Astoria Towers, from Hollywood.

•

SOL SCHWARTZ, RKO zone manager, will return Monday from a visit to Cleveland and Columbus.

•

FREDERIC ULLMAN, JR., president of Pathe News, left yesterday for Mexico City.

•

AL SELIG, who recently resigned as RKO exploiteer in Washington, is in town.

•

SAM GOLDWYN and MRS. GOLDWYN are at the Waldorf-Astoria.

•

ANDRE ALGAZY, French producer, has left New York for Hollywood.

Coast Flashes

THE newly-elected board of governors of the Academy of M. P. Arts and Sciences will hold its first meeting Friday night to elect officers for the coming year. The reelection of Walter Wanger as president is expected.

•

With the conversion of Fox West Coast's Egyptian, Uptown and Los Angeles to first runs only 48 hours distant, circuit executives late today were still undecided about designating houses to take the second-run spot vacated by two of the trio. The Egyptian, formerly a second-run to the Chinese, will be replaced by the Filmate, a Vine St. house recently presenting revivals and leased by FWC this week. Establishment of the new first-runs with "Hi Diddle Diddle" and "Victory Through Air Power" paired on the first bill, was heavily advertised in newspapers and the radio the past week.

•

RKO has announced "Spanish Main," a 17th century pirate story by Aeneas McKenzie, who will also script. Robert Fellows will produce with Paul Henreid, Maureen O'Hara and Arturo de Cordoba in top roles.

•

W. R. Frank today announced "Springtime in Vienna," a prewar musical, for production following the completion of "Goebbels" as in that case a distribution decision will await completion of the filming.

•

Walter Lantz today returned from Washington conferences with a contract to make a series of cartoons for the Navy. Commitment involves expansion of the studio staff.

•

"Red Quarter," a story of the Nazi occupation of Marseilles, by Andre Daven, who also will produce, has been announced by 20th-Fox in Technicolor.

•

Warners has added $200,000 to the exploitation budget of "Princess O'Rourke," which opens at 300 theatres on the 23rd.

•

Barney Balaban, Neil Agnew and Robert Gillham will arrive here on the 25th, principally to see "Lady in the Dark."

•

Edward Golden will leave here for the East next week for conferences on a projected "Master Race" film.

•

Warner today assigned Hal Wallis to produce "The Conspirators," a novel with a Portuguese background.

•

Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., United Artists advertising-publicity director, has arrived here from the East.

•

Budd Rogers has been appointed Eastern representative for Lloyd Bacon-Sam Jaffe Prod.

•

Republic's "mystery broadcast" is set for Friday morning.

Hollywood, Oct. 13

CHARLES EINFELD, Warner vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity, will leave here for Chicago on the 26th. He will attend a regional sales meeting there, and thence proceed to New York.

•

Los Angeles Central Labor Council today confirmed adoption of its resolution requesting Gary Cooper to refuse the reportedly proffered star role in 20th Fox's "Rickenbacker." It also requested the Screen Actors Guild's Pat Somerset, business representative, and Edward Arnold, past president, to use their influence to persuade Cooper not to play in the picture.

•

Hollywood War Chest drive will open Oct. 26 with noontime mass meetings at all studios addressed by guild union leaders via a KFWB broadcast, chairman Y. Frank Freeman announced today following a meeting with the Studio Colonels at the Roosevelt.

•

Central Casting Bureau's report today disclosed that September broke all records since recognition of SAG in 1937 in point of placements and total payments to extra players. The Bureau filled 33,857 calls during the month aggregating $436,500 in payments.

•

Charles Previn, who recently resigned as head of Universal's studio music department, has been signed by Charles R. Rogers to supervise the music of "Song of the Open Road" and "Wild Irish Rose."

•

Ed. Peskay was elected vice-president today of Bogeaus Prod., with headquarters in New York, in charge of worldwide distribution and exploitation.

•

Republic has purchased "Confidentially Yours," original, for production by Robert North as a musical to be titled "Tell It to a Star."

•

Henry Brash, Arnold Pressburger's Eastern representative, left here today for the East following studio conferences.

•

Walt Disney's second South American feature, now in production, will be titled "The Three Caballeros," to be released by RKO.

•

John C. Flinn, executive secretary of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, is back here after a lengthy stay in the East.

•

"The Clock," a story by Paul and Pauline Gallico about a soldier in New York, has been purchased by M-G-M. No one has been assigned as yet.

•

Walter Gould, United Artists foreign manager, is here from Mexico City. He will leave for the East next weekend.

News Summary

New Manpower Rulings

Effective tomorrow, shifts of labo from one job to another in essenti occupations throughout the Unit States will be made more difficu through the application of War Ma power Commission regulations in li with the Aug. 16 order of Pa McNutt, WMC chairman.

In the New York City area, loc regulations will prevent a worker wl leaves an essential activity from ge ting new employment for 60 days, i stead of the former 30 days; shif from essential to non-essential jo cannot be made without written a proval of the U. S. Employment Se vice, and hiring of persons engag in any of the 149 listed critical occ pations will be permitted only up referral by or with the written co sent of the USES or WMC.

Spewack OWI Soviet Aide?

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—Sam Sp wack, motion picture representative London for the Office of War Info mation, may head a new Moscow b reau to be opened by the OWI if is acceptable to the Russian gover ment. His 12-year-old play, "Clear Wires," made some observations the Soviet and foreign corresponde in Moscow, which may or may n have rankled officialdom there. T new bureau would endeavor to i crease the flow of news betwe America and the Soviet, in both rections.

Cut Newspaper Size?

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—Due to creasingly serious manpower pr lems affecting the production of pu newspapers face further cuts of nev print next year of 20 to 52 per c under this year's levels and may obliged to reduce their size as a sult, according to a report of the jo Anglo-American-Canadian commit which has been studying the proble

Supreme Court Decisions

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—The U. Supreme Court refused to review conviction of Martin A. Hirsch, countant and tax consultant of N York, for perjury in connection w his testimony before a grand jury vestigating extortion in the mot picture industry by George Brow and Willie Bioff, former IATSE ficers.

Dunne With OWI Overseas Films Un

Robert Riskin, chief of the mot picture overseas section of the Of of War Information, has appoin Philip Dunne as head of the prod tion unit for the overseas bure Dunne, a screenplay writer, was as ciate director of production of the n tion picture division of the Office the Coordinator of Inter-Ameri Affairs for a year, leaving last Ja ary.

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"Was ist das monkey-business?"

BETTER skip it, Wotan. Frankly, 'PRINCESS O'ROURKE' isn't your kind of motion picture.

We at Warner Bros. made 'PRINCESS O'ROURKE' for folks with a sense of humor—and if you ever had one, a decade of dictatorship has killed it.

We made this picture for people who can *laugh* . . . . even while they go about ridding the world of your breed.

'PRINCESS O'ROURKE' is a comedy. It's the kind of delightful story that makes us as proud as we are of 'Casablanca', 'Air Force', 'Mission to Moscow' . . . 'Action in the North Atlantic', 'This Is The Army', 'Watch on the Rhine' . . . 'The Constant Nymph' and 'Thank Your Lucky Stars.'

Because, in keeping with Warner Bros.' wartime policy, it's *more* than splendid entertainment. For while 'PRINCESS O'ROURKE' keeps you shuttling between smiles and chuckles and laughter, it also reminds you that 'Americanism' is another word for 'freedom'.

'PRINCESS O'ROURKE' is grand and gay, happy-go-laughing and lovable. It's due soon at your local theater—and you'll miss it at your own risk!

WARNER BROS.

JACK L. WARNER, Executive Producer

"an enviable record for combining good citizenship with good picture-making"—*N.Y. Times*

OLIVIA De HAVILLAND • ROBERT CUMMINGS • JACK CARSON in "PRINCESS O'ROURKE" with CHARLES COBURN • JANE WYMAN • A HAL B. WALLIS Production • Written and Directed by NORMAN KRASNA

In this advertisement—9th in a series appearing widely in national publications—we try to tell how this Company consistently is building plus-values of inspiration and Americanism into Warner Bros. Pictures. Your comments on this or other advertisements in the series will be welcomed.

All Give to the National War Fund—it gives to all!

Case Based on NRA Award Is Dismissed

Specific-run complaint of Anthony Demharter, owner and operator of the Peacock Theatre, New Orleans, against Paramount, 20th-Fox, RKO and Vitagraph, has been dismissed, the American Arbitration Association announced here yesterday. Following an appeal to the board, it remanded the case to New Orleans for a fuller hearing, by consent of counsel for the distributors.

Demharter's original complaint against the four consenting companies was based on an NRA award, granting him the right to play 60 days after New Orleans first runs. It was dismissed on the technicality of the complainant's inability to produce the NRA decision. The remainder of the case was not heard by the New Orleans arbitrator, who held the situation disqualified Demharter from bringing a complaint under Section 10 of the decree. Complainant appealed and subsequently produced what was said to be the NRA award.

Deane Named Head Of Foreign Publicists

International Film Relations Committee, at a meeting held this week, elected Albert Deane, Paramount foreign publicity director, chairman for the next three months, Harold L. Smith, executive secretary, has announced.

Guest speakers at the meeting included Arch Reeve, secretary of the industry Public Relations Committee in Hollywood, who described the recent Hollywood Bond Cavalcade; Phil Reisman, RKO foreign manager, who sketched the development of the exchange of educational and entertainment films between the U. S. and Latin-America, and Fayette W. Allport of the London office of the MPPDA, who reported on recent developments of the industry in Great Britain.

'Bell' Rivoli Run Now Continuous

Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" will be presented on a continuous performance basis at the Rivoli in New York starting tomorrow, after 14 weeks of a policy of reserved seats, two performances a day, Charles M. Reagan, Paramount assistant general sales manager announced here yesterday.

Weekday admission prices under the new policy will be 75 cents to $1.10, with evening performances scaled at $1.10 to $1.65. Sunday and holiday prices will be 99 cents and $1.25 for matinees, and $1.10 and $1.65 evenings.

IMPOU Seeks to Enroll Operators

Independent Motion Picture Operators Union of New York will attempt to enroll all projectionists in this area who are not members of any other projectionist union, it was revealed yesterday. IMPOU has absorbed all former members of the recently dissolved United M. P. Operators' Union.

IMPOU is setting up new headquarters at 358 W. 44th Street.

U.S. Tax Estimates Wrong, Exhibitors Warn Congress

(*Continued from page* 1)

Myers to represent all exhibitors was reached on appeal from the Congressional committee that there be no duplication of testimony, since there appeared to be no division of exhibitor opinion as to the undesirability of the higher rate.

Both leaders emphasized the slim margin on which the average exhibitor operates, the manner in which many had been forced to scale down admissions when the present tax was adopted so as to avoid dealing in pennies, and the all-out participation of the theatres in the Government's war effort.

Limit to Theatre Taxes

"The exhibitors I represent did not send me down here to get them out of paying their fair share of necessary taxes," Kuykendall told the committee. "What they want is for you to get a clear picture of our situation today, so that you will realize how much of a tax burden their theatres can carry and that there is a limit to the amount of taxes they can pay and still stay in business."

The present tax, he pointed out, was referred to by the Temporary National Economic Committee, following investigation, as "a very high sales tax and one which bears heavily on the amusement costs of the people" and asserted that if the rate is hiked it will be necessary for the theatres to absorb a large part of the increase if they are not to lose an unduly large proportion of their audience.

"We believe that the greater part of this tax burden will be carried by the theatres, and while this industry expects and is quite willing to pay its full share of taxation necessary to carry on the war and is subject to all of the corporation, income and profits taxes imposed on other industries, we submit that this special tax is excessive and may prove disastrous to an essential part of the motion picture industry," he said.

Supports Sales Tax

Supporting a general sales tax as preferable to the proposed high rate on the amusement industry, Myers explained that present admissions have become established and the habits of patrons fixed. "Any change will require readjustments all down the line," he said. "The tax yield at the present rate is certainly very high, and it may be that the Government now is enjoying the maximum yield in revenue."

Even if readjustments of admission prices are possible, the 30 per cent rate would work out much higher, reaching 42.9 per cent on a 15-cent admission reduced to 14 cents so that the six-cent tax would make an even 20 cents, Myers pointed out.

Protests Discrimination

Exhibitors, he protested, should not be singled out from all other branches of the industry to bear taxes related to the fact that it has "been branded with the dollar mark."

"We assume the committee has heard about the increased net profits of the major producing and distributing companies, of the salaries paid to executives and stars, and of the increase in theatre attendance in certain metropolitan centers," he said. "While these factors may have a bearing on any proposals relating to adjustments of income and excess profits taxes, they should not affect the consideration of this proposal to increase the burden on the theatre-going public."

Theatre audiences largely are made up of people in the low income brackets, and an increase in tax will result in a serious falling off in patronage which many exhibitors in residential districts and rural communities will not be able to stand. Many exhibitors, he predicted, will have to go out of business.

Theatres in War Effort

Equally important, Myers said, is the participation of theatres in war work. He warned in conclusion, that, "In order for the theatres to do the job that has been assigned to them, to deliver the Government's messages, to take up collections, to collect scrap metal and to sell bonds, they must have an audience."

Crockett also warned that material loss of patronage will follow imposition of a higher tax and said that many theatres in Northern Virginia will be forced to close. In his own case, he said, he has absorbed the present 10 per cent tax, which works out at 12½ per cent of his gross, but would not be able to take on the burden of a 30 per cent levy.

Film Locals Ask Fund Cooperation

In a joint resolution, executive boards of the Screen Office & Professional Employees Guild, Local 109, and the Screen Publicists Guild, Local 114, both UOPWA, CIO, request of distributors "that henceforth the SPG and SOPEG develop with management a consistent and uniform policy of cooperation in the planning and execution of all war drives which shall include the professional and white collar employees of the New York film offices." Copies of the resolution were sent to company heads.

Referendum on Sun. Legal in Tennessee

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 13.—Decision by the Tennessee Supreme Court, rendering legal a popular referendum on Sunday shows, leads exhibitors here to believe that houses may be opening on Sundays in the near future. The issue was brought before the state court following a controversy with the city council here several months ago. Sunday films have been banned in the past but a recent petition in their favor, signed by 20,000 citizens, indicates the probability that the referendum vote may result favorably.

Films Contribute to Vulgarity, Is Charge

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 13.—Motio pictures are contributing in a degre to the vulgarizing tendencies and con ditions apparent throughout the na tion, Meredith Nicholson, famou Hoosier author, charged in his co umn, "Without Prejudice," in *Th Indianapolis Star*, this week. Nich son said that "boards of censors not meet with the support they serve in their efforts to eliminate sug gestive or demoralizing pictures."

"The call for a boycott of und sirables would merely advertise th offending dramas and possibly cau law suits against the censorin board," he wrote. Without mentio ing the picture by name, "Johnn Come Lately" was criticized by Nich olson, who concluded that, "I am su if my old friend, Will Hays, who ha or did have, supervision of moti picture morals, had seen a scenar of that picture he would not ha wanted it to be shown in Sulliva Ind., Hays' home town." Howev Nicholson did not place the enti blame upon the picture, saying th "one doesn't indict a whole people a whole industry."

Heroes Unavailable, Ampa Tribute O

Associated M. P. Advertisers Con mitteemen and board members ha been unable to contact several U. war heroes to attend Ampa's "Salu to Heroes" of the M. P. Industry, a result of which the special lunche scheduled for Oct. 21 at the Ast Hotel has been postponed. Indicatio are that it will be held in Novemb according to Vincent Trotta, pres dent.

The special midnight relief show the Paramount Theatre will be he on Oct. 22, as originally planned. Ja Kopfstein, in charge of this affa will hold another meeting of his co mittee tomorrow when John McK in charge of ticket sales, will repo All major companies have been ma ing block purchases.

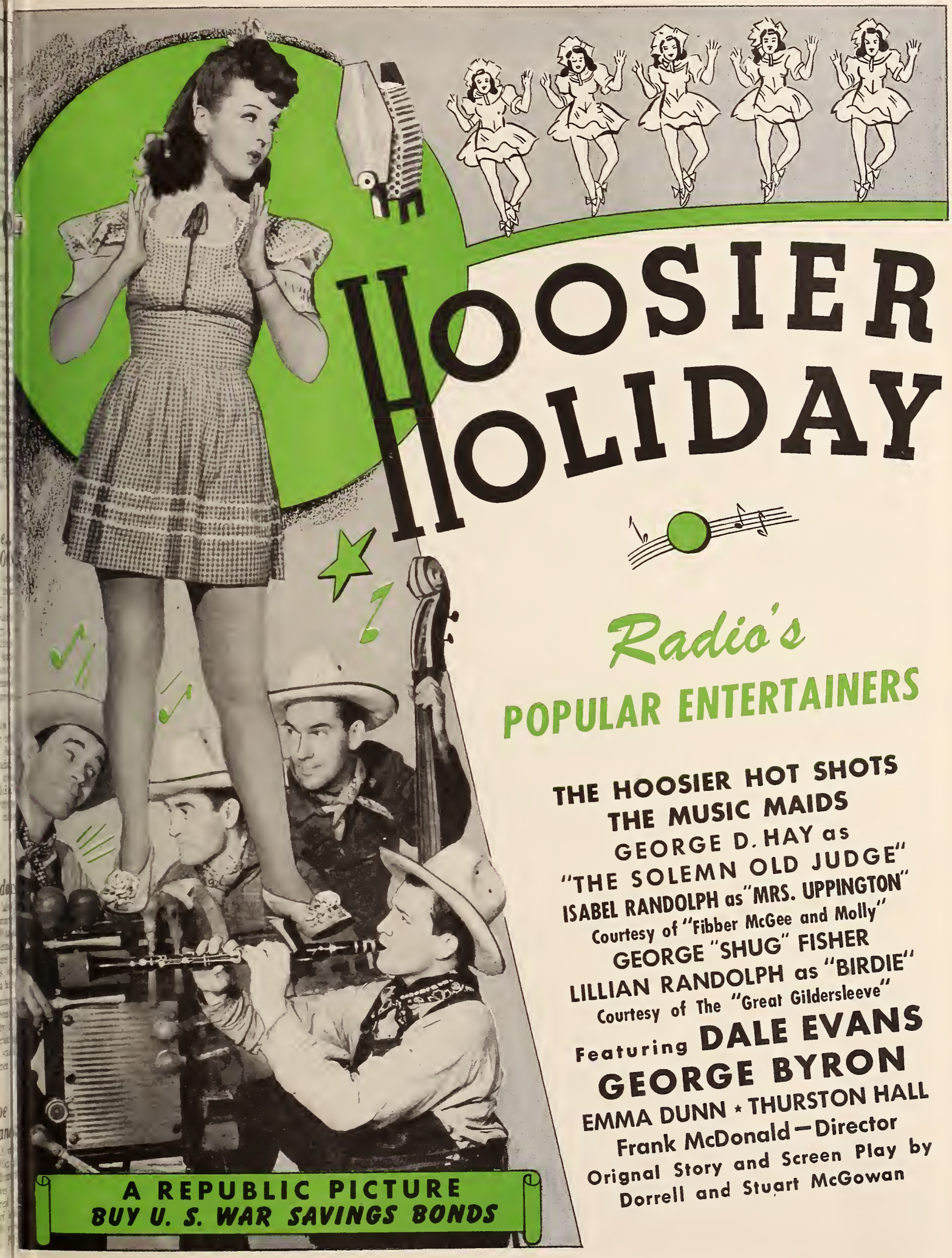
Wages and Hours Unit Meets Toda

Eighteen representatives of lab management and the public, compr ing a committee appointed by Wa and Hours Administrator H. Metca Walling to probe minimum wages many industries, including films, w meet today at the Hotel Victoria he

It is understood that minimu wages in the motion picture indus meet the standard prescribed by 1 and the group will not be seriou concerned with film wage scal There are no motion picture men the committee.

Oct. 27 Set for Coe Montreal Appearan

Charles Francis Coe, MPPDA vi president, yesterday agreed to Oct. as the date for an address in Montr before local industry executives the Canadian Club and Montreal Club, continuing his series of lo appearances to create goodwill wi in and outside of the industry. Ph adelphia will follow.


HOOSIER HOLIDAY
Radio's
POPULAR ENTERTAINERS
THE HOOSIER HOT SHOTS
THE MUSIC MAIDS
GEORGE D. HAY as
"THE SOLEMN OLD JUDGE"
ISABEL RANDOLPH as "MRS. UPPINGTON"
Courtesy of "Fibber McGee and Molly"
GEORGE "SHUG" FISHER
LILLIAN RANDOLPH as "BIRDIE"
Courtesy of The "Great Gildersleeve"
Featuring DALE EVANS
GEORGE BYRON
EMMA DUNN * THURSTON HALL
Frank McDonald—Director
Orignal Story and Screen Play by
Dorrell and Stuart McGowan
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
BUY U. S. WAR SAVINGS BONDS

West Has Campaign To Offset Any Drop From New Gas Cuts

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment" slogan as the keynote of the newspaper and radio promotions.

Cuts in gas rations are believed to have been balanced in part by a new relaxation of dimout regulations in the Los Angeles area, easing prevailing hazards of nocturnal travel in the coastal area.

While George Bowles, Fox West Coast circuit supervisor, and Warner circuit spokesmen expressed equivalent views on the non-affect of rationing on theatres, Rodney Pantages said, "I think anything that affects driving affects business," pointing out that effects of gas cuts have not been noticeable heretofore due to the influx of war workers and the resultant population increase.

Whether relaxation of dimout restrictions would restore night sports furnishing theatre competition unknown since the advent of the dimout remained a question pending decision by the Army on an application to hold an outdoor boxing match on the 27th. If permitted, assumption is that night football and softball games may follow.

Eastern Pa. Allied Asks End of Shorts

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing to Samuelson, showed that there are enough short subjects available even for single feature programs. He pointed out that discontinuance of the production of such shorts will save much raw stock.

The group further protested the forced selling of short subjects in Eastern Pennsylvania.

Samuelson declared that the unit, at a membership meeting, also went on record against blind checking of pictures bought at flat rental and indicated its opposition against the proposed 30 per cent tax on admission prices. The alleged non-delivery of certain Columbia pictures contracted for last year was discussed at the session. Special attention was given to the supposed high price of films and other current industry problems.

Columbia Over Top In War Loan Drive

Columbia has exceeded its $1,500,000 Third War Loan bond quota by 25 per cent, hitting a total of $1,881,169, it was announced here yesterday, following compilation of final returns.

Company is now concentrating on full representation on the payroll deduction plan whereby each employee will pledge at least 10 per cent of his salary for war bonds. As of June, over 85 per cent of Columbia's employees were investing 9 1/10 per cent of their weekly payroll in war savings.

Foxy at Perry Burns

PERRY, Ia., Oct. 13.—Damage estimated at several thousand dollars resulted from a fire here which swept through the Foxy Theatre and adjoining building. Projectionist Dick Sheehan, 17, received some burns, but all patrons made their way out safely.

Treasury Reports Film Salaries for 1941-'42

(*Continued from page* 1)

again headed the list in compensation received.

CALIFORNIA

Charles Chaplin Film Corp., year ended Dec. 31, 1941: Charles Chaplin, salary $104,000. D. O. S. Productions, Inc., year ended Oct. 31, 1942: Alfred Hitchcock, salary $156,000, bonus $19,980, total $175,980; David O. Selznick, salary $87,500. Samuel Goldwyn, Inc., Ltd., year ended June 30, 1942: Gary Cooper, salary $299,177. Starlight, Inc., year ended Sept. 30, 1942: Gregory LaCava, salary accrued during period ended Sept. 30, 1942, but by provisions of contract dated Nov. 2, 1940, payable only at rate of $2,000 per week, $131,250.

NEW JERSEY

Atlas Corp., year ended Dec. 31, 1941: Floyd B. Odlum, salary $125,000.

NEW YORK

Columbia Broadcasting System, year ended Dec. 31, 1941: Edward Klauber, $102,400; William S. Paley, $202,155.

Columbia Pictures Corp., year ended June 30, 1942: Samuel Bischoff, $112,250; Samuel Briskin, $104,000; Sidney Buchman, $87,333; Harry Cohn, salary $130,000, other compensation $15,600, total $145,600; Jack Cohn, salary $78,000, other compensation $10,400, total $88,400; Ronald Colman, $100,000; Cary Grant, $100,000; Al Hall, $151,208; Fredric March, $100,000; Abraham Montague, $78,566; Pat O'Brien, $100,000; Rosalind Russell, $100,000; Abraham Schneider, $78,566; Barbara Stanwyck, $90,000; Loretta Young, $85,000.

Eastman Kodak Co., year ended Dec. 31, 1941; Thomas J. Hargrave, salary $80,384, other compensation $6,750, total $87,134; Frank W. Lovejoy, salary $103,846; other compensation $14,375, total $118,221; Albert F. Sulzer, salary $80,384; other compensation $6,687, total $87,072.

Fox West Coast Agency Corp., year ended Dec. 31, 1941: Charles P. Skouras, $130,000.

General Aniline & Film Corp., year ended Dec. 31, 1941: R. Hutz, salary $85,000, other compensation $1,300, total $86,300.

Hurok Attractions, Inc., year ended Dec. 31, 1941: M. Anderson, $92,862.

J. O. S. Corp., year ended June 30, 1942: H. O. Johnson, compensation other than salary $94,250; John S. Olson, compensation other than salary $94,250.

Loew's Salaries

Loew's, Inc.: Edward Arnold, $100,833; Irving Asher, $83,075; Wallace Beery, $140,000; Busby Berkeley, $114,000; Pandro S. Berman, $157,500; David Bernstein, salary $95,400, commission $175,719, other compensation $10,600, total $281,719; Frank Borzage, $170,625; Clarence Brown, $79,100; Jack Chertok, $78,750; J. J. Cohn, $105,000; Ronald Colman, $103,333; R. W. Considine, Jr., $170,625; Jack Conway, $195,750; Joan Crawford, $195,673; John S. Cummings, $105,000; George Cukor, $212,625; Howard Dietz, $62,000 salary, other compensation $13,250, total $75,250; Roy Del Ruth, $78,750; Melvyn Douglas, $122,000; Sam Eckman, Jr., $101,423; Nelson Eddy, $101,250; Victor Fleming, $113,333; Sidney Franklin, $183,750; Arthur Freed, $105,000; Clark Gable, $198,750; Greer Garson, salary $89,166; bonus $30,000, total $119,166; Cedric Gibbons, $91,875; Ben Goetz, $105,000; Frances Gumm, $114,000; Katharine Hepburn, $188,916; B. H. Hyman, salary $210,000, commission $82,002, total $292,002; Sam Katz, salary $157,500, commission $164,005, total $321,505; Robert Z. Leonard, $210,000; Mervyn Le Roy, $183,750; Alexander Lichtman, salary $157,500, commission $123,003, total $280,503; Arthur Loew, salary $140,000, commission $22,235, total $162,235; Anita Loos, $88,375; Myrna Loy, $125,833; John Lee Mahin, $79,166; Joseph Mankiewicz, $157,500; E. J. Mannix, salary $160,125, commission $164,005, total $324,130; J. G. Mayer, $78,750; L. B. Mayer, salary $157,500; commission $792,265, total $949,765; Frank Morgan, $100,638; Jeanette MacDonald, $300,000; James K. McGuinness, $91,875; Norman McLeod, $89,700; Joseph Pasternak, $127,958; Walter Pidgeon, $90,750; Eleanor Powell, $89,625; William Powell, $242,500; Harry Rapf, salary $65,625, commission $41,001; total $106,626; Everett Riskin, $84,000; W. F. Rodgers, $106,000; Mickey Rooney, salary $58,083, bonus $100,000, total $158,083; J. Walter Ruben, $105,000; J. Robert Rubin, salary $90,100, commission $163,836, other compensation $15,900, total $269,836; Wesley Ruggles, $212,625; Victor Saville, $105,000; Dore Schary, $84,925; N. M. Schenck, salary $107,325, commission $292,866, other compensation $25,175, total $425,366. George Seitz, $76,700; Norma Shearer, $150,000; Hunt Stromberg, salary $117,500, commission $50,004, total $167,504; Norman Taurog, $157,500; Robert Taylor, $201,666; Benjamin Thau, salary $91,875, commission $82,002, total $173,877; Richard Thorpe, $91,875; Spencer Tracy, $233,461; W. S. Van Dyke, $254,416; King Vidor, $180,000; Lawrence Weingarten, salary $170,625, commission $41,001, total $211,626; Carey Wilson, $106,500; William Wyler, $132,208; Robert Young, $123,916; Sam Zimbalist, $82,000.

Marcus Loew Booking Agency, year ended Aug. 31, 1942: Leopold Friedman, $84,800; C. C. Moskowitz, salary $88,775, other compensation $17,225, total $106,000; J. R. Vogel, $79,500.

National Theatres Amusement Co., Inc., year ended Dec. 31, 1941: C. P. Skouras, compensation $122,695; S. P. Skouras, salary $130,000, other compensation $122,695.72, total $252,695.72.

Paramount Pictures

Paramount Pictures, Inc., year ended Jan. 3, 1942: Claude Binyon, $83,250; Charles Boyer, $100,000; Frank Russell Butler, $84,500; Madeleine Carroll, $125,733; Claudette Colbert, $240,000; Harry L. Crosby, $300,000; B. G. DeSylva, salary $180,058, other compensation $69,945, total $250,004; Y. Frank Freeman, $130,000; Henry Ginsberg, $96,200; Paulette Goddard, $132,737; Edward Hallows Griffith, $124,986; Bob Hope, $294,166; Arthur Hornblow, Jr., $156,000; Dorothy S. Kaumeyer, $110,083; James Mitchell Leisen, $84,175; Fred MacMurray, $299,333.

Paramount Pictures, Inc., year ended Dec. 31, 1941: Joel McCrea, $160,583; Raymond Milland, $121,484; Mark Rex Sandrich, $129,708; Victor Schertzinger, $90,000; Preston Sturges, $230,841; Harry Tugend, $101,916; Virginia Allen VanUpp, $85,800; William A. Wellman, $80,850; Adolph Zukor, salary $104,000, other compensation $17,280, total $121,280.

Radio Corp. of America, year ended Dec. 31,, 1941: David Sarnoff, salary $100,000, other compensation $240, total $100,240.

RKO Radio Pictures, Inc., year ended Dec. 31, 1941: David Butler, $42,651; Ned E. Depinet, $77,240; Harry Edington, $103,333; Tay Garnett, $102,499; Cary Grant, $101,562; Charles Laughton, $90,599; Carole Lombard, compensation $117,314; Victor McLaglen, $82,222; Erich Pommer, $85,666; Ginger Rogers, $140,000; Robert Stevenson, $78,250; Orson Welles, $100,000.

Twentieth Century-Fox, year ended Dec. 31, 1941: Don F. Ameche, $185,333; Joan Bennett, $121,111; Jack Benny, $125,000; Claudette Colbert, $150,000; Irving Cummings, $136,650; Richard Welsted Day, $78,000; Alice Faye, $119,166; Henry Fonda, $158,875; John Ford, $149,583; Jean Alexis Gabin, $85,000; William Goetz, $101,000; Mark Hellinger, $123,000; Sonja Henie, $146,250; Nunnally H. Johnson, $162,250; Robert T. Kane, $104,000; S. R. Kent, $126,500; Henry King, $167,500; William Koenig, $78,000; Walter R. Lang, $124,166; William Le Baron, $126,000; Rouben Mamoulian, $77,500; Archie Louis Mayo, $119,425; Seton I. Miller, $78,750; Alfred Newman, $78,000; Jack Oakie, $138,928; William Perlberg, $78,283; Tyrone Power, salary, $188,125; other compensation, $15,000; total, $203,125; Ginger Rogers, $215,000; Joseph M. Schenck, $108,333; Randolph Scott, $80,500; Joseph Swerling, $97,500; Sol M. Wurtzel, $114,666; Darryl Zanuck, salary, $260,000; other compensation, $275; total $260,275.

Universal Salaries

Universal Pictures Co., Inc., year ended Oct. 31, 1942: Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, salary, $224,458; other compensation, $363,964; total $588,423; N. J. Blumberg, salary, $91,150; other compensation, $78,798; total, $169,948; Charles Boyer, $125,000; J. Cheever Cowdin, salary, $103,100; other compensation, $78,798; total, $181,898; Marlene Dietrich, $200,000; Irene Dunne, $140,000; Edna Mae Durbin, $112,125; Charles D. Prutzman, salary, $62,575; other compensation, $41,684; total, $104,259; Henry Koster, $158,000; J. H. Seidelman, salary, $62,400; other compensation, $39,169; total, $101,569; Walter F. Wanger, $127,500; Clifford Work, salary, $78,000; other compensation, $39,169; total $117,169.

Vitagraph, Inc., year ended Aug. 31, 1942: S. C. Einfeld, salary, $101,750; other compensation, $23,750; total, $125,500.

Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc., year ended Aug. 31, 1942; Lloyd Bacon, $176,000; Jack Benny, $125,000; Joseph Bernhard, salary, $107,500; other compensation, $21,500; total, $129,000; Henry Blanke, $104,000; Humphrey Bogart, $96,525; Charles Boyer, $125,000; George Brent, $127,000; James Cagney, salary, $22,916; other compensation, $6,499; total, $229,416; Frank Capra, $105,000; Charles Coburn, $102,500; Michael Curtiz, $190,200; Bette Davis, $252,333; Errol Flynn, $240,000; Leo Forbstein, $78,000; Jules Garfield, $82,291; Edmund Goulding, $82,500; Cary Grant, $150,000; Howard Hawks, $142,500; Walter Huston, $93,958; William Keighley, $109,916; Norman Krasna, $93,750; Jesse L. Lasky, Sr., $83,625; Robert Lord, $92,066; Fredric March, $100,000; Raymond Massey, $85,000; Casey Robinson, $126,708; Edward G. Robinson, $100,000; Samuel Schneider, salary, $65,000; other compensation, $13,000; total, $78,000; Ann Sheridan, $79,183; Barbara Stanwyck, $100,000; Max Steiner, $85,800; H. B. Wallis, $255,000; Raoul Walsh, $102,750; Albert Warner, $91,000 salary, other compensation, $13,000, total $104,000; H. M. Warner, $177,500; J. L. Warner, $182,000.

Wage Increase Is Demanded by Extras

(*Continued from page* 1)

$10.50 to $12.75; reclassification of dancing, skating and swimming extras to effect an increase from $13.75 to $16.50; establishment of a $29 minimum for players with speaking lines; an increase for stock players from a $57.50 weekly minimum to $87, and other modifications upwards.

Similar demands made approximately one year ago were rejected by the producers. The action making submission to arbitration mandatory is under terms of the SAG-producer contract. Manchester Boddy, publisher of the Los Angeles *Daily News*, has been mutually agreed upon as the impartial member of an arbitration trio.

Presentation of the original demands preceded an SAG decision to offer Class B members autonomy on which membership is now voting by mail ballots distributed ten days ago with a 30-day returnability.

U. S. Calls 20 in Union Extort Case

(*Continued from page* 1)

Federal court, after a recess since last Friday.

Chicagoans summoned include John Balaban, head of the Balaban and Katz circuit; Jack Kirsch, president of Allied of Illinois, and James Coston, local Warner circuit executive, heading up the exhibitor group; Tom Flannery,, president of Whiteways Signs; Tom Burke, business agent of the Chicago janitors' union, and Ralph O'Hara, an originator of the IATSE projectionists' union in that city.

Among others served are Clyde Weston, Anthony D'Andrea, Stephen Healy, Ralph Capone, Anthony Gioe, Dr. Charles N. Papp, Norman T. Nelson and Mildred Dorothy Harris.

Liquor Man Takes Bioff's Big Home

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—Willie Bioff's palatial country home near here has been purchased by Humbert H. Rago, a distiller's representative. Showplace of the ex-labor racketeer now in a Federal detention pen in New York went for $75,000.

'Sun' Opens on B'way; Young at Meeting

RKO's "Behind the Rising Sun" premiere yesterday was highlighted by the screen appearances of Margo, star of the film, and James R. Young author of the book on which the picture was based.

Today's meeting of the Publicity Club of New York, to be held at the Hotel Belmont Plaza, will be highlighted by the eye-witness account of Jap prison camp conditions by James R. Young, who wrote "Behind the Rising Sun."

46 Shooting, 65 Editing, 57 Preparing

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 13.—With nine pictures finished and only five new ones started during the week, the production load fell off from 50 films in work the previous week to 46 this past week. The cutting rooms had 65 pictures editing, while 57 were preparing for early starts. The production scene:

Columbia

Shooting: "Klondike Kate," "Curly," "Ten Percent Woman," "None Shall Escape," "Cover Girl."

Finished: "Swing Out the Blues," "Cowboy Canteen," "Hey, Rookie."

W. R. Frank (Independent)

Shooting: "Dr. Paul Joseph Goebels, His Life and Loves."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed," "Gaslight," "The Canterville Ghost."

Monogram

Started: "Where Are My Children?" with Jackie Cooper, Patricia Morison, Gale Storm, Gertrude Michael.

Shooting: "Return of the Ape Man."

Finished: "Her Bachelor Husband," "Lady, Let's Dance."

Paramount

Started: "Rainbow Island," with Dorothy Lamour, Eddie Bracken, Barry Sullivan, Gil Lamb.

Shooting: "The Man in Half-Moon Street," "Double Indemnity," "The Story of Dr. Wassell," "The Navy Way," "Going My Way," "Frenchman's Creek," "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay."

P. R. C.

Started: "Buster Crabbe No. 3," with Buster Crabbe, Al St. John.

Finished: "Jive Junction."

RKO-Radio

Shooting: "Tender Comrade," "Days of Glory."

Finished: "The Curse of the Cat People."

Republic

Started: "California Joe," with Don (Red) Barry, Helen Talbot, Wally Vernon, Twinkle Watts, Tarry Frost.

Shooting: "Return of Casanova," "The Fighting Seabees."

Finished: "Pride of the Plains."

20th-Fox

Shooting: "The Sullivans," "Eve of St. Mark," "Home in Indiana," "Lifeboat," "The Lodger."

United Artists

(Benedict Bogeaus)

Shooting: "The Bridge of San Luis Rey."

(P. C. A.)

Shooting: "Knickerbocker Holiday."

(Harry Sherman)

Shooting: "Timber."

(Vanguard Films)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

Universal

Shooting: "Phantom Lady," "Swingtime for Johnny," "When Ladies Fly," "The Impostor," "Three Cheers for the Boys."

Finished: "Third Glory."

Warners

Started: "Outward Bound," with John Garfield, Eleanor Parker, Sydney Greenstreet, George Tobias, Dennis King, George Colouris.

Shooting: "Uncertain Glory," "Passage to Marseille," "Rhapsody in Blue."

Reviews

"Crazy House"

(Universal)

HELLZAPOPPERS Ole Olsen and Chic Johnson were again turned loose at the Universal studios and the result in "Crazy House" is a zany, fast and furious mirthquake. As a bulwark for their gags and gadgets, Universal has provided almost the entire resources of its studio talent roster: Allan Jones, Leo Carrillo, Andy Devine, Robert Paige, and Alan Curtis head the list of ten "guest" stars, including also Percy Kilbride, Billy Gilbert, Edgar Kennedy, Franklin Pangborn, Hans Conried, and Andrew Tombes, all supplying comedy. Count Basie and Leighton Noble and their orchestras, hold up the music end. List of 17 specialty stars includes the DeMarcos, Delta Rhythm Boys, Marion Hutton and the Glenn Miller singers. Also supporting Olsen and Johnson are Cass Daley, Martha O'Driscoll and Patric Knowles.

The picture opens with the looney impression which Olsen and Johnson seem to have left on the Universal lot when they made "Hellzapoppin," such an impression that their arrival to make a second picture throws the entire studio personnel into a frenzy to escape. This is the idea which scripters Robert Lees and Frederick D. Rinaldo use to get "Crazy House" underway. The boys are thrown off the lot but they remain undaunted. Selecting Patric Knowles as director for their new film, they proceed to round up talent, a backer, a studio, and technicians to make the picture on their own. It develops that their "backer" doesn't have a dime, and the creditors see a chance to seize the completed picture. However, the latter are frustrated, and the boys succeed in auctioning off the film to "U's" president at a "preview" for a million dollars.

It's slapstick farce throughout, and director Edward Francis Cline and associate producer Erle C. Kenton have guided with a single purpose, getting laughs for their audiences from hilarious situations and providing tuneful entertainment. "Tropicana," by Don Raye and Gen DePaul, and a lavish production number to the strains of "Pocket Full o'Pennies" are perhaps the best of the musical spots. "Crazy House" is strictly Olsen and Johnson style and audience response to "Hellzapoppin," both in pictures and on Broadway, and to "Sons o' Fun" on Broadway, should be some indication of the type of top grosses exhibitors can expect.

Running time, 80 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

"Mystery of the Thirteenth Guest"

(Monogram)

FARE for the followers of murder mysteries is Monogram's "Thirteenth Guest." The plot starts out to be interesting for its unusualness, but it is lost somewhat in a maze of peculiarities which arise near the end.

Dick Purcell is cast as a super-sleuthing private detective hired by a prominent business man to protect his niece from the rest of her family, members of which have eyes on her inheritance. The niece escapes several murder attempts in a few really hair-raising episodes. Led by Inspector Tim Ryan, who also writes the story, police come on the scene, which results in some good comedy, when Ryan and Purcell can't get together on solutions. Frank Faylen, the inspector's stooge, is also good for several laughs.

Members of Miss Parrish's family "cordially" hate one another and just when the finger of suspicion points to one of the group who appears to bear the strongest grudge, something happens to re-route the investigators. After much prowling around dark corners in the old family homestead, the list of suspects is reduced to two. In a final attempt to put the heiress out of the way, the killer is apprehended in the nick of time. He turns out to be the girl's uncle, who had hired the private detective in the first place.

The element of suspense is fairly well preserved and the rabid mystery fans will enjoy some unique murder methods employed in Lindsley Parsons' latest production. Purcell and Miss Parrish turn in good performances in rather weak lead spots. Ryan and Faylen provide welcome comedy relief. William Beaudine's direction is good; he handled Charles Marion's and Tim Ryan's below-par screen-play in the best possible manner.

Running time, 60 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Luther Named Art Head

Otto Luther has been named art director on consumer and trade advertising for the Warner account by the Blaine-Thompson Co., advertising agency.

'Oklahoma' Reissue and Show: $28,000

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—"The Oklahoma Kid," Warner re-issue at the Oriental Theatre, with Ina Ray Hutton and her orchestra on the stage, is grossing a neat $28,000 this week. "Fired Wife" and "We've Never Been Licked," at the Palace, should do a good $25,000. "This Is the Army" in its third week at the Chicago Theatre will do about $48,000, and "For Whom the Bell Tolls" $32,000 in its sixth week at the State-Lake.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 14:

"Bomber's Moon" (20th-Fox)
"Alaska Highway" (Para.)
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $10,000)

"This Is the Army" (WB)
CHICAGO—(4,000) (55c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $48,000. (Average, $43,000)

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
GARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $8,500)

"Mr. Lucky" (RKO) 1 day, 6th week.
"The Falcon in Danger" (RKO) 1 day, 6th week
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO) 6 days, 3rd week in Loop
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO) 6 days, 3rd week in Loop
GRAND — (1,150) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c). Gross: $9,000. (Average, $8,000)

"The Oklahoma Kid" (WB)
ORIENTAL—(2,300) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days. Stage: Ina Ray Hutton and her orchestra. Gross: $28,000. (Average, $22,000)

"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO) 1 day, 3rd week
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO) 1 day, 3rd week
"Fired Wife" (Univ.) 6 days
"We've Never Been Licked" (Univ.) 6 days
PALACE — (2,500) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) Gross: $25,000. (Average, $19,000)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $32,000. (Average, $17,000)

"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $17,000)

"Heaven Can Wait" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average, $18,000)

"No Escape" (Mono.) 5 days
"Mystery of the 13th Chair" (Mono.) 5 days
"Destroyer" (Col.) 2 days
"Murder at the Waterfront" (WB) 2 days
WOODS—(1,200) (40c-50c-55c-65c-75c-85c) Gross: $9,000. (Average, $7,500)

'Pep Club' Nominates

G. Knox Haddow, exchange service manager, has been nominated for the presidency of the Paramount Pep Club for 1943-44. Elections will be held Oct. 22. Other nominees are: Vice-president, George Weltner; treasurer, David Cassidy; secretary, Harriet Miller; Governors, Arthur Israel, Jr., Herman Lorber, John McDermott, Irving Singer, Irene Scott and Sophie Weinberg.

Haddow is slated to succeed Lorber, assistant to Hugh Owen, Eastern division manager. The nominations were made by a committee headed by Martin H. Hodge.

AGVA Seeks Projector

The American Guild of Varsity Artists "Members in Service" committee has issued an appeal for the donation of a 16mm. projector for the 78th Division, stationed at Camp Butner, N. C.

'Opera' Opens In Phila. With Top $23,500

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 13.—With but one major opening listed this week and despite circus competition, business continues big at downtown houses. "Phantom of the Opera" opened strong at the Boyd, pointing to $23,500, while the Earle, with Woody Herman on the stage and "Spotlight Scandals" on the screen, heads for one of its better weeks with $29,300 expected for six days. Among the holdovers, "So Proudly We Hail" continues well at the Aldine with $11,800 in sight for its sixth week, and "Wintertime" is expected to bring $19,700 to the Fox for a second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 13-15:

"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $10,300).

"This Is the Army" (WB)
ARCADIA — (600) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $3,500).

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. (Average, $19,000).

"Spotlight Scandals" (Mono.) 6 days

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.) 1 day
EARLE — (3,000) (46c-57c-75c) 6 days of vaudeville including Woody Herman's orchestra, Paul Winchell with Jerry Mahoney, Marion Daniels, Billie Rogers, Vido Musso, Chubby Jackson and Cliff Leeman. Gross: $33,500. (Average: $23,900).

"Passport to Suez" (Col.)
FAY'S—(2,200) (29c-35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days of vaudeville including Lil Green, Tiny Bradshaw's band, Bill Bailey, Cino and Cortez and Louis McBride. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
FOX — (3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $19,700. (Average: $17,800).

"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
KARLTON — (1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 5 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $4,700).

"Souls at Sea" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,300).

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,700. (Average: $22,900).

"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
STANLEY — (3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $18,300).

"Spitfire" (RKO)
STANTON — (1,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $8,400).

'Battle of Russia' Viewed in Chicago

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—"The Battle of Russia," fifth in a series entitled "Why We Fight," was viewed here privately this week at the Civic Opera Building Theatre by several hundred persons, including the commanding general and staff of the Sixth Service Command and representatives of press and radio.

Previous films made in this series, which is designed to supply troops in training with a better understanding of the world conflict, are: "Prelude to War," "The Nazis Strike," "Divide and Conquer" and 'Battle of Britain." Series is being produced under direction of Lt. Col. Frank Capra, with "Battle of Russia" having been produced by Lt. Col. Anatole Litvak, under Capra's supervision.

'Movie Guide' Quits

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—*Movie-Radio Guide,* fan monthly of Triangle Publishing Co. will be discontinued.

Off the Antenna

NILES Trammell, NBC president, and John F. Royal, vice-president in charge of international relations, have arrived in England on the first leg of a world tour to make plans for re-establishment of NBC in European capitals as fast as they are freed by the Allied armies. . . . Major sports and other events held in Madison Square Garden are to be televised by NBC to wounded soldiers and sailors in hospitals in the N. Y. area, receivers having already been installed by NBC in Halloran General Hospital, Staten Island, and the U. S. Naval Hospital at St. Albans, Long Island. Installations are to be made at the Tilton General Hospital at Fort Dix, U. S. Naval Hospital at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and the U.S.N. Convalescent Hospital at Harriman, N. Y.

Conceived by the National Association of Broadcasters and financed in cooperation with them by more than 400 radio stations, both members and non-members of the association, who contributed $125,000 to the project, a 100-minute film study of the problems of retail selling and distribution received its first public showing in Washington on Tuesday. The aim of the film, which is to be shown in 126 cities, is to show advantages of radio advertising to retailers. It is estimated that upwards of 25,000 of the nation's retailers and radio executives will see the film. . . . Capitol Records, Inc., of Hollywood, headed by B. G. DeSylva, Paramount production chief, is reported ready to sign with the AFM to resume the making of recordings.

• • •

Purely Personal: *Everett C. Parker, recently ordained Congregational minister, has joined NBC's public service department as a guest staff member. . . . W. H. Fineshriber, Jr., will serve as special assistant to Douglas Coulter, CBS director of broadcasts, during the absence of Davidson Taylor on a special war mission. . . . B. L. Bercovici, formerly with WHN, has joined WLW in Cincinnati as newscaster. . . .*

• • •

Program Notes—"March of Time's" NBC program will salute Academy Award winner James Cagney tomorrow in a sequence entitled "James Cagney, American," with Cagney appearing on the program. . . . Paramount's director of advertising and publicity, Robert M. Gillham, has set Mary Martin on the special NBC Charlie McCarthy-Edgar Bergen "Chase and Sanborn" program originating at West Point on Oct. 24, to promote "True to Life." Gillham has also set Miss Martin on the CBS Kate Smith show for an appearance. . . . Republic's Roy Rogers will be a guest of Charlie McCarthy on Sunday night. . . . Orson Welles, Walter Wanger and Dudley Nichols will discuss "How Should the Movies Be Used Today" on CBS' "People's Platform" on Saturday.

'Lady Takes Chance' Is Capital Winner On $25,000 Gross

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—"A Lady Takes a Chance" looks like the winner this week on an estimated $25,000 at the Warner Earle Theatre. The Abbott-Costello comedy, "Hit the Ice," will do $16,000 at RKO Keith's, while "For Whom the Bell Tolls" holds up fairly well in its fourth week at Loew's Palace for an estimated $24,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 14:

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (28c-39c-44c-66c) 7 days. On stage: Dick Buckley, Hilton Sisters. Gross: $23,000. (Average, $22,000)

"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (30c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $6,900)

"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
WARNERS' EARLE—(2,210) (20c-40c-50c-75c-90c) 7 days. On stage: Frank Paris, Low, Hite and Stanley. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $18,800)

"Hit the Ice" (Univ.)
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (40c-50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $11,400)

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNERS' METROPOLITAN — (1,600) (30c-44c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $6,900)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 4th downtown week. Gross: $24,000. (Average, $17,600)

Fined on Fire Law

MEMPHIS, Oct. 13.—Because investigators on three visits found the exit doors of the Georgia Theater locked, Willie Shapiro was fined $102 in city court.

Canadian Navy in 'Corvette' Promotion

With the cooperation of the Royal Canadian Navy, plans have been concluded for premieres of Howard Hawk's Universal production, "Corvette K-225," at the Centre Theatre, Ottawa, Oct. 19, and at the Criterion on Broadway, Oct. 20. Following the premieres and with general release, Universal will launch the biggest advertising and exploitation campaign in its history, the company said yesterday.

Highlighting the promotion publicity will be a Coast-to-Coast CBS network program with Kate Smith and Randolph Scott and Richard Rosson, star and director of the picture. Miss Smith will broadcast from Ottawa on Oct. 19 and 20. Oct. 19 has been declared "Corvette Day" in Ottawa by mayor's proclamation, and similar proclamations will be made in Montreal, Toronto and Halifax. Navy League of Canada will confer upon Rosson an "Award for Service" medal. Prime Minister MacKenzie King; Naval Minister Angus MacDonald; the Earl of Athlone, Governor General; U. S. Ambassador to Canada Roy Atherton, and Canadian Navy Ministers will attend the Ottawa premiere.

Through the cooperation of the Royal Canadian Navy, the Corvette Villa de Quebec has arrived at an Eastern port. Its officers will be in New York for the premiere here.

Plans for national advertising and exploitation, according to Maurice Bergman, "U's" Eastern ad manager, call for newspaper ads and radio coverage in all key openings.

'Industry's Big Job Lies Ahead'

San Francisco, Oct. 13.—Withal the film industry's great job in encouraging enlistments in armed forces and war industries, in selling war bonds and otherwise supporting the war effort, the industry has its biggest job ahead of it—in the post-war era of rehabilitation and reconstruction. This was the gist of a talk by D. V. Sturdivant, Northern California division manager of Fox-West Coast Theatres, at the local Advertising Club.

Noble Takes Over Blue Web Today

(*Continued from page* 1)

eral Communications Commission Washington on Tuesday. FCC fou Noble "legally, financially and techn cally qualified to operate the statio transferred," and also found t "commitment" of the purchaser consider with "an open mind" reques of all classes or groups for sponsor or sustaining time.

At the same time, the FCC order that Regulation 3,107 prohibiting mu tiple ownership of networks servi substantially the same area be ma effective six months hence. Th regulation, adopted May 2, 1941, h been suspended indefinitely to mal possible the orderly sale of the Bl without a deadline which would undu depress the price.

Transfer of the Blue will result four independent nationwide network "This," the FCC declared, "will me a much fuller measure of competiti between the networks for stations a between stations for networks th has hitherto been possible. In ad tion, the transfer should aid in t fuller use of radio as a mechanism free speech. The mechanism of fr speech can operate freely only wh the controls of public access to t means of a dissemination of news a issues are in as many responsible ow erships as possible and each exercis its own independent judgment," t FCC added.

Mutual is now expected to instru its counsel to request a dismissal the anti-trust proceedings which t network instituted against RCA a NBC in U. S. District Court, Ch cago, in Jan, 1942.

20th-Fox and Para. Buy Time on WAB

Paramount and 20th-Fox have pu chased time on WABC, CBS Ne York outlet, to promote current pr ductions.

Paramount is currently advertisi "True to Life," now playing at t Paramount in New York, on WABC "Arthur Godfrey" program, wh 20th-Fox has purchased time on t "Personally It's Off the Record" pr gram for Oct. 18, 19 and 20, to pr mote "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" whi opens at the Roxy here on Oct. 20.

'Sahara' in Memphis

Columbia's "Sahara" will screened in Memphis tomorrow at t Luciann Theatre.

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L. 54. NO. 74 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1943 | TEN CENTS

18 Current Films to Army In 9 Months

AC Refutes Criticism Of Late Films

he industry so far this year has ned over to the War Department, for overseas servicemen wings, 158 features, of which are releases for the current year, for 1942, the latter having been fined to this year's first quarter dery. There were 3,848 prints of the current productions.

ome 6,635 feature prints and 8,270 rt subject prints have been given persons in uniform in combat ad since the industry first offered

(Continued on page 4)

onogram Finishes irst 8 for '43-'44

OLLYWOOD, Oct. 14.—Monogram completed its first eight pictures the new season, which are debed in a cial 12-page, e-color chure, and which it is l that "the npany bees its fue is here, ."

W. Ray Johnston

f onogram, ded by W. y Johnston, "willing to nd or fall the box-of- results of first group eight. They are not 'pictures on er.' All are completed and ready immediate release," it is said. Unal for a product book of this na-

(Continued on page 6)

oble Gives Check, Sarnoff Gives Blue

ransfer of ownership of the Blue work was effected yesterday when ward J. Noble gave to David Sar-, RCA president, a check complet- payment of $8,000,000 cash, the chase price of the network, and eived in return 1,000 shares of Blue ital stock, representing all outnding capital stock.

mmediately thereafter the board of

(Continued on page 4)

No Set Treasury Rule on Actors' Withholding Tax

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Determination of the status of vaudeville actors, radio talent and others in amusements with respect to the withholding of taxes is being made by the Bureau of Internal Revenue as individual cases are presented by the persons affected, but no all-embracing ruling can be made because of the varying conditions under which they work, it was learned here today. Some film-stage show circuits are understood to have refused to make the tax deductions of show people playing their theatres, to avoid bookkeeping involvements, taking the stand that

(Continued on page 4)

Film Extortion Trial Off Until Monday

The trial of eight alleged racketeers on charges of extorting more than $1,000,000 from the motion picture industry was adjourned, for the second time, until next Monday by Federal Judge John Bright yesterday.

James D. C. Murray, chief defense counsel, wired the judge from Albany that an appeal in a murder case was scheduled for argument today and that numerous Federal officials, some con-

(Continued on page 6)

RKO War Bond Sale Was $24,433,150

Edward L. Alperson, general manager of RKO Theatres, reported here yesterday that $24,433,150 in war bonds were sold by the circuit during the recent Third War Loan Drive, by direct sales to theatre patrons and through special bond premieres.

Amount is exclusive of purchases made by RKO personnel and the company, and almost doubles RKO Theatres' bond sales during the 12 months ending last July 1.

ODT Turns Down Plea for Trucks

Bureau of motor carriers of the Office of Defense Transportation has rejected a test application for a certificate of purchase of a new light truck, which was filed in behalf of a member of the Contract Film Carriers of New York, Ira Meinhardt, its counsel, reported yesterday. This further jeopardizes the position of the carriers in maintaining delivery service with the present deteriorated condition of their trucks.

Having obtained no relief previously, after numerous applications had been presented to the government

(Continued on page 6)

Salesmen to Receive Full Commissions

Order Will Include Rest of Year

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Permanent policy with respect to sales executives' and salesmen's commissions under the Federal salary stabilization program will be set by stabilization director Fred M. Vinson, to whom the matter has been referred by the Internal Revenue Bureau following studies which resulted last week in issuance of an order permitting payment of commissions earned in September and October in cases where previous years' earnings already had been reached or exceeded, it was learned here tonight.

On the basis of that order, it is expected that no barrier will be interposed to the payment to sales executives and salesmen of full commissions they may earn this year, even though the amount exceeds that which they

(Continued on page 4)

Decree Proposals To Clark Today

Consent decree company heads and Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark are scheduled to resume discussions here today on proposals for a revised consent decree.

At today's conference, which will start at 11 a.m. in the American Arbitration Association's chambers, the consenting distributors are expected to submit in writing an actual program setting forth the concessions which they are willing to make in answer to exhibitor complaints against the decree and prevailing trade practices.

At the meeting last Friday company representatives presented information on film terms and playing policies, as requested by Clark.

Open Market a Subject For Peace Table: Allport

By FRED STENGEL

Emphasis on film production in the future will be "qualitative," i.e., longer runs, better pictures, more prints and greater exploitation, rather than "quantitative," in the opinion of Fayette Allport, European manager for the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, who is visiting in this country from headquarters in London.

Fayette Allport

Allport believes, as do many commercial government attaches in this country, he said, that a "free open market based on competitive

(Continued on page 4)

Myers, Smith at Penn. Allied Meet

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 14.—When the Allied MPTO of Western Pennsylvania meets here Oct. 18 and 19, for its annual convention, a closed session for independent exhibitors will be featured importantly. Set for the 19th, this session will spotlight talks by Abram F. Myers, Martin Smith, Ray Branch, and Sidney Samuelson, among other Allied officers.

Convention will open Monday morning with registration of delegates at the Roosevelt Hotel, followed by a noon luncheon. At 1:00 o'clock there will be an open meeting for all industry people, with a presentation and discussion of current and future problems by out-of-state invited guests. Closed session Tuesday will be followed by a banquet at 7 o'clock, according to an announcement of plans by Chairman George J. Corcoran.

ISB Hears Beall on Coming Bond Drive

Suggestions to facilitate advertising and publicity promotions for the forthcoming holiday war bond drive, in which the industry will be asked by the Treasury to participate, were given to the Industry Service Bureau at a luncheon yesterday by Ray Beall, campaign publicity chairman for the War Activities Committee during the

(Continued on page 4)

Personal Mention

RAY BEALL, WAC publicity director during the Third War Loan, will return to Dallas today and to his post as associate director of advertising and publicity for the Interstate Theatre circuit.

•

ISADORE COHEN, M-G-M manager in the Philippines, who was interned by the Japs in Shanghai, is reported by the company to be on his way back to the United States on the *Gripsholm*.

•

CHARLES M. REAGAN, Paramount assistant general sales manager, is a member of the honorary committee for the Army-Notre Dame rally to be held at the Hotel Commodore Nov. 5.

•

CHRIS POPE, Schine circuit chief booker in Washington, and IDA EPSTEIN of that city, were wed recently in Silver Springs, Md.

•

MARJORIE MORROW, of Warner's Eastern talent department, returned yesterday from a tour of Eastern key cities in search of talent.

•

JAMES J. MURPHY, of the American Arbitration Association motion picture division, is in Atlanta attending a film arbitration hearing.

•

M. J. WEISFELDT, Columbia sales executive, has postponed his trip to Chicago and Des Moines until next week.

•

MRS. KATHERINE GOULD, wife of WALTER GOULD, U. A. foreign manager, is recuperating from a recent operation at West Side Hospital here.

•

MAURY ORR, U. A. Cleveland branch manager, has returned to that city following a New York visit.

•

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, United Artists president, is expected from the Coast on Monday.

•

JACOB WILK, Warner Eastern production head, returned yesterday from a three-day visit to Baltimore.

•

WHITNEY BOLTON, Coast publicity consultant for Columbia, will leave New York today for Hollywood.

•

HAROLD RODNER, Warner home office executive, will return Monday from a Chicago business trip.

•

LORNE GREENE, of Canada's National Film Board, has returned to Toronto from Hollywood.

•

JAMES CAGNEY returned here yesterday from a Canadian bond rally hold in Toronto.

•

JANET MCBETH, U. A. booker in Vancouver, is recovering from illness at Kamloops, B. C.

•

GEORGE ETTINGER, Columbia exploiteer, is home ill.

2,630 Warnerites Are Now in Service

Former Warner employees now on active military duty total 2,630, with 14 casualties reported to date, according to Ralph W. Budd, director of personnel in New York. Percentage of employees in service has risen to about 17 per cent, believed to be the highest for any major film company, he said.

From the Burbank studios, 698 are in uniform; Warner Circuit has contributed 1,425; exchanges, 239; home office, 218, and laboratory, warehouse, music firms and field, 50.

Loew's Is Sued on 'Stars Look Down'

Loew's, Inc., was named a defendant in a suit for $1,000,000 filed in Federal Court here yesterday by Grafton Films, Inc., based upon alleged breach of contract with respect to the distribution and exhibition in this country of the film, "The Stars Look Down."

The complaint alleges that the exhibition of the picture was held up for more than 16 months and then released in other than first-run houses.

Warner Bros., Music Publishers Holding Corp., Harms, Inc., Victoria Publishing Co.; and Otto Harbach were named defendants in a suit filed here yesterday in Federal Court involving an alleged copyright infringement of the song, "Love Nest," used in the Warner film, "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

Young, 'Sun' Author, Addresses Publicists

James R. Young, author of RKO's "Behind the Rising Sun" and for 13 years an American correspondent in Tokio, described Jap atrocities to more than 200 present at a luncheon of the Publicity Club of New York at the Hotel Belmont-Plaza here yesterday. Margo, star of the film, also addressed the gathering.

Among those present were: Earl Wingart, Glen Allvine, Joseph Shea, Rutgers Neilson, John Cassidy, Arthur Brilant, Irving Shiffrin, William Fornby, Fred Stengel, Floyd Stone, Al Steen, James Jerauld and R. W. Baremore.

Universal Promotes Goldberg and Simon

W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal, announced yesterday that Nat Goldberg has been named assistant to David Levy, manager of the New York exchange. Goldberg has been with Universal for 30 years and has been New York office manager since 1928.

Leo Simon, head booker in the local office for 17 years, succeeds Goldberg as office manager.

Projector Patents Of Italians Seized

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Despite the fact that Italy now is a co-belligerent of the United Nations the Alien Property Custodian today announced the taking over of nearly 200 patents of Italian nationals for sale of such or use as may be deemed advisable.

Included in the group were patents covering moving picture machines, cinematographic projector cameras and projecting apparatus. In the order the APC provided that the patents and any proceeds therefrom shall be held in an appropriate account and that the patents or proceeds may be returned to the owners "if and when it should be determined to take any one or all of such actions."

Since Italy is no longer an enemy country APC officials said it is probable that the seized patents will be held until the end of the war and then returned although no statement was made as to whether licenses to use them would be granted for the period of the war.

Einfeld to Set Campaigns on Next 3

Charles Einfeld, director of advertising and publicity for Warner Bros., will arrive in New York on Nov. 1 for two weeks to confer with home office executives on special campaigns for the company's next three major releases.

Pictures are "Northern Pursuit," released late in November, "Old Acquaintance" and "The Desert Song," which will be December releases.

En route east, Einfeld will stop off in Chicago to participate in conference of sales executives to be held there the end of this month.

Coast Campaign To Even Patronage

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 14.—A press, screen, radio and telephone campaign, designed to distribute patronage over the early part of the week, was under preparation by the Theatre Defense Bureau today on the suggestion of Rodney Pantages, Marco Wolff and Ben Wallerstein.

Slogans keying the campaign, emphasize, "Let War Workers Attend Theatres on Weekends," "Don't Get Caught in the Weekend Rush," etc. TDB disclosed that a shortage of extra help required to handle weekend crowds is the background reason for the drive.

Cohen Named Head Of OWI Radio Unit

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Philip H. Cohen, formerly deputy chief of the Office of War Information radio bureau, today was appointed head of the bureau succeeding Don Stauffer, who resigned.

Cohen will supervise all Government contacts with broadcasters in matters relating to the war effort and will also handle and schedule time for the Government information program.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 1

W. R. FRANK will leave here t morrow for Minneapolis, fro whence he goes to New York. E will set "Goebbels" release upon h return.

•

Otto Brower's directorial contra today was extended for a year 20th-Fox.

•

"Life of Henry," by Ralph Spenc has been purchased by 20th-Fo George Jessel will produce.

•

PRC Pictures has signed Franc Langford for a feature which Ja Schwartz will produce.

•

John Joseph will leave here for t East on Saturday for a three-week stay.

•

Leon Goldberg today assumed h new RKO studio post.

NEW YORK THEATRE

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
ERIC KNIGHT'S beloved novel
"LASSIE COME HOME"
with RODDY McDOWALL—DONALD CRISP
An M-G-M Picture in Technicolor
Gala Stage Revue Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-460

Mary MARTIN . Franchot TONE . Dick POWELL . Victor MOORE
"TRUE TO LIFE"
IN PERSON
THE INK SPOTS
TONY PASTOR and His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
THE JAPS ARE WORSE THAN KILLERS
'BEHIND THE RISING SUN'

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
'MY KINGDOM FOR A COOK'
CHAS. COBURN
MARGUERITE CHURCHILL
IN PERSON
JAY C. FLIPPEN
EXTRA!
HANNAH WILLIAMS

★ SONJA HENIE
Jack Oakie . Cesar Romero . Carole Landis
Winter Time
20th Century Fox
WOODY HERMAN and His Orchestra
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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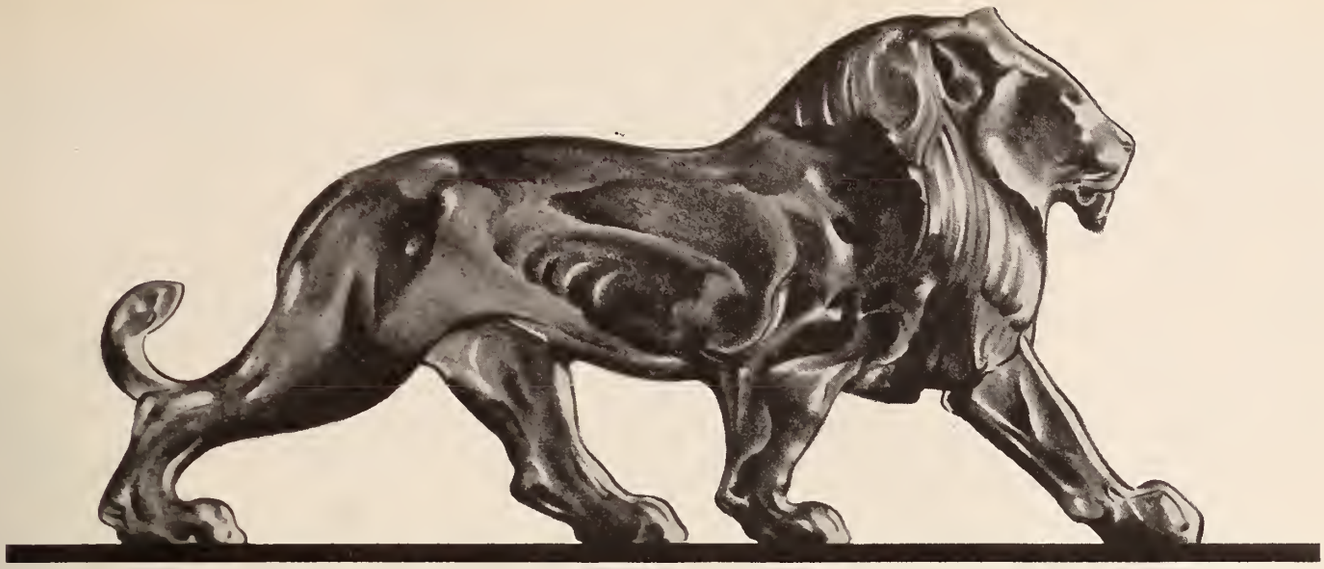

LIFE-LINE!

"The name Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer means more in the motion picture business than any other single name."

FOR INSTANCE!
M-G-M's "LASSIE COME HOME" is doing "Random Harvest" and "Mrs. Miniver" business in its Radio City Music Hall World Premiere. It's another Life-line picture in M-G-M's "12 Toppers" added to such hits as "Best Foot Forward", "Salute To The Marines", "Swing Shift Maisie", "Girl Crazy", "I Dood It", "Whistling In Brooklyn" and more! Hold tight to that M-G-M Life-line!

Quoted from **LIFE** *Magazine, issue of September 27th in a sixteen page section entitled "Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, the Biggest Movie-Making Machine." When Life Magazine set out to tell the nation about the movies, it naturally selected the M-G-M Studios! When the nation sets out to see a movie, they select—*

M-G-M

Life-line of the screen!

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

118 Current Films to Army In 9 Months

(Continued from page 1)

to supply free film entertainment, in Feb., 1942.

These facts are contained in a report, inferentially refuting criticism of the alleged "oldness" of Hollywood pictures being shown Allied trooops and also endeavoring to prove that "new" pictures are being delivered by the industry to the War Department at no cost to the government, issued yesterday by Francis S. Harmon, coordinator of the industry's War Activities Committee.

Harmon Asks Probe

Last week Harmon demanded that the War Department give immediate attention to "reports of serious film deficiencies overseas," asking for "such remedial action as a complete investigation by government authorities will warrant."

Film actors returning recently from entertaining troops overseas in person have stated in interviews that soldiers overseas are "complaining" of the "oldness" of pictures; the fact that prints are in poor condition, and that there are entirely too few prints available for exhibition to these men and women.

In yesterday's report, Harmon stated that "not a single used print has been delivered to the Overseas Film Exchange for shipment." He reported last week that the WAC had been receiving letters from soldiers overseas that the films getting through to them were frequently old and insufficient in number, and Harmon had shown these letters to the Army Special Services Division, which repeatedly assured that these were only isolated instances.

Seidelman Deplores

Joseph H. Seidelman, Universal vice-president and foreign manager, and a special consultant to the Army film unit, during the past weekend deplored the criticism of the Overseas Film Service, declaring that the group is doing a good job in view of the difficulties which confront it.

"The Special Services Division specifically requested prints of 115 films of former years, including the most outstanding releases, to be used exclusively aboard transports," Harmon's report stated.

A total of 104 prints of current pictures have been delivered directly to the Marine Corps for shipment overseas pending completion of arrangements for the Marines to be serviced by the Army Overseas Film Exchanges, the report adds.

Arrangements were recently concluded between the U. S. and Canadian Armies and the industry for U. S. Army Overseas Exchanges to honor requests from Canadian combat troops, the report declared.

Fitzsimmons with MGM

Floyd G. Fitzsimmons has been assigned by M-G-M as field representative in the Albany territory. During the last few years, he has been associated with Warners, Century and Rugoff & Becker.

Open Market a Subject For Peace Table: Allport

(Continued from page 1)

abilities," doing away with many restrictions placed on businesses by foreign countries before the present conflict, should be one of the things ironed out at the world peace table at the end of hostilities.

The success of the few British pictures which have been produced since the war started for distribution in this country and in other lands proves his contention that "quality" rather than "quantity" will be the guide for the industry after the war, Allport declared.

Until 1933, when he joined the Hays organization, Allport was commercial attache in American embassies in many capitals of countries in Europe.

"The removal of restrictions on film revenue by the British government has opened the way for normal film relations between that country and the United States," he said. "I believe this is a permanent arrangement, but whether it will lead to the removal of other restrictions leading eventually to post-war collaboration remains to be seen."

The British Film Quota Act has been "the keystone" in aiding the British film industry, but weaknesses already have come to light in the quota system, especially since the war started, and now the British find that it is not exactly what that government had as its objective when it put the act into effect, Allport pointed out. The act, therefore, has been modified so that American companies may produce in England one film for every 100,000 feet of film imported and the concession of allowing the quota of the current year to be carried over to the following year was also made.

"Furthermore," Allport said, "there were 1,814 exhibitors in England last year who defaulted on their quota obligations in that they did not devote the required amount of screen time to British product."

British film audiences accept American pictures the same way theatregoers here do, and their reaction to Hollywood productions is the same, he stated.

J. Arthur Rank, who has extensive holdings both in the production and exhibition end of the business in Great Britain, will be an important cog in cementing post-war relations between this country and England. "Rank is a leader in the industry and cooperation between the two industries will come about with his aid," Allport opines. "There is no great degree of friction between the two industries," he added.

No Set Rule on Withholding Tax

(Continued from page 1)

actors were employers themselves and not employes of the theatre.

Officials of the bureau pointed out that the status of actors depends upon the arrangements made for their appearance in a theatre, and that an entertainer appearing on a circuit under the direction of an "entrepreneur" may be an employe, as defined in the revenue act, while another making a deal with a theatre to play for a week or more may be an independent contractor.

It was said that the same general rule applies to entertainers as to others —that if they are under the control of the person paying them compensation they are employes. It was suggested informally that a good guide to a person's status would be whether he was under social security, although this might not necessarily be binding.

ISB Hears Beall on Coming Bond Drive

(Continued from page 1)

recent Third War Loan. The new drive will open early next month and will have as its goal the diversion into war bonds of funds normally spent for holiday gifts.

Whitney Bolton, Columbia exploiteer on the Coast and a member of the Western division of the ISB, and Arch Reeve, secretary of the Coast unit of ISB, were also present at the session.

Beall will leave New York today for Dallas to resume as associate director of advertising and publicity for the Interstate Theatre circuit, from which he was on leave of absence during the Third War Loan drive.

Noble Gives Check, Sarnoff Gives Blue

(Continued from page 1)

directors was newly constituted with the resignation of five former directors. Mark Woods, president of Blue, and Edgar Kobak, executive vice-president, remain as directors, and the following new directors were elected: Noble, Franklin S. Wood, his counsel; Earl E. Anderson, vice-president of American Broadcasting, and C. Nicholas Priaulx, secretary-treasurer of ABS.

New officers elected were: Noble, chairman of the board; Priaulx, vice-president in charge of finance, and Robert D. Swezey, counsel of the Blue, as secretary. Woods, Kobak and other officers continue in present capacities.

In connection with his acquisition of the network, Noble said, "As with newspapers, magazines and films, the first and basic consideration is to win and hold the broadest possible public following; and the greater the success in attaining this objective, the greater will be the desire of special interests to reach that audience."

J. M. Joy, Film Sound Pioneer, Dies

John M. Joy, a pioneer in the field of talking pictures, died here this week at St. John's Riverside Hospital. He was 75.

Following technical training in electrical engineering at Cornell University and at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Joy came to New York and later became associated with William Fox's Fox Films where he worked on sound films until he retired several years ago. His wife survives.

Salesmen Will Get Full Commissions For Rest of Yea

(Continued from page 1)

received in the last accounting year their company prior to Oct. 2, 1942

There is some question, however, to how salesmen will be treated ne year, the major question bei whether the ceiling imposed by stabilization program shall apply dollar earnings or to the rate of co mission.

The main argument in favor of ceiling on commissions is that t manpower shortage has necessitat enlargement of salesmen's territori and longer hours of work, fears bei expressed that if salesmen's earnin are limited they will not expend t extra effort necessary to handle t expanded business.

A ceiling on dollar earnings wou restrict salesmen to the amoun earned in past years, while a ceili on commissions would freeze the ra but would permit payment at th rate for all the business they did.

Carter Clearance Complaint Ruled Ou

Clearance complaint of the Cart Coal Co., operating theatres in Co wood and Carretta, in W. Va., agai the five consenting companies, b been dismissed by Chase M. Davi arbitrator at the Cincinnati tribun the American Arbitration Associati reported here yesterday.

Carter in its complaint, alleged t the 30 days clearance enjoyed by t Pocahontas, Temple, Grand and Yuk Theatres over the Coalwood a Carretta houses was unreasonable.

The arbitrator found that Loe and Paramount had no contract arrangements with the complaina and further that evidence of 20th-Fo imposing any clearance over the Co wood and Carretta was insufficient a that the clearance and booking rangements of RKO and Vitagra with Carter's theatres are reasonab Cost was assessed equally among parties.

L. A. Product Jam Eased After Toda

Los Angeles, Oct. 14.—First m to relieve the bottleneck on first r in this area crystallizes tomorr when Fox West Coast's new three- combination, composed of the Egy ian, Hollywood; and the Los Ange and Uptown, Los Angeles, is launch

The initial double bill will be "V tory Through Air Power" and " Diddle Diddle."

Fox West Coast has designated Embassy to replace the Uptown a second run. Still undecided whether the Tower or Rialto wo replace the Los Angeles.

Columbia Backing Pla

Columbia Pictures will finance new Rose Franken play, "When D tors Disagree," it is understood. T play is expected to be staged Broadway in early January. Colu bia has taken first options on t rights and services of cast, which now being selected.

Another MARCH OF TIME

SCOOP!

"PORTUGAL —EUROPE'S CROSSROADS"

PRODUCED BY
THE EDITORS OF TIME

eleased by 20th

BUY IT!
BOOK IT!
ADVERTISE IT!

Monogram Finishes First 8 for '43-'44

(Continued from page 1)

ture is the inclusion of critics' observations on finished pictures, headed by MOTION PICTURE DAILY's report on "Spotlight Scandals."

Others of the group are: "Women in Bondage," "Melody Parade," "Lady, Let's Dance," with this Belita starrer promoted in a double-page spread; "Charlie Chan in the Secret Service," with Sidney Toler; "Sweethearts of the U.S.A." with a large cast and the bands of Garber, King and Olman; "Mr. Muggs Steps Out," with the East Side Kids, and "The Unknown Guest," with Victor Jory, Pamela Blake and Veda Ann Borg.

"Wonderland" has been set as the title of Belita's third picture for Monogram to follow "Lady, Let's Dance."

Meanwhile, seven circuits, comprising 600 theatres, have signed for the new Monogram program, according to Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager. The new list is headed by Paramount-Wilby-Kincey circuit, operating 165 theatres in Alabama, Tennessee, the Carolinas, Virginia and West Virginia. Others are Warner Theatres of New Jersey, 63 houses; Malco circuit, 79 theatres in Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee; R. E. Griffith Theatres, 59 houses in Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Texas and Colorado; Schulte's Theatres, 21 in Michigan; Theatres Service Co., 99 houses in Louisiana and Mississippi, and the Saenger Paramount-Richards circuit, with 74 theatres in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

SMPE, Services in Standards Program

A committee representing the Society of M. P. Engineers and the armed forces has been named to consider the need of adequate test films and performance specifications on 16-mm. projectors, cinematography, sound recording, film processing and printing and projection.

Representing the SMPE are Donald E. Hyndman and F. T. Bowditch. Armed services are represented by Lt. Col. R. McGuire, U. S. Marines; Major Frank E. Cahill, Jr., Major S. D. Lund, Lt. Lloyd T. Goldsmith, Lt. Boyce Nemec of the Signal Corps; Major George Groves of the Air Corps, and Lt. Gordon Chambers, U. S. Navy.

Chicago Organizes Against Vandalism

CHICAGO, Oct. 14.—Citywide conference to avert juvenile delinquency has been organized here by representatives of civic, religious, educational and labor organizations. Plan is to get youngsters off the streets and into clubrooms to be established throughout the town.

An offer to defray expenses of a central office or clearing house to correlate the activities of all social and youth groups has been made by Lou Shainmark, managing editor of the *Herald American*. A committee of ten will draw up a 'Master Chicago Plan.' Major Lenox R. Lohr was named as chairman.

Reviews

"My Kingdom for a Cook"

(Columbia)

HIGHLY diverting hi-jinks of Charles (Dingle) Coburn as the celebrated, Shavian-like author, who comes to America to help cement Anglo-American relations at the sacrifice of his gastronomic comfort, develops "My Kingdom for a Cook" into an amusing romantic comedy which should find high favor at the box office as pleasant escapist entertainment. Romance is supplied by Marguerite Chapman, lovely, devoted daughter of the novelist, and Bill Carter as the lieutenant son of the cultural leader of the small New England town upon which Coburn descends.

P. J. Wolfson produced this one from a satisfactory screen play supplied by the combined efforts of Harold Goldman and Andrew Solt, Joseph Hoffman and Jack Henley. Solt collaborated with Lili Hatvany on the original. Coburn, in coming to America from his native England on his first visit, places the gratification of his appetite before the importance of his mission, and plunges the New England town into a furore, for he not only snubs the best people, but commits the unpardonable sin of trying to steal the cook of the town's cultural leader. In vain Coburn's daughter tries to save him from his folly. She even runs off with the son of the cultural leader to make her father see the light. But it is not until Coburn meets some volunteer workers at a nearby farm, that he is sobered up sufficiently to understand the importance of his mission for creating friendship. He is able to turn rout into success and he does convince an audience that English people are not to be judged by his actions. In the meantime, he has practically acquired an American son-in-law.

Direction by Richard Wallace keeps the story moving and provides a proper balance between comedy and romance. Some of the others in the competent cast are Isobel Elsom, Mary Wickes, Edward Gargan, and Almira Sessions, but Coburn's neat performance as Rudyard Morley dominates the action. Miss Chapman and Carter are appealing romanticists.

Running time, 82 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

"Passport to Suez"

(Columbia)

ADVENTURE in "Passport to Suez," of the Lone Wolf series, starring Warren William, pertains to the period when Alexandria was a hot-spot on the checkerboard of international intrigue. It suffers somewhat as to timeliness therefore.

Film opens with the Lone Wolf arriving in Alexandria to keep an appointment with a British official. He is intercepted by a Nazi agent who forces him to seemingly accept a mission for Germany's service. He reports the fact to the British official, who instructs him to proceed as if obeying, in order to learn the nature of the Nazis' undertaking. Various and varied spies, all picturesque, are dealt with, most of them fatally, before the Lone Wolf triumphs over the German plotters.

Wallace MacDonald produced, with Andre De Toth directing, from a script by John Stone predicated on a story by Alden Nash. The result is a fairly lucid and sometimes moderately exciting adventure, blemished occasionally by inadequate performances. William is supported by Eric Blore, who furnishes the comic relief, Ann Savage, Sheldon Leonard, Gavin Muir, Lou Merrill, Lloyd Bridges and others.

Running time, 71 minutes. "G."*

"G" denotes general classification

ODT Turns Down Plea for Trucks

(Continued from page 1)

agency for purchase approval and which were rejected, the Metropolitan film delivery companies appealed to the New York Film Board of Trade for assistance. The distributor representatives on the board suggested the formation of an exhibitors' committee to join the truckers in informing the War Production Board of the acute delivery problem confronting the film carriers in maintaining schedules in the Metropolitan district and suburban areas. Exhibitors and carriers committees are now being selected.

Rogers at St. Louis

Roy Rogers will make a personal appearance in conjunction with the opening of "Man From Music Mountain" at the Fox Theatre, St. Louis, Nov. 4. Picture will receive a heavy advertising-publicity campaign prepared by Les Kaufman, publicity director of the theatre, who has been conferring here with Steve Edwards, Republic's director of publicity, and Charles Reed Jones, company's advertising director.

Weiser Promoted

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 14.—Marty Weiser, Warner Bros. Coast field representative for the past several years, has been promoted to a new post in Alex Evelove's studio publicity department, where he will handle exploitation.

Film Extortion Tria Off Until Monda

(Continued from page 1)

nected with the prosecution, planne to attend a luncheon today to be give to newly-appointed U. S. Attorne James B. M. McNally. Last Frida the court adjourned the trial unt yesterday because of the pressure other business.

William Bioff, convicted labo racketeer and the Government's ch witness against the defendants, six whom are alleged members of the Capone ring in Chicago, is schedule to complete his direct testimony soo after the trial resumes Monday mor ing.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Gener Boris Kostelanetz is in charge of t prosecution.

It is considered likely that Georg E. Browne, former president of t IATSE, will follow Bioff as a go ernment witness. Browne and Bio are now serving long prison sentenc as a result of their conviction tw years ago of a similar extortio Browne is expected to tell how t racketeers actually dominated t IATSE and dictated its policies, wi respect to the huge collections fro film producing companies.

There is a possibility that the go ernment will call Al Capone as witness. Ralph Capone, Al's brothe has already been served with a su poena to testify. Ralph was a witne before the special Federal grand ju which returned the indictment again his former pals.

Defense Subpoenas Coast Witnesses

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 14.—Deputy U S. Marshal Ed Faupel today beg serving 25 subpoenas for the defen side of the Bioff case calling for wi nesses' presence in New York on t 30th. Among those for whom su poenas were issued are Jose Schenck, Lou Wertheimer, former a sistant to Schenck; unionists L. Helm, Harold Smith, Lew Blix; P Casey, AMPP labor contact; Willa Stewart, James Shaw, and the L Angeles branch of the National Lab Relations Board. Subpoenas we turned over to the marshal's office f service by Lahey Detective Agenc Casey also was subpoenaed by t Government.

Several in Illinois Increase Admission

CHICAGO, Oct. 14.—Price increas of from four to nine cents have be put into effect by the Oriental Theat here; the Commercial, in Sou Chicago has lifted prices five cents a a number of houses of the Great Stat Circuit in downstate Illinois have i creased five and ten. The five-cent a vances were in 'B' houses and the te cent advances in 'A' houses. Also, M Vicker's Theatre will raise prices o and two cents tomorrow to elimina the use of pennies.

Brandt Hedges

Harry Brandt, metropolitan exhit tor and I.T.O.A. president, telephon trade papers an invitation to send reporter to his office yesterday for statement." Brandt told the reporte that he now believes there is a mark for factual war pictures but not f fictional war pictures. Last summe he recalled, he was against all w pictures.

ittsburgh Flocks o See 'Rising Sun,' Tally Is $22,500

ITTSBURGH, Oct. 14.—Indian sum- brought a better-than-average k here, with "Spitfire," billed with Spitalny's all-girl orchestra at Stanley, topping grosses with an ected $28,000. "Claudia" will be over an extra three days beyond fourth week at the Fulton, with a ble bill coming in Saturday.

stimated receipts for the week end- Oct. 12-14:

udia" (20th-Fox)
ULTON—(1,700) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 4th k. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,700).

antom of the Opera" (Univ.)
ARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. ss: $12,400. (Average: $9,300).

hind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
ENN—(3,400) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: 00. (Average: $16,800).

nny Come Lately" (UA)
TZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 4th k, moveover after one week at Penn, at Warner. Gross: $2,000. (Average: 0).

e Oklahoma Kid" (WB)
ENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. ss: $5,000. (Average: $3,200).

tfire" (RKO)
ANLEY—(3,800) (35c-50c-75c) On stage: ys of vaudeville including Phil Spitalny's irl orchestra. Gross: $28,000. (Average: 00).

e Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
ARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, week, moveover after one week at n. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,000).

rovidence Pays $14,500 for 'Face'

ROVIDENCE, Oct. 14. — "Let's Face gave the Strand Theatre the best ness, relatively speaking, of the k, on a $14,500 gross. All other ses held up nicely, with business inuing strong.

stimated receipts for the week end- Oct. 14:

Valked with a Zombie" (RKO)
e Leopard Man" (RKO)
KO-Albee—(2,239) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 s. Gross: $13,500. (Average, $10,800).

t's Face It" (Para.)
gh Explosive" (Para.)
RAND—(2,200) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: 00. (Average, $9,500).

Dood It" (M-G-M)
sney Cartoon Revue"
DEW'S STATE—(3,232) (30c-40c-50c) 7 s. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $14,400).

ntertime" (20th-Fox)
t Going" (Univ.)
AJESTIC—(2,250) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. ss: $11,800. (Average, $11,700).

is Is the Army" (WB)
ARLTON—(1,536) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, week, (third week after moving from estic). Gross: $4,500. (Average, $4,100).

u're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (niv.)
AY'S—(1,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. On e: Two Harmonettes, Chester Dolphin Jack Roy, Murray & Lewis, Frances te, Two Dobas. Gross: $7,900. (Aver- $6,400).

est Side Kid" (Rep.)
ETROPOLITAN—(3,050) (40c-65c) 3 s. On Stage: Blue Barron's orchestra, Kirby's orchestra, Paul Remos & Boys, Eleanor Teaman. Gross: $8,- (Average, $6,800).

egion Approves Six New Films

egion of Decency has approved umbia's "Doughboys in Ireland," Class A-I, for general patronage, the following five productions in ss A-II, for adults: "Here Comes ier" and "Mystery Broadcast," ublic; "Hi Ya Sailor," Universal; arly 18," Monogram, and "Paris er Dark," 2t0h Century-Fox.

'Face It,' $27,000, Cleveland Winner

CLEVELAND, Oct. 14.—"Let's Face It" with an estimated $27,000 played to the best Saturday night's business in a year at Loew's State and holds over another week. Grossed $30,000 for "Behind the Rising Sun" at Warners' Hippodrome is tremendous and guarantees a moveover to the Allen for a continued run. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" was strong with a probable $21,000 for a third week at Loew's Ohio.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 13:

"Heaven Can Wait" (20th-Fox)
ALLEN—(3,300) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average, $8,300)

"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
WARNER'S HIPPODROME—(3,500) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average, $17,100)

"This Is The Army" (WB)
WARNER'S LAKE—(719) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $4,500. (Average, $3,100)

"For Whom The Bell Tolls" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average, new house)

"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c and 85c Sundays and holidays) 7 days. Stage: Herb Miller orchestra, with Ann Corio and Eddie Foy, Jr. Gross: $18,800. (Average, $25,800)

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average, $16,800)

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average, $8,600)

Tulsa Pays Off on 'Rhine' for $8,250

TULSA, Okla., Oct. 14.—"Watch on the Rhine" proved a winner at the Ritz here this week on a healthy $8,-250 and folks proved Universal was right in spotting Donald O'Connor by contributing $8,000 gross at the Orpheum for "Mr. Big." Weather good; no competition.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 14:

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
MAJESTIC—(570) (25c-40c) 7 days. Moveover from the Ritz. Gross: $3,750. (Average, $2,500).

"Mr. Big" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(1,400) (20c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $7,500).

"Hitler's Madmen" (PRC)
"Follies Girl" (PRC)
RIALTO—(1,250) (20c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,250. (Average, $1,500).

"Two Tickets to London" (Univ.)
"Sherlock Holmes' Secret Weapon" (Univ.)
RIALTO—(1,250) (20c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average, $1,900).

"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
RITZ—(2,000) (25c-40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,250. (Average, $7,750).

Republic Closes Midwestern Deals

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Oct. 14.—Republic has closed a deal covering its 1943-44 product with Fox Midwest Theatres and Commonwealth Theatres of Missouri and Kansas. President J. R. Grainger and Midwestern district sales manager Ed Walton represented Republic in the deals with Robert F. Withers, Kansas City franchise holder, and Nat Steinberg, St. Louis branch manager. Fox was represented by Elmer Rhoden and Lou Cox and Clarence Schultz negotiated for Commonwealth.

A GRAND NIGHT for A GRAND CAUSE

★

Don't miss the midnight preview of a new Paramount picture, "RIDING HIGH," at the Paramount Theatre, N. Y.

★

The time: Midnight, October 22, 1943. The price: From $1.10 in the balcony to $1.65 in the orchestra, Loges $5.50. No seats reserved.

★

FOR A GOOD TIME FOR YOURSELF AND FAMILY AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE A.M.P.A. RELIEF FUND — get your tickets now, today!

Tickets can be ordered from Room 192, Astor Hotel Times Square, New York

STARS AND SURPRISES GALORE AWAIT YOU!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Sept. 18	HAIL TO THE RANGERS Charles Starrett Arthur Hunnicutt O—(5201)	(Fourth Block) HARRIGAN'S KID D—70 mins. (329) PRESENTING LILY MARS Judy Garland M—104 mins. (330)	REVENGE OF THE ZOMBIES Veda Ann Borg John Carradine D—61 mins. (215)	(Sixth Block) SO PROUDLY WE HAIL Claudette Colbert Paulette Goddard Veronica Lake D (4228)	TRAIL OF TERROR James Newill Tex O'Brien O—63 mins. (356)	BEYOND THE LAST FRONTIER Eddie Dew Smiley Burnette O—56 mins. (351)	(Seventh Block) PETTICOAT LARCENY Ruth Warrick Joan Carroll C—61 mins.	WINTER TIME Sonja Henie Jack Oakie Woody Herman & Orchestra M—82 mins. (405)		SHERLOCK HOLMES FACES DEATH TOP MAN Donald O'Connor (8024)	MURDER ON THE WATERFRONT Warren Douglas Joan Winfield D—49 mins. (302)
Sept. 25	DANGEROUS BLONDES Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D—(4016)	THE YOUNGEST PROFESSION C—81 mins. (331) PILOT #5 Franchot Tone D—70 mins. (332)	SPOTLIGHT SCANDALS Billy Gilbert Frank Fay M—(24)	DIXIE (Technicolor) Bing Crosby Dorothy Lamour M—89 mins. (4230)		DEATH VALLEY MANHUNT O—55 mins. (375)	THE SKY'S THE LIMIT Fred Astaire Joan Leslie M—90 mins.			ALWAYS A BRIDESMAID Andrews Sisters Patric Knowles Grace McDonald C—(8023)	THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS All Star Musical M—127 mins. (303)
Oct. 2	FOOTLIGHT GLAMOUR Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—68 mins. (4020)	DU BARRY WAS A LADY (Technicolor) Red Skelton M—101 mins. (333) HITLER'S MADMAN D—84 mins. (334)		HENRY ALDRICH SWINGS IT Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith C—65 mins. (4226)	GIRL FROM MONTERREY Armida C 61 mins. (412)		THE FALCON IN DANGER Tom Conway Joan Brooks D—70 mins.	SWEET ROSIE O'GRADY Betty Grable Robert Young (Technicolor) M—76 mins. (408)	BAR 20 William Boyd Andy Clyde O—54 mins.	CORVETTE K-225 Randolph Scott Andy Devine D A Howard Hawks Production	(Re-Issues) Song of the Saddle Prairie Thunder The Cherokee Strip Empty Holsters Guns of the Pecos Land Beyond the Law
Oct. 9	DOUGHBOYS IN IRELAND Kenny Baker Jeff Donnell M	RANDOM HARVEST Ronald Colman Greer Garson D—126 mins. (370) HUMAN COMEDY Mickey Rooney D—117 mins. (380)	BLAZING GUNS Hoot Gibson Ken Maynard 54 mins. O	ALASKA HIGHWAY Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—68 mins. (4227) SUBMARINE ALERT Richard Arlen Wendy Barrie D—67 mins. (4229)	LONE RIDER IN RAIDERS OF RED GAP O—(368)		BEHIND THE RISING SUN Margo Tom Neal D—88 mins.			CRAZY HOUSE Olsen & Johnson Martha O'Driscoll Count Basie & Band M	ADVENTURE IN IRAQ John Loder Ruth Ford D—(304)
Oct. 16	SAHARA Humphrey Bogart Bruce Bennett J. Carroll Naish 97 mins. D (43-'44)	(First Block) (1943-44) ABOVE SUSPICION D—90 mins. (402)	OUTLAWS OF STAMPEDE PASS Johnny Mack Brown (O)	(Re-Issue) UNION PACIFIC Barbara Stanwyck Joel McCrea D—138 mins. (4250)	SUSPECTED PERSON D—(315)	SCREAM IN THE DARK Marie McDonald (229) OLD BARN DANCE (Re-issue) Gene Autry—(2307)	MEXICAN SPITFIRE'S BLESSED EVENT Lupe Velez Leon Errol C—64 mins.	PARIS AFTER DARK George Sanders Brenda Marshall Philip Dorn 85 mins. (409)		HI-YA SAILOR Elyse Knox Donald Woods M	
Oct. 23	THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME Chester Morris George E. Stone Jeanne Bates D (43-'44)	BEST FOOT FORWARD Lucille Ball M—94 mins. (405) DR. GILLESPIE'S CRIMINAL CASE Lionel Barrymore D—89 mins. (407)	THE UNKNOWN GUEST Victor Jory Pamela Blake D	(Re-Issue) SOULS AT SEA Gary Cooper George Raft D—93 mins. (4254)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN THE RETURN OF THE RANGERS THE UNDERDOG Barton McLane (316)	MAN FROM THE RIO GRANDE John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O—55 mins. (363)	Special Releases COASTAL COMMAND D—60 mins. SPITFIRE Leslie Howard David Niven D—90 mins.			YOU'RE A LUCKY FELLOW, MR. SMITH Allan Jones Evelyn Ankers M—(8033)	PRINCESS O'ROURKE Olivia DeHavilland Robert Cummings D—(305)
Oct. 30	IS EVERYBODY HAPPY? Ted Lewis and his Band M	GIRL CRAZY Mickey Rooney Judy Garland C—99 mins. (409) LASSIE COME HOME (410) Roddy MacDowall D	BULLETS AND SADDLES A Range Buster O	(First Block) (1943-44) LET'S FACE IT Bob Hope Betty Hutton M—76 mins. (4301)		MAN FROM MUSIC MOUNTAIN Roy Rogers Ruth Terry O—(257)	(First Block) (1943-44) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C	(Re-Issues) IN OLD CHICAGO D—94 mins. (406) BANJO ON MY KNEE M—95 mins. (407)	THE GUNMASTER Claire Trevor Albert Dekker D	FLESH AND FANTASY Edward Robinson Charles Boyer Barbara Stanwyck D—(8062)	
Nov. 6	SILVER CITY RAIDERS Russell Hayden Adele Mara O	SALUTE TO THE MARINES Wallace Beery Fay Bainter D—(401) SWING SHIFT MAISIE (404) Ann Sothern C—86 mins.	MYSTERY OF THE 13th GUEST Dick Purcell D	TRUE TO LIFE Mary Martin Franchot Tone Dick Powell C—94 mins. (4303) HOSTAGES Luise Rainer Arturo de Cordova Paul Lukas D—88 mins. (4305)	THE DEVIL RIDERS Buster Crabbe O—(460)	OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY "Wild Bill" Elliott Ann Jeffreys	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D	GUADALCANAL DIARY Wm. Bendix Lloyd Nolan D (412)		SON OF DRACULA Robert Paige Louise Allbritton—D THE MAD GHOUL Evelyn Ankers David Bruce—D	FIND THE BLACKMAILER Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson D—(306)
Nov. 13	RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE Nina Foch Bela Lugosi D	ADVENTURES OF TARTU (406) Robert Donat Valerie Hobson D—103 mins.	NEARLY EIGHTEEN Gale Storm Bill Henry D—61 mins. (226)	THE GOOD FELLOWS Cecil Kellaway Helen Walker James Brown C—70 mins. (4302)		HERE COMES ELMER Al Pearce Dale Evans C	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C			COBRA WOMAN Maria Montez Jon Hall Sabu D (in Technicolor)	NORTHERN PURSUIT Errol Flynn Julie Bishop D—(307)
Nov. 20		YOUNG IDEAS Susan Peters (408) Mary Astor D—77 mins. THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER D—103 mins. (411)	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43) M—(210)	TORNADO Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—83 mins. (4304)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN BOSS OF RAWHIDE O—(452) HARVEST MELODY M—(402)	MYSTERY BROADCAST Frank Albertson D	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D	DANCING MASTERS Laurel and Hardy C—63 mins. (413)		NEVER A DULL MOMENT The Ritz Brotherss Frances Langford Mary Beth Hughes C	
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal	I DOOD IT D—102 mins. (403) WHISTLING IN BROOKLYN Red Skelton Ann Rutherford		(Special Release) THE CITY THAT STOPPED HITLER—HEROIC STALINGRAD 58 mins. (4331)		CANYON CITY John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS		GUNG HO Randolph Scott Alan Curtis (Walter Wanger Prod.) D	

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Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 75 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1943 | TEN CENTS

Films Face Tough Fight In Post-War'

U. S. Official Warns of Stiff Competition

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—A warn- that the American film indus- , after the war, may find itself hting as it never fought before distribute its ducts in for- n markets, is nded here by official Gov- ment foreign- n-market kesman in a tement issued release to- rrow.

Nathan D. Golden

If the fight uld prove to an unfair , Hollywood y find itself pendent nost wholly n its domestic United States market

(Continued on page 7)

London Air Trips Reported Cancelled

Trans-Atlantic travel plans of in- try officials awaiting accommoda- ns to and from London have been stically upset by the reported can- ation of the North Atlantic com- rcial flights for the winter season. was learned here over the weekend. t was further reported that the thern route flights will not accept

(Continued on page 6)

WPB Urges Industry To Salvage Waste

Paul W. Zockhausen—of the WPB general salvage branch —has appealed to this and other industries to cooperate in salvaging waste paper for use in the war effort.

WPB points out that the U. S. is faced with its most serious paper shortage, while the demand grows daily. Zockhausen states that conservation does not provide the complete solution, but that salvage for refabrication purposes is equally as important.

Fibre Containers Bring Threat to Close Exchanges

A threat to close New York City film exchanges because of alleged violations of municipal ordinances by using fibre board film containers in lieu of tin, creating fire hazards, has been made by the N. Y. Fire Department, it was learned at the weekend. Several exchanges, film laboratories and film freight forwarders have already been served summonses by Fire Department inspectors to appear for hearing in Magistrate's Court here Oct. 22 to answer the charge.

Exchanges, laboratories and freight forwarders face possible revocation of licenses, fines or six-month jail terms, if found guilty of the offense.

Paramount's New York exchange and Massce-Barnett, film freight forwarders, as well as some laboratories at 630 9th Ave., were among the first to have been served with summonses, and an emergency meeting was held at

(Continued on page 6)

Penn. Allied Will Stress War Effort

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 17.—When the Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania meets here tomorrow and Tuesday for its 23rd annual convention, special emphasis will be placed on activities pertaining to the industry's participation in the war effort, as well as on product and related subjects.

Among items to be taken up are the

(Continued on page 6)

CLARK WARNS U.S. MAY GO INTO COURT

Business Up 25% In San Francisco

San Francisco, Oct. 17.—One reason for increased theatre business here was revealed in a report by the Chamber of Commerce that the general level of business hereabouts is 25 per cent above 1942. According to the Chamber the city's estimated population is 775,000.

Independents in Difficulties: Levey

Making of pictures by independent producers is "tougher now than it ever has been," Jules Levey, producer of "The Hairy Ape," which goes into production shortly and who has plans for four other features for United Artists release, stated on his arrival here from the Coast Friday.

"The major distributors are signing up everybody with any qualifications at all, whether they are actors, technicians, writers, cameramen, directors or can fill any other studio jobs for which there is such a tremendous manpower shortage. This leaves the independent producer out in the cold, unless, of course, he has a story property which a star under contract to one of the majors has his heart set on," Levey said.

Hints No Decree Unless 'Certain Interests' Are Reasonable

Tom C. Clark, Assistant U. S. Attorney-General in charge of the film consent decree, hinted in New York on Friday, in an interview with MOTION PICTURE DAILY, at the possibility that no new consent decree will be forthcoming unless "certain branches" of the film industry decide to meet on reasonable terms. He would make no identification.

Tom C. Clark

He told MOTION PICTURE DAILY

(Continued on page 6)

Hitch Develops in RKO-FWC Deal

A hitch has developed in the deal whereby RKO Theatres would take over operation of the Carthay Circle Theatre, Los Angeles, from Fox-West Coast, thus giving RKO one of those three-way first-run outlets in the Coast city, the others being the Pantages, Hollywood, and the Hillstreet, L. A., it was reliably learned at the weekend.

30% Tax Seen Sharply Cut Or Eliminated Entirely

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—House Ways and Means Committee will conclude its tax bill hearings early this week and get down to the actual writing of a revenue bill, with possibilities that the Treasury proposal for a 30 per cent admission tax may be sharply scaled down if not rejected entirely.

A five per cent sales tax with no exemptions, increased corporation rates, moderate increases in excise taxes on liquors, tobacco and certain other items, plus strict Governmental economy, currently appears a likely

(Continued on page 6)

Wanger Reelected Academy President

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 17.—The Board of Governors of the Academy of M. P. Arts and Sciences reelected Walter Wanger by acclamation to his fifth term as president. Other reelections were James Hilton, first vice-president; Rosalind Russell, fourth vice-president; Donald Crisp, treasurer; Nathaniel Finston, assistant treasurer. The board elected Jean Hersholt second vice-president; Howard Hawks, third vice-president. J. L. Johnston succeeded Pete Smith as secretary; W. B. Ihnen replacing Johnston as ass't secretary.

Penny Shortage at Chicago Theatres

Chicago, Oct. 17.—A penny shortage is affecting film houses here. Banks have been unable to furnish anything like amounts requested even with the release of thousands of new type pennies. The new coins themselves have caused considerable confusion here, as elsewhere in the U. S., because they are easily mistaken for dimes. Theatre managers report that they have even been found in rolls of dimes obtained from banks.

Personal Mention

GRAD SEARS and CARL LESERMAN, U.A. executives, are expected here today from the Coast.

•

JACK FLYNN, M-G-M Western division manager; SAM SHIRLEY, M-G-M Chicago district manager, and RALPH BRANTON, Tri-States circuit executive, are on a hunting trip.

•

LT. JOSEPH F. MYERS, son of Fred Myers, Universal's Eastern sales manager, was a pilot of one of the planes in the recent raid that ruined the Jap base at Rabaul.

•

RALPH ARMSTRONG, manager of the Liberty, Libertyville, Ill., is father of a new son, DOUGLAS DEAN, born recently at Condell Memorial Hospital in that town.

•

FRANK BOUCHER, general manager of the K-B Amusement Co., Washington, will marry MARY LORENE ARMSTRONG in the Capital next Saturday.

•

JULES FIELDS of the exploitation department, and TED LLOYD, of the radio department of 20th-Fox, left over the weekend for Washington.

•

JACK ALSTEIN, Eastern publicity manager, and RODNEY BUSH, director of exploitation for 20th-Fox, left over the weekend for Tulsa, Okla.

•

HAROLD BEECROFT, special representative for 20th Century-Fox working out of Boston, was a New Haven visitor late last week.

•

GRACE GOLDBERG, secretary to JACOB WILK, at Warners, will return to her desk today after an illness of several weeks.

•

HERMAN STARR, head of Warners' music subsidiaries, returned to New York from Hollywood over the weekend.

•

MICHAEL SIMONS, editor of *The Distributor*, M-G-M house publication, was in Albany over the weekend.

•

CHRISTY WILBERT, 20th-Fox press book editor, returned from Washington over the weekend.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram general sales manager, is due here from the Coast late this week.

•

ED SCHREIBER, WAC publicity head, will return from a two-week vacation today.

•

EDWARD A. GOLDEN will leave the Coast Friday for New York.

•

ANDREW STONE, United Artists producer, is here from the Coast.

•

JAMES R. YOUNG has arrived in Dallas from New York.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

WHILE publishers continue to apply what appears to be a hit-or-miss policy in the allocation of reduced advertising space to virtually all accounts with the exception of the largest department stores and national advertisers, a joint Anglo-American-Canadian committee appointed to investigate pulp production comes up with the prediction that newsprint may be further reduced from 20 to a maximum of 52 per cent next year. The latter reduction would mean, the committee points out, a change in the size of newspapers.

Still, there has been no effort on the part of publishers, insofar as their own trade journals have been able to discern, to agree upon a uniform policy governing allocation of advertising space. In many cases, it is not enough that an account is an old advertiser, although the basic rule of publishers today purports to favor established customers. In order to get desirable, if not adequate space, an account must also be a large user of space. In practice, it appears that the large space buyer, whether old or new, is the one who actually is favored.

• •

A recent issue of *Printers' Ink* reports that Shreve C. Badger, special financial consultant to the Department of Commerce, checked on 214 advertisers in a certain publication recently, most of whom he did not know. He found that 10 per cent of them were industrial organizations with second or third grade Dun & Bradstreet credit ratings.

His conclusion was that these obviously were new advertisers, probably sub-contractors making war goods, who were buying space for income tax deduction purposes. It also occurred to him that if wartime conditions made some manufacturers affluent enough to advertise for the first time, yet did not lift them out of the lower credit brackets, the outlook for postwar business development (and advertising) so far as they were concerned, was "decidedly dismal."

Yet such advertisers, under the present loose policy or lack of policy in allocating space, obviously can buy what they want regardless of the fact that they have little or nothing to sell to the public and that their advertising expenditures have a tax deduction result that permits them to indulge themselves on what amounts to a cost-free basis. And in doing it, they command space that is denied to older advertisers still selling unrationed goods and services to the public, among them the motion picture.

• •

There is very little indication that Representative Walter C. Ploeser will receive much satisfaction from his current effort to saddle producers with a schedule of "Thou shalt nots" to avoid inclusion of attitudes and incidents in motion pictures which Rep. Ploeser and those who happen to share his views regard as "propaganda." Will H. Hays is scheduled to confer with Rep. Ploeser again this week in Washington, relaying to the latter the views of company heads on the subject. Those views have undergone no basic change since their airing at the Senate propaganda investigation during the summer of 1941.

Approximately half of the major companies have made advances to Mexican producers in return for certain distribution rights to their pictures in Latin American territories. Many such investments have proved worthwhile as a result of the increasing popularity of Mexican pictures in the Pan-American sphere. Others have left a trail of complications and annoyances that have discouraged some companies from continuing the practice.

• •

With only five weeks remaining until the expiration of the decree's trial period on Nov. 20, much remains to be done and practically all of it is fundamental, not just legal embroidery. However, there is no real deadline for completion of negotiations. The decree will continue in full force and effect after Nov. 20 if no agreement has been reached by then. The significance of the date is only this: After Nov. 20 the Department of Justice will be free to bring an action for divorcement of affiliated theatres if it so decides, and the consenting companies, after that date, are privileged to ask for modifications of the decree. The latter is what the talking is all about now

Coming Events

Oct. 18-19—Annual Conventic Allied MPTO of Western Pen sylvania, Roosevelt Hotel, Pitt burgh.
Oct. 18-22 — SMPE Conferen Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel.
Oct. 22—AMPA Relief Show, Pa mount Theatre, New York.
Oct. 22—Paramount Club "Victo Ball," Hotel Astor, New Yo
Oct. 24—NEIC Rally, New Y
Oct. 26—Annual Convention, Ass ciated Theatre Owners of India Athletic Club, Indianapolis.
Oct. 27—Charles Francis Coe a dresses Montreal industry exec tives at Canadian Club, Montre
Oct. 30—Local Variety Club 1 anniversary dinner, Netherla Plaza, Cincinnati.
Nov. 9—New York Labor W Chest pageant, Madison Squa Garden, New York.
Nov. 16—"Night of Stars" sho United Jewish Appeal, Madis Square Garden, New York.
Nov. 18—Fall Dinner, Picture P neers, Waldorf-Astoria Ho New York.

54th Semi-Annual SMPE Meet Ope

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 17.—The 5 semi-annual meeting of the Society Motion Picture Engineers will o here tomorrow with a luncheon at Hollywood-Roosevelt here. Delega will be greeted by Y. Frank Freem president of the Association of M tion Picture Producers and Pa mount vice-president in charge of p duction; and Herbert Griffin, SM president. Allen G. Smith, chief the amusement section of the W Production Board's service equipm will deliver a special address on dustry priorities.

The convention, which will through Friday, will feature dis sions and reports on the assista the industry has rendered in the effort and the improvements result in the industry as a re ult of needs, plus film post-war antici tions.

Los Angeles Case Asks Clearance C

Sidney Pink and Joseph Moritz, erators of the Century Theatre, Angeles, have filed a clearance c plaint at the arbitration tribunal t against the five consenting compan the American Arbitration Associa announced here yesterday.

Complainant alleges that the ex ing clearance of five or six days joyed by the Manchester Theatre o the Century is unreasonable, and a the arbitrator for a reduction not exceed two days. The Siguerola Strand Theatres were named as terested parties.

Carroll Joins RKO

Lou Carroll, former Universal ploitation representative in Bos has joined RKO, and will handle ploitation in the Washington Pittsburgh territories.

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Let's All Give to The National War Fund!

30% Tax Sharply Cut or Eliminated From New Program

(Continued from page 1)

Congressional substitute for the Treasury's proposals to raise $10,500,000,000 in new revenue largely through excessively high individual income rates.

Approximately $3,500,000,000 a year could be raised by a general sales tax, and it is believed $4,000,000,000 to $5,000,000,000 could be saved by strict economy in the Government, leaving only $2,000,000,000 or $3,000,000,000 to be provided from other sources.

Sales Tax Favored

The growing sentiment for the sales tax appears even to have extended to members of Congress heretofore adamant in their opposition, but no prediction as to what the Ways and Means Committee will do when it gets down to the actual writing of the bill can be made, of course, other than that it will not embody the Treasury recommendations on individual taxes.

So far as the trebling of admission taxes and the hikes in other excise levies urged by the Treasury is concerned, a substantial number of members of the committee are represented as feeling that the Treasury Department went too far and that application of its proposals would invoke the law of diminishing returns. There is a distinct probability, however, that some increase will be made in the admission tax, and the committee will have to decide the amount exhibitors could stand without damaging effects.

Penn. Allied Will Stress War Effort

(Continued from page 1)

activities of theatres in all drives, the showing of morale-building films and the general dissemination of information necessary for public morale.

Speakers will include Claude Lee, public relations director of Paramount Pictures; H. M. Richey, public relations director of M-G-M; George Dembow, of National Screen Service; Sidney E. Samuelson, Philadelphia; Ray Branch, president of Michigan Allied; Martin G. Smith, Toledo; P. J. Woods, Columbus, and Abram F. Myers, general counsel and chairman of the board of Allied States.

M. A. Rosenberg, president, will preside over all meetings. George J. Corcoran is general convention chairman.

'Oklahoma' Bows in Oklahoma City Nov. 3

John Wayne, Martha Scott and George Hayes will be among Hollywoodites attending the world premiere of Republic's "In Old Oklahoma" at the Criterion, Oklahoma City, Nov. 3. Thomson Burtis, author of the novel, "War of the Wildcats," from which "Oklahoma" was adapted, will also be a guest. Executives from both Republic's studio and home office will attend. Film concerns oil-well wildcatting days of the early 1900's.

Clark Warns U.S. May Take 5 Majors to Court

(Continued from page 1)

that, "If they don't let out their belts, we'll go into court. Not necessarily in New York City, perhaps in some other district."

If there is a decree, he warned, there will be much stronger arbitration provisions and theatres of distributor-circuits will be subject to clearance just as independents now are. Any new decree, he continued, will not contain a rental ceiling, but it will prevent wide theatre expansion and provide more protection for independent owners. The present five-film block selling clause will be altered.

The consenting company signatories to the present decree, which expires next month, Clark said, may come to any specific agreement with the Justice Department with respect to a new decree, or about any concessions they plan to make.

'Concessions Considered'

"I understand that the consenting companies have under consideration certain concessions which are in process of formulation now but which have not been completed as to details," continued Clark.

The Federal official was in New York for the purpose of discussing the decree with company heads on Friday, but the conference was called off at the last minute when the executives notified Clark that their "papers" were not in order. The company heads are going to Washington tomorrow for the purpose of making another conference appointment for later in the week.

The strong objections of certain exhibitor organizations to provisions of the present decree, Clark said, while being considered carefully by Justice Department officials, will not unduly influence the Government with respect to a new decree, if a new decree can be agreed upon.

'Public Interests First'

"We are considering first the best interests of the public and the industry itself," the Assistant Attorney-General said. "The objections of exhibitors to provisions of the decree will not influence us to any great degree."

With respect to the Arbitration Appeals Board established under the present decree, Clark said, a new decree will contain much stronger arbitration provisions.

"Under the present decree," he added, "a theatre owner cannot obtain the benefits of arbitration unless he owned his theatre before June, 1940. That's bad. It helps to prevent competition and keeps independent operators out of the industry. The freezing provision of the present decree will not be a feature of any new decree."

Decision has been reached by the Justice Department with respect to changing the present decree's provision calling for the selling of films in blocks of five, he said, adding:

Blocks of 3 Proposed

"Some exhibitors have proposed blocks of three films, with no cancellations; some have proposed blocks of more than three, with a 20 per cent cancellation, a large number are opposed to the present provisions for blocks of five because they claim it keeps them in a continuous buying position, and still some others have proposed blocks covering an entire season, with cancellation rights."

Any new decree, Clark said, must provide that distributors must be subject to clearances on their circuit houses just as independents now are.

"The producer-distributor-exhibitor owner of films is not subject to clearance provisions now and feels that he can release a film and exhibit it whenever he feels like doing so," said Clark, "although his smaller competitor across the street must, under clearance provisions, await his turn to show the same film. That's not right and we hope to obtain the objective of having everybody subject to the same clearance provisions—ultimately.

"The Justice Department is interested in terms and conditions of sales, naturally," he said, "but we are not interested in selling prices unless, of course, they are collusive," and therefore, any new decree will make no effort to control the selling prices of films."

'No Agreement Yet'

Clark stressed that "the Justice Department and the decree companies have reached no agreement as yet with respect to terms of the proposed new decree."

"The new decree, if any," he said, "will be unanimous—there must be more protection for the smaller exhibitors or we will go into court. And a new decree must prevent the wide expansion of producers into the exhibition field."

No time limit has been fixed for the proposed new decree, Clark said.

"There has been a lot of discussion in the industry about a permanent decree," he said. "The Department of Justice has been thinking along the lines of our experiences with similar industrial decrees. Most of the decrees recently entered into have been aimed at keeping them alive for the duration of the war, possibly six months longer to allow a period of reorganization, before resettling them on a peacetime basis. That seems to be the logical step to take."

The next meeting with New York producers may or may not be held in Washington, Clark pointed out.

Warner Screenings Today

Warners will hold tradeshowings of "Find the Blackmailer" and "Northern Pursuit" at the company's home office this afternoon. On Wednesday, a tradeshowing of new season's short subjects will be held at the same place.

Meet on Ampa Benefit

William McKee and Jacques Kopfstein headed a ticket committee meeting, Friday, of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers to further the promotion of the organization's special midnight relief show at the Paramount Theatre here on Oct. 22.

Fibre Containers Bring Threat to Close Exchange

(Continued from page 1)

the Hays office Friday to discuss t situation. The conservation depa ment, headed by Arthur Dickenson the MPPDA, is understood to ready to back the film men at hearing with proof that the fibre b containers are as flameproof, if more so, than tin containers whi have been used to hold film. Tin co tainers are scarce, none having be manufactured since the WPB put ban on the metal for commercial other than by war industries.

The U. S. Interstate Commer Commission has approved 10-reel fil board inner-containers for shipm of films, and is allowing their re- for shipment to exchanges but not theatres. Film men here appea months ago to the N. Y. Board Standards and Appeals for appro of the use of fibre board contain

London Air Trips Reported Cancelle

(Continued from page 1)

commercial civilian passengers military reasons, some of which the result of the recent opening the Azores by Portugal for All use. Some industry officials have b advised, moreover, that civilian p sengers will not be accommodated the future on trans-Atlantic flig of military craft. The only civil accommodations said to be open the immediate future are on ships.

Sam Eckman and Ben Goetz among industry officials whose p accommodations to London were celled recently. Also awaiting commodations are: Spyros Sko Al Lichtman, J. Robert Rubin, Jo H. Seidelman, Arthur W. Kelly, Reisman, Larry Kent, Arthur Sil stone, William Levy of London others.

Paramount House Publication Appea

First issue of *The Paramoun* new Paramount illustrated home fice monthly, made its appearanc the weekend. It will contain new former Paramount employees in services and home front activitie Paramount personnel and will be culated in home office, exchanges abroad.

Lead in the first issue is a re of the support given the "Back Attack" Third War Loan drive Paramount, with a total of $12, 965 in bond subscriptions by the pany and its theatre partners.

The Paramounteer is publi under supervision of the follo editorial committee: George Ha chairman; Harold Lagar, John ro, Al Finestone, Albert Deane Harry Nadel. Frank McGuire i director.

Vote on Sunday Filr

CAMBRIDGE, O., Oct. 17.—Que of Sunday pictures will be de here at the November election. town has been dark on Sundays, to failure of the issue to carry in vious elections.

Golden Warns of Tough Post-War Fight Abroad

(Continued from page 1)

keep itself on a sound financial is; the situation is certainly one generate judicious, skillful and de- mined post-war planning," it was d.

The Government warning came ugh Nathan D. Golden, chief of film section of the U. S. Bureau Foreign and Domestic Commerce, o declared that, "Because of the doubted influence of the potent dium, practically every country has own post-war plans for the build- of its own motion picture industry, l closely associated with this is eign governmental effort to combat influence of American pictures on rld merchandise movements."

Nations Girding

Great Britain, the Soviet, Sweden, itzerland and Latin American ntries are girding themselves to e the American industry its great- competition for post-war film es, Golden warned.

He revealed that Great Britain has n formulating plans to win world een-time for its films—with the couragement and assistance of the vernment. "Our films have been si- t or sound-accompanied salesmen American goods and democratic als in world markets for the past years without any assistance from United States Government," he led.

"If some of the British films made ing the past year, under unfavor- e conditions may be considered samples of how the British technique of film production is progressing, then the British bid fair to become our greatest competitors in the film markets of the world," Golden predicted, adding:

"Entering the British industry recently have been powerful interests who are determined that British pictures shall be shown throughout the world. These interests are well-financed, and their prospects of reaching the envisaged goal look brighter now than ever before in the history of Britain's motion-picture industry." Presumably the Government official is referring to J. Arthur Rank, a dominant British industry operator in all branches, as among the interests mentioned.

Nazis Making Broad Plans

"The reverses that the Nazis have been suffering on the various military fronts apparently do not deter them them in the slightest from going right ahead with sweeping plans for their future in the motion picture field," he said, disclosing that the U. S. Department of Commerce has just received illuminating text on this subject that was published only a few weeks ago in Germany. In the film industry, say the Nazis, "the war has resulted in a closer cooperation of European countries," finding its outward expression in the establishment of the so-called "International Film Chamber." That organization, the Germans allege, comprises 17 countries.

"We in America well know that the coming total defeat and collapse of Axis power will leave scant scope for any world-embracing — or even Europe-embracing—scheme of domination by German and German-dominated motion-picture interests. But the over-all picture that we clearly discern in such a report as has been cited above may, to our own advantage, indicate the necessity for long-range thought and truly forward-looking action on the part of Hollywood —thought and action that take cognizance of the multifarious changes which this war has wrought and is now inducing, in what may be described as the motion-picture patterns of many foreign lands. Things are moving swiftly in the motion picture field abroad, new forces are being unleashed and Hollywood will need, more than ever, to *know*, to *study*, and to *plan*," he continued.

Seeking Free Rein

Importantly, the Government official observed that "in the post-war years, our industry strongly hopes to see the elimination of any regulations abroad providing that—as a condition precedent to doing business in a given market — our American companies must either acquire a number of the domestic films of the country in question or must cause the production, with American capital, of a given number of films there. One feels justified in saying that it seems difficult to discern the equity of such hobbling requirements—under which the Hollywood films must struggle over difficult hurdles before they can reach the foreign screens and satisfy the eager entertainment hunger of the foreign audiences.

"It may assuredly be said that the United States industry feels, unanimously, that the *quality standard* is the only type of barrier to which our American films should be subjected, in order to do business in world markets.

For Fair Opportunity

"Will the free flow, between nations, of the powerful 'intangible,' the motion picture, be given consideration in the conditions that will surround the framing of the peace? The American industry hopes so," Golden declared.

"It seems virtually certain that the agenda of the peace-making will embrace the endeavor to assure fair conditions and circumstances in other activities such as mining, agriculture, oil, steel, air transport, and various other economic aspects of the modern world. Many students of the situation believe that comparable attention and efforts may well be devoted to the motion picture, which may fairly be said to have proved itself a necessary instrumentality in the successful prosecution of the war, and which promises to be equally significant in the coming era of peace.

Need Free Markets

"The endeavor to assure that foreign markets in the post-war period shall be reasonably free of access for our films should be, and is being, recognized today as one of the imperative calls upon the best intelligence of the American motion picture industry.

"It is one phase, but perhaps a *dominant* phase, in the conscious, wise, and resolute shaping of the pattern of the future—for something that is not only a commercial product but is, at the same time, admittedly a powerful (though intangible) emotional, mental, and spiritual force that can contribute much to wholesome pleasure and reasoned progress in the decades and centuries to come," Golden declared.

'Stars' in Lead In Los Angeles With $68,000

Los Angeles, Oct. 17.—Warners' "Thank Your Lucky Stars" ran away with the first-run honors in an otherwise unexciting week here, crowding a $68,000 total for the three Warner openers which averaged $42,000. "For Whom the Bell Tolls", holding its stride at the United Artists downtown, gave some ground at the Carthay Circle and will be moved from that house to the Four Star on the 21st.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 13:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,518) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 9th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $8,407).
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $14,052).
"I Walked with a Zombie" (RKO)
"Leopard Man" (RKO)
HAWAII—(1,000) (33c-45c-55c-75c) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $3,742. (Average: $9,264).
"Destroyer" (Col.) (2nd week
"Passport to Suez" (Col.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,244).
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,752)
"Destroyer" (Col.) (2nd week)
"Passport to Suez" (Col.)
PANTAGES — (3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,810).
"Hit the Ice" (Univ.) 2nd week
"Frontier Badmen" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT (HOLLYWOOD)—(1,407) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,808).
"Hit the Ice" 2nd week
"Frontier Badmen" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT (DOWNTOWN) (3,595) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,768).
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
RITZ—(1,376) (45c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,416).
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
UNITED ARTISTS — (2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 9th week. Gross: $26,300.
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (HOLLYWOOD)—(3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $23,419. (Average: $13,651).
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (DOWNTOWN) (3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $23,286. (Average: $16,094).
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (WILTERN) (2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $21,076. (Average: $12,794).

Paramount in Spot For Studio Writers

Mrs. Meta Reis, assistant Paramount West Coast story head, left New York at the weekend after seeing 70 writers during a three-week visit here in Paramount's quest for new writers to augment its writing staff, depleted by the upping of top writers to producer berths.

Mrs. Reis will make recommendations to W. Dozier, who is expected to come to New York Nov. 1 to sign as many writers as possible for specific assignments on the Paramount lot immediately. Seventy writers interviewed ranged from novelists and playwrights to newspapermen and editors who write.

'Diary' Tradeshowing Set

Tradeshowings of "Guadalcanal Diary" and "The Dancing Masters" will be held in all 20th Century-Fox key city exchanges Monday, Oct. 25 Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox distribution head, announced at the weekend.

Review

"Nearly Eighteen"

(*Monogram*)

IN "Nearly Eighteen," Monogram contributes a nice little number with some good music and a rather unique romantic element.

Story concerns an aspiring young singer, Gale Storm, who goes to the big city and finds she cannot obtain a night club job until she is 18. With a month to go before becoming of age she braids her hair, dons organdy ruffles and enrolls in "Bill Henry's School of Voice, Dancing and Drama" for children between the ages of eight and 14. Henry, being on the unprofitable side with his school, decides he has a child prodigy in Miss Storm and proceeds to give her special attention to promote her. In spite of her apparent extreme youth and against his own better judgment, he falls in love with the young lady feigning 14. When she is about to get her big break on a radio show, Henry discovers the hoax and is hurt and disillusioned.

On her 18th birthday, the heroine, with the aid of a gambler friend, Rick Vallin, lands a job in a night spot but finds the urge to sing has left her since the split with Bill. After some plotting by Vallin the lovers are brought together again. Miss Storm makes a successful debut and she and Henry live happily ever after, etc., etc.

George Sayre's entertaining and original screenplay is well directed by Arthur Dreifuss and good performances are turned in by Miss Storm, Bill Henry, Vallin, Luis Alberni and George O'Hanlon, the latter two supplying the comedy. There are some amusing tap dance and jitterbug sequences, featuring the kids in Henry's school. Lindsley Parsons has produced a neat little film which will appeal especially to young audiences. Running time, 61 mins. "G."* HELEN McNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

Warner Club Slate Remains Intact

Warner Club memberships and gratuity payments for all employees now in service will be continued in effect without payment of any dues as long as they are in uniform, it was decided at the annual meeting of the national Warner Club organization held over the weekend in New York.

Election of officers resulted in continuance of the present slate, including Martin F. Bennett, president; Bernard R. Goodman, vice-president; R. A. McGuire, vice-president in charge of membership; F. L. Gates, vice-president in charge of claims; Ruth Weisberg, vice-president in charge of welfare; Harry Mayer, vice-president in charge of social activities; Robert Salomons, treasurer; Sam Wolowitz, assistant treasurer; Stuart Aarons, secretary, with a temporary secretary appointed to handle Aaron's duties while he is in service. I. Birnbaum is the club's executive secretary.

Publishers Asked to Testify in Bioff Case

Los Angeles, Oct. 17.—Deputy U. S. marshal has serviced Will R. Wilkerson, publisher of the *Hollywood Reporter*; Arthur Ungar, publisher of *Daily Variety*; and Ralph Roddy, *Variety* reporter, with subpoenas requiring their presence in New York Oct. 30 as witnesses for the defense in the Bioff trial.

Also subpoenaed as defense witnesses were: Louis B. Mayer, Harry Cohn, Leo Spitz, Harry Warner, Harold Smith, IATSE representative; Herbert Aller, J. F. Moroney, Clerk of the Superior Court; George Yeager, NLRB examiner.

Toddy in New Office

Toddy Pictures has opened new offices at 723 7th Ave.

Roffman with Hillman

Richard H. Roffman has been signed by Hillman Periodicals, Inc., to service film company advertising accounts. Roffman was formerly with the New York *Journal-American*, covering film news.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct.

THEATRE Defense Bureau w handle theatres, exchanges, a allied industries' part in the War Che drive starting Oct. 22, according General Chairman W. H. Lollier. A exhibitors and employees will be ask to donate hours and pay, with theatr asked to give an undesignated pe centage of their average week's ceipts. TDB will assume control o but circuit theatres. Rodney Pantag will supervise circuit operations, wi Lollier and Tom Baily, TDB directo handling Fox West Coast. Lollier w name working committees tomorrow

•

The Hollywood Victory Committ has announced preparation of the Ho lywood Bowl program on the 24th be broadcast nationally over the Bl network signalling the start of t War Chest campaign. Walter Hust will be master of ceremonies of t program staged by Fanchon, writt by Arch Oboler, and featuring R Skelton, Charles Boyer, Ida Lupi Akim Tamiroff, Belita and others be chosen, and the Army, Navy a Coast Guard bands. Attendance w be limited to 20,000 War Chest wor ers in the community.

•

Edward C. Raftery, U. A. pre dent, will leave here tomorrow f the East, with Walter Gould, U. foreign chief, leaving Tuesday. P Lazarus, Jr., ad-publicity chief, mains here for a week.

★ CHARLES BOYER ★ BARBARA STANWYCK ★

EDWARD G. ROBINSON ★ BETTY FIELD ★ C. AUBREY SMITH

ANNA LEE ★ ROBERT BENCHLEY ★ ROBERT CUMMINGS

For everyone who believes or doesn't believe in dreams.

For everyone who ever had his fortune told—or who didn't.

For everyone who believes or doesn't believe in a horoscope or the stars.

For everyone who *believes*—here's a great motion picture... for everyone!

"Flesh and Fantasy"

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Nominated as the picture to be seen twice.

★ THOMAS MITCHELL ★ CHARLES WINNINGER ★

This is one of a series of advance newspaper advertisements running in all important key cities.

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Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 76 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1943 | TEN CENTS

Line Up Films For 4th Drive Early in Jan.

Morgenthau Keen on Aid Of Showmen

Film industry will be requested the Treasury Department to participate, promotionally, in a Fourth War Loan bond selling campaign in even greater manner than they did the recent third loan, and from which bond sales exceeding $1,906,-5,205 came through the Hollywood War Cavalcade, the War Veteran's Bond Airmada and exhibitors' war and activities.

The fourth drive will start early in January. Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau, Jr., tentatively set the date at Jan. 5, but this will probably extended a few days.

Fourth loan planning has already been started by the Treasury, with the early pre-campaign effort revolving around meetings of leaders in this and other fields to weigh efforts and results of the last drive for guidance the new drive. This has already

(Continued on page 6)

Loan Work Praise Given the Industry

"To sell almost two billion dollars worth of bonds . . . was a huge contribution and everyone in the industry should know the satisfaction that comes with the successful conclusion a difficult job."

That was the statement issued yesterday by S. H. Fabian, head of the War Activities Committee theatres division, to exhibitors throughout the

(Continued on page 6)

Metzger Is Better; Starts WAC Duties

Lou Metzger, California exhibitor, fully recovered from a recent illness, yesterday started work in the New York headquarters of the War Activities Committee, on a permanent basis. Metzger, in giving full-time to industry war projects, joins such other volunteer WAC officials as Arthur L. Mayer, treasurer; S. H. Fabian, chairman of the Theatres division, and Herman Gluckman, currently in California.

Metzger will concern himself with activities which enter into the WAC.

Kuykendall Calls Exhibitors to Complain Against $327,000,000 Tax

Washington, Oct. 18.—Call to exhibitors to complain to their Congressmen against the 30 per cent ticket tax now being considered by a House Ways and Means which, it is estimated, will bring an additional $327,000,000 from theatre box offices, was issued by Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president, here watching the tax situation. The amount anticipated is over and above the $156,000,000 now collected under the present 10 percent tax.

Kuykendall warned that in many cases exhibitors will be unable to pass on the tax to the public and that they can ill afford to absorb it themselves. Kuykendall said that "we may be getting close" to the limit of the tax burden which the industry can carry.

"This drastic special tax will do far more damage to the industry, its progress, its chances of survival and the quality of its entertainment than anything that has ever happened to it," he charged.

While strong Congressional sympathy is understood to favor a general sales tax rather than the pending big Administration tax bill, Kuykendall warned that House committee members must be impressed with the position of exhibitors in the tax matter.

Cowdin Tells House 'No Need for New Tax'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—Charging that the Treasury Department has grossly underestimated the revenue to be secured under the present law, J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal Pictures, today told the House Ways and Means committee there is no necessity for a new tax bill but that, if one is enacted, it should provide for a sales tax in lieu of the increased rates on indi-

J. Cheever Cowdin

(Continued on page 6)

200 at Opening Of SMPE Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 18.—The 54th semi-annual meeting of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers opened at the Hollywood-Roosevelt here today with more than 200 registered for the five-day session. President Herbert Griffin, presiding at a get-together luncheon, announced the election of officers and board of governors replacing those whose terms expire at the end of the year. Donald E. Hyndman, Eastman Kodak, was reelected engineering vice-president; Arthur S. Dickinson, of the Hays office, was reelected financial vice-president; E. Allan Williford, National Carbon, was elected secretary; and M. R. Boyer, DuPont, treasurer. Wallace N. Wolfe, RCA; Dr. E. M. Honan, ERPI, are governors of the Pacific section, and E. I. Sponable, Fox Movietone News; J. A. Maurer, Maurer, Inc.; F. E.

(Continued on page 6)

Bioff Has 'Got Religion' And Wants to Join Army

William Bioff, star Government witness in the film extortion trial of the Capone mob hierarchy, finished his direct testimony in Federal Court here yesterday and was promptly launched into a cross examination which was long and not too gentle, and during which Bioff bared his secret that he has "got religion" and that he wants to fight in the Army.

Bioff ended his testimony in high

(Continued on page 12)

Disney to Release Short Every 3 Weeks

Walt Disney will hereafter produce and release his Technicolor one-reel short subjects on a steady release schedule of one every three weeks, Harry Michalson, RKO short subjects sales manager, admitted yesterday.

(Continued on page 6)

Clark Decree Meets Are Off Another Week

But Sets Oct. 27 Date For Independents

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—Tomorrow's meeting between Department of Justice officials and decree company lawyers, at which the latter were to submit concrete proposals for revision of the consent decree, was called off today because of the death of Assistant Attorney-General Tom C. Clark's brother in an airplane accident.

Clark left Washington shortly after he was informed that his brother had been identified among the victims of a plane crash in the Tennessee mountains, and is not expected to return to the Capitol until the end of the week.

In view of the uncertainty as to his movements, Clark set no new date for the conferences, attaches of his office here said, and it is probable the meeting will be deferred for at least a week.

The meeting for tomorrow had been

(Continued on page 6)

RKO Will Survey Television Field

RKO Corp. has retained Ralph B. Austrian, former member of the planning committee of the War Production Board and for seven years prior to that assistant vice-president at RCA in charge of sales and licensing of Photophone recording equipment, as a consultant to develop a television and radio broadcasting policy, N. Peter

(Continued on page 6)

Griffith Pre-Trial Hearings Nov. 15

Pre-trial conferences to be held before Federal District Judge Edgar S. Vaught in Oklahoma City between Government and Griffith Amusement attorneys to iron out details prior to the trial of the Department of Justice action seeking dissolution of the Griffith circuit, are scheduled to get underway on Nov. 15.

Conferences were originally scheduled for Sept. 13, but the Government attorneys were understood to have been dissatisfied with the answers to some interrogatories, and requested a postponement to examine the records.

Personal Mention

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal advertising and publicity director, is expected here today from the Coast.

•

MR. AND MRS. LEONARD H. GOLDENSON are the parents of a girl, born Saturday, Oct. 16, at Lenox Hill Hospital, New York. This is their first child. GOLDENSON is vice-president of Paramount Pictures in charge of theatre operations.

•

JOHN B. NATHAN, Paramount managing director for Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Chile, has arrived in New York from Buenos Aires for conferences with JOHN W. HICKS, JR.

•

SAM WHEELER, chief barker of the Variety Club, Washington, and former 20th Century-Fox manager in that city, returned to the Capital yesterday from a New York visit.

•

HUGH OWEN, Paramount Eastern division manager, will leave today for a visit to branches in Charlotte, Atlanta and New Orleans, and is expected back next Monday.

•

FRANK C. WALKER, U. S. Postmaster General, is another member of the honorary committee for the Army-Notre Dame rally at the Hotel Commodore here Nov. 5.

•

ANDY DEVINE and MARY ELLIOTT have returned here from a four weeks' USO-Camp Shows tour to Greenland and Labrador.

•

ARTHUR LOCKWOOD, of Lockwood and Gordon Theatres, Boston, has returned to that city after a New York visit.

•

EDWARD SCHNITZER, U. A. Western division manager, has returned to New York from a tour of his territory.

•

JACK HEXTER has recovered from a lengthy illness and has returned as manager of the Belmont Theatre, Philadelphia.

•

MARIAN HOLTZLIDER of RKO's Cincinnati exchange has entered the Naval Training Station here.

•

IRVIN SHAPIRO, head of Film Classics, returned yesterday from Boston.

•

NEIL AGNEW, Paramount general sales manager, is on a Southern sales trip.

•

NOEL FOREST, exhibitor in Dawson Creek, Canada, is a New York visitor.

•

ARNOLD STOLTZ, U. A. exploitation head, is home ill.

•

KENNETH MACGOWAN, 20th-Fox producer, is in town.

Schlaifer Holding Midwest Meetings

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—"Guadalcanal Diary" will be released by 20th Century-Fox on Nov. 10, on the 150th anniversary of the Marine Corps, according to A. J. Schlaifer, Fox's Central division manager. In Chicago, a birthday dinner and private screening will be held for members of the Marine Corps in this area.

Schlaifer has been here holding sales conferences on new season's product with Herman Beiersdorf of Chicago, Great Lakes division manager; Ward Scott of Kansas City, Prairie division manager; Tom Gilliam, Chicago branch manager; Ben Reingold, St. Louis branch manager, and George Landis, Indianapolis branch manager. With Schlaifer from the home office are Jack Bloom, his assistant, and Eddie Collins, assistant to Wm. C. Gehring.

Milwaukee and Detroit will also have birthday dinners and screenings of "Guadalcanal Diary." Schlaifer will go to Milwaukee today for a two-day visit with exchange officials before returning to New York.

Hail Canadian Navy At 'Corvette' Opening

Many prominent persons will pay tribute to the Royal Canadian Navy at the Criterion Theatre, here, tomorrow night when Universal's "Corvette K-225," has its American premiere.

Commander A. R. E. Coleman, captain of the corvette Ville De Quebec, which sank a German submarine in the Mediterranean, and Lt. W. R. Wright, Canadian hero, who was wounded in the same battle, will be introduced from the stage. There will be a broadcast from the lobby of the Criterion over Station WHN.

60% of Paramount Sold for Ampa Show

The fund raising and ticket selling committees of Associated M. P. Advertisers announced yesterday that over 60 per cent of the Paramount Theatre has been sold out for Ampa's midnight preview of "Riding High," on Friday, Oct. 22.

The preview, for the benefit of the M. P. Relief Fund, is getting support from all of the film companies which have bought large blocks of tickets, said Ampa yesterday. Remaining tickets can still be purchased.

H. Small, Eastman Kodak Veteran, Dies

BUZZARDS BAY, Mass., Oct. 18.—Howard L. Small, former executive manager of the sales department of Eastman Kodak in Rochester, Japan and South America, died here yesterday at the age of 67.

Small had been active in town affairs here for many years. He is survived by his widow, a daughter and a brother.

Argentine Industry Hit by Equipment, Stock Shortages

By FRED STENGEL

A shortage of theatre equipment to replace projectors now in use in Argentina and a critical shortage of carbons which is being alleviated somewhat through the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs were reported during an interview with John Nathan, Paramount manager in Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and Chile, on his arrival here yesterday.

Theatre Business Up

Theatre business is up in first-run Buenos Aires theatres, but grosses are just average in neighborhood houses and at those in the interior of the country, Nathan stated. Only five theatres have been built in Argentina in the past year, one in Buenos Aires.

"Three-feature bills are the rule in the majority of theatres in that country, although about a month ago the new Argentine government issued a decree ordering the closing of theatres at 11:30 each night during the week and midnight on Saturdays and Sundays, thus forcing these situations to cut one feature for evening performances," he said.

Reasons for the decree are a fuel conservation program, and the hope of cutting down on street lighting and late-hour transportation.

Argentina producers will make about 50 features this year, a curtailment from previous years caused by the shortage of film raw stock. However, they are cutting down on the number of prints made for each picture from the average number of 20 to eight, Nathan declared.

U. S. Films Banned

"Among the pictures which were banned by the government," Nathan continued, "were 'Edge of Darkness' and three or four other Hollywood features."

Since the improvement in the quality of product by local producers, U. S. features have lost some playing time in the Argentine. "On the other hand," Nathan said, "we have gained some back since the elimination of French features due to the war."

There are two houses in Buenos Aires showing German-made product, mostly old releases, and three other houses in the interior exhibiting Nazi product. "Naturally, these houses get no American product because they are put on our black-list and we cannot do business with them," Nathan pointed out.

War pictures are tapering off in South America, but the good ones still do business.

American newsreels are meeting with censorship in South America but are being played in many situations just the same, Nathan continued. Theatre grosses in Chile are on the upswing despite the fact that the cost of living in that country has risen 300 per cent in the past few years. Uruguay business is still off due to the drought in that country six months ago, he reported.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct.

SPYROS SKOURAS arrived he today by plane. He will st here for about a week or 10 days.

•

Warners today announced "Cinde ella Jones," starring Joan Lesl Alex Gottlieb will produce and Bus Berkeley will direct. This is the fi film for both at the studio.

•

Paramount today purchased "Kitty Rosamond Marshall's romantic no of 18th Century England. Paulet Goddard and Ray Milland are c starred.

•

Abe Lastfogel, president of US Camp Shows, arrived here today f conferences with the Hollywood Vi tory Committee and USO executiv

Pioneers Dinner Nov. 1

Annual Harvest Dinner of the Pi ture Pioneers has been set back a d to Friday Nov. 19, in order not to co flict with the "Night of Stars" ben fit, according to Jack Cohn, hon manager. Dinner will be held at t Waldorf-Astoria.

John Walton Now Book

BOSTON, Oct. 18.—John Walto formerly head of the ad sales depa ment in the local Warner exchan has been named booker.

NEW YORK THEATRE

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
ERIC KNIGHT'S beloved novel
"LASSIE COME HOME"
with RODDY McDOWALL—DONALD CRISI
An M-G-M Picture in Technicolor
Gala Stage Revue Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-460

Mary Franchot Dick Victor
MARTIN . TONE . POWELL . MOORE
"TRUE TO LIFE"
IN PERSON
THE INK SPOTS
TONY PASTOR and His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

RKO PALACE B'WAY 47th S
THE JAPS ARE WORSE THAN KILLERS
'BEHIND THE RISING SUN'

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
'MY KINGDOM FOR A COOK'
CHAS. COBURN
MARGUERITE CHURCHILL
IN PERSON
JAY C. FLIPPEN
EXTRA!
HANNAH WILLIAMS

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holdover**S**! holdove**R**s! hold**O**vers!

The second stanzas of "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" are as sweet as the first in Los Angeles, Long Beach, Riverside! So add another to the list of holdover hits that includes "Claudia" and "Wintertime"! 20th is first in the long runs!

BETTY GRABLE · ROBERT YOUNG
Adolphe Menjou in
WEET ROSIE O'GRADY
IN TECHNICOLOR
nd Reginald Gardiner · Virginia
Grey · Phil Regan · Sig Ruman
lan Dinehart · Hobart Cavanaugh
Frank Orth · Jonathan Hale
Directed by IRVING CUMMINGS
Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG
LLIAM GOETZ In Charge of Production

20th CENTURY-FOX

"Let's All Give To The National War Fund Which Gives To All!"

THE PICTURE WITH A HAPPY "TOOT"!
with TED LEWIS and his ORCHESTRA
NAN WYNN
MICHAEL DUANE
Larry Parks · Lynn Merrick · Bob Haymes
Original Screen Play by Monte Brice
Directed by CHARLES BARTON • Produced by IRVING BRISKIN
A COLUMBIA PICTURE

IS EVERYBODY HAPPY?

Happy with LAUGHTER!

Happy with ROMANCE!

Happy with the songs TED LEWIS made famous

18 of 'em including
CUDDLE UP A LITTLE CLOSER
SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET
CHINATOWN MY CHINATOWN
ST. LOUIS BLUES · AM I BLUE

LET'S ALL GIVE
TO THE NATIONAL WAR FUND
WHICH GIVES TO ALL!

Clark Decree Meets Are Off Another Week

(*Continued from page* 1)

set by Clark after he made the trip to New York last Thursday night to be informed that a meeting scheduled for Friday had been called off by the majors at the last minute without any notice to the Government lawyers, whereupon he announced there would be no more expenditure of Government funds for trips to New York and that all future meetings would be held in Washington.

Meanwhile, Clark and Robert L. Wright, also Assistant U. S. Attorney-General on the film consent decree, have agreed to meet representatives of Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors, Inc., representing owners of 65 independent theatres in New York. Meeting has been set for Washington on Oct. 27.

The meeting will be on the consent decree in relation to a UIE brief recently filed with the Department by Jacob Leff, UIE attorney, and Jesse L. Stern, UIE president. Discussion, according to Leff, will center on conditions complained of by subsequent run operators. Julius Charnow, UIE vice-president, will accompany Leff and Stern to Washington from New York.

200 At Opening Of SMPE Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Carlson, General Electric, governors of the Atlantic section. Officers of the Atlantic Coast section for the coming year were announced as C. R. Keith, ERPI, chairman; M. W. Palmer, Bell & Howell, secretary-treasurer; E. A. Bertram, DeLuxe Laboratories; James Frank, Jr., National Simplex Bludworth; J. J. Hopkins, Paramount Theatres, managers.

The theme of the conference expressed by both Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president, and Allen G. Smith, of the War Production Board stressed the SMPE role in the war effort and was further enlarged in Smith's talk stressing the part industry engineers have played in developing technical devices for the Army and Navy air forces' use. Freeman pointed out the engineers' importance in the development of the industry, saying, "I do not know, and seriously doubt if anyone can give you the answer to where television fits into the industry. If it becomes a challenge—television is here now only awaiting for the end of the war—we in industry are ready and willing to meet the challenge of any group in the entertainment field."

Smith told of equipment developed by industry technicians now used in fire control and other important military uses, many still secret. He said the manufacture of industry replacement parts is now on a parity with Army and Navy needs under the WPB, and also said a certain type of aluminum was now available for industry equipment of various types. Betty Hutton entertained with Joseph Lilley, composer-arranger, accompanying. Technical sessions opened immediately with Loren L. Ryder presiding over the laboratory session, with all delegates attending.

Personal Mention

NAT WOLF, Warner Cleveland manager, has been named head of the motion picture division of the Cleveland War Chest drive.

•

DENNY MORRISON has arrived in the East from the Coast. He left for Washington yesterday and plans to return to New York to stay about 10 days.

•

CHARLES NILES, theatre editor of the *Hartford Times*, has been granted a week's deferment from Navy duties to clear up business affairs.

•

RALPH STITT, 20th-Fox exploiteer, conferred with manager LEW COHEN of Loew's Poli during the past weekend in Hartford.

•

JOE HOWARD, 74-year old comedian, is confined to his room in the Netherland Plaza in Cincinnati with an attack of acute bronchitis.

•

SAM GALANTY, Columbia Cleveland district manager, conferred with Cleveland branch manager LESTER ZUCKER.

•

J. M. FRANKLIN, president of Franklin & Herschorn theatres, St. John, N. B., is confined to the General Hospital, St. John.

•

HANK HOWARD, in charge of RKO Radio publicity in Cleveland, has been inducted into the Army.

•

LAWRENCE NEW, of Famous Players-Canadian, Vancouver, has joined the Canadian Navy.

•

WINFIELD R. SHEEHAN is in New York from Hollywood.

TED SCHLANGER, Warner Circuit head in Philadelphia, and SAMUEL D. SCHWARTZ, real estate head, are serving on the Philadelphia committee staging tag days on Oct. 23 and 24 for the benefit of the Los Angeles Sanitarium.

•

M. FRANKLIN, secretary of Franklin & Herschorn theatres, St. John, N. B., has returned to Toronto, after a stay at his home in St. John. FRANKLIN, who is in the RCAF, was recently married to AGNES YORK in New York.

•

R. G. MARCH, manager of the 20th-Century-Fox exchange, St. John, N. B., has been named chairman of a committee to look after juvenile recreation.

•

LESLIE KAUFMAN, JR., son of the owner of the Penn Theatre, Philadelphia, and DORIS BLESSING, were married over the past weekend.

•

ROBERT MORGAN, manager of the Hollywood Theatre, Pottsville, Pa., has been inducted into the Army and is stationed at Ft. Bragg, N. C.

•

ROBERT LEFKO becomes the second son of SAM LEFKO, RKO salesman in Philadelphia, to enter the armed forces.

•

R. A. FOSTER, manager of the Community, Yarmouth, N. S., attended the recent International Kiwanis convention in Niagara Falls.

•

HARRY HOWARD, of Theatre Equipments, Ltd., Vancouver, has joined the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Loan Work Praise Given the Industry

(*Continued from page* 1)

nation on their work during the recently concluded Third War Loan Drive.

L. C. Griffith, general chairman of the drive; C. B. Akers, campaign director, who already have returned to their positions with the Griffith circuit in Oklahoma; and Ray Beall, head of the publicity committee, who has returned to his post with Interstate Theatres, Dallas, came in for praise as well.

"A good portion of the success of the drive can undoubtedly be traced to the able administration and leadership given by Griffith, Akers and Beall, " Fabian stated.

Beall's final contribution was a 16-page factual report on the industry's participation in the Third War Loan which is now on the press. He also issued a statement praising the WAC's trade press division, headed by Martin Quigley, for "its magnificent cooperation.

He stated that the free gift of advertising space as well as the regular news coverage by the trade journals during the campaign was "one of the most stimulating and important factors in its success."

Line Up Industry For 4th War Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

started in radio, and elsewhere, at the suggestion of the Treasury's War Finance Committee, and is expected shortly in the film business.

Ted Gamble, national director of War Finance, and Oscar Doob, head of Loew Theatres advertising-publicity, will meet today with the War Advertising Council, composed of advertising leaders from many fields, to analyze efforts in the last drive for use in the new one. Doob served as assistant national War Finance committee director in charge of advertising in the third drive.

Doob said here that "the showmanship displayed by motion picture exhibitors in these bond campaigns cannot be over-stressed," adding: "Treasury Secretary Morgenthau is really showmanship-minded and places terrific importance on the part played by theatres in bond drives."

January's Fourth War Loan is in addition to the cooperation expected from exhibitors in the November-December extra sale effort to drive large sums of holiday gift spending into "bonds for presents" promotions.

Coca Cola in Color For Men Overseas

Los Angeles, Oct. 18.—Servicemen fighting the war overseas are going to see advertising films, whether or not they can buy the products promoted.

Believed to be the first use of the screen to advertise merchandise to overseas servicemen, the R. Wolff agency here has borrowed PRC director Edgar Ulmer to make four 10-minute color musicals for Coca Cola, with filming at the 20th-Fox New York Movietone Studio. They will be given to the Army for disposition.

Cowdin Tells Hous 'NoNeedforNewTax

(*Continued from page* 1)

viduals, corporations and selecte commodities and services proposed l the Administration.

Testifying as a representative of tl National Association of Manufactu ers, Cowdin, recognized as one of tl leading tax authorities of the countr estimated that present laws will pr duce $3,000,000,000 more next ye than estimated by the Treasury, whi war-spending this year is running bi lions under earlier estimates, addition billions will be saved by Congressio ally-enforced economic and furthe savings could be made by increas efficiency in Government productic and procurement.

The NAM representative appear to hit an idea which has been recei ing increasing support in Congres that no further taxes be imposed this time. There is growing suppo for suggestions that either no bill all, or a bill raising but $3,000,000,0 or so be brought out by the commi tee, and major increases in taxes h held in abeyance until experienc shows the results of the present lav which has been in effect only sin July 1.

RKO Will Survey Television Fiel

(*Continued from page* 1)

Rathvon, president of RKO Corp., an nounced here yesterday.

Austrian will make surveys an analyses of these fields and submi recommendations as to the manner i which RKO may most advantageousl employ them. He will make his head quarters in the RKO Building.

Disney to Release Short Every 3 Weeks

(*Continued from page* 1)

Realignment of his studio's productio activities is responsible for the move

Due to war work at the Disne Coast plant, production for the pas several months has been on a mor or less hit or-miss basis, although Disney has always released the re quired annual 18 short subjects as pe his contract with RKO. However exhibitors will now have ample ad vance time for the setting up of play dates under the new policy.

NEWS FROM UNIVERSAL

"CORVETTE K-225" World Premiere, October 19th at Centre Theatre, Ottawa, Canada.

"CORVETTE K-225" United States Premiere at Criterion Theatre, Broadway, New York, October 20th.

"CORVETTE K-225" general release will launch biggest advertising-exploitation in Universal's history.

25,000,000 People will be listening in on KATE SMITH HOUR, Columbia network 8:00 to 8:55 P. M. Eastern War Time, October 22, to hear original dramatization broadcast inspired by Howard Hawks Universal picture..."CORVETTE K-225."

Ottawa Mayor proclaims October 19th, "CORVETTE DAY." Montreal, Toronto and Halifax will make similar proclamations.

"Award For Service" medal to Richard Rosson by Navy League of Canada for his directorial work on "CORVETTE K-225"...first story of the corvettes.

Prime Minister MacKenzie King, Naval Minister Angus MacDonald, Earl of Athlone—Canada's Governor-General, United States Ambassador Roy Atherton among distinguished guests to attend Ottawa premiere of "CORVETTE K-225."(First night's proceeds donated to Navy League of Canada, sponsors of the opening.)

CORVETTE "Ville de Quebec," credited with ramming and sinking a U-Boat, arrived at eastern United States port October 10th.

Newspapermen, newsreel men, photographers board a corvette for first time in this country.

Advertising-exploitation campaign on "CORVETTE K-225" will include full page newspaper ads, intensive radio coverage in all important key openings. Radio spot announcements in conjunction with Kate Smith Hour broadcast October 22nd.

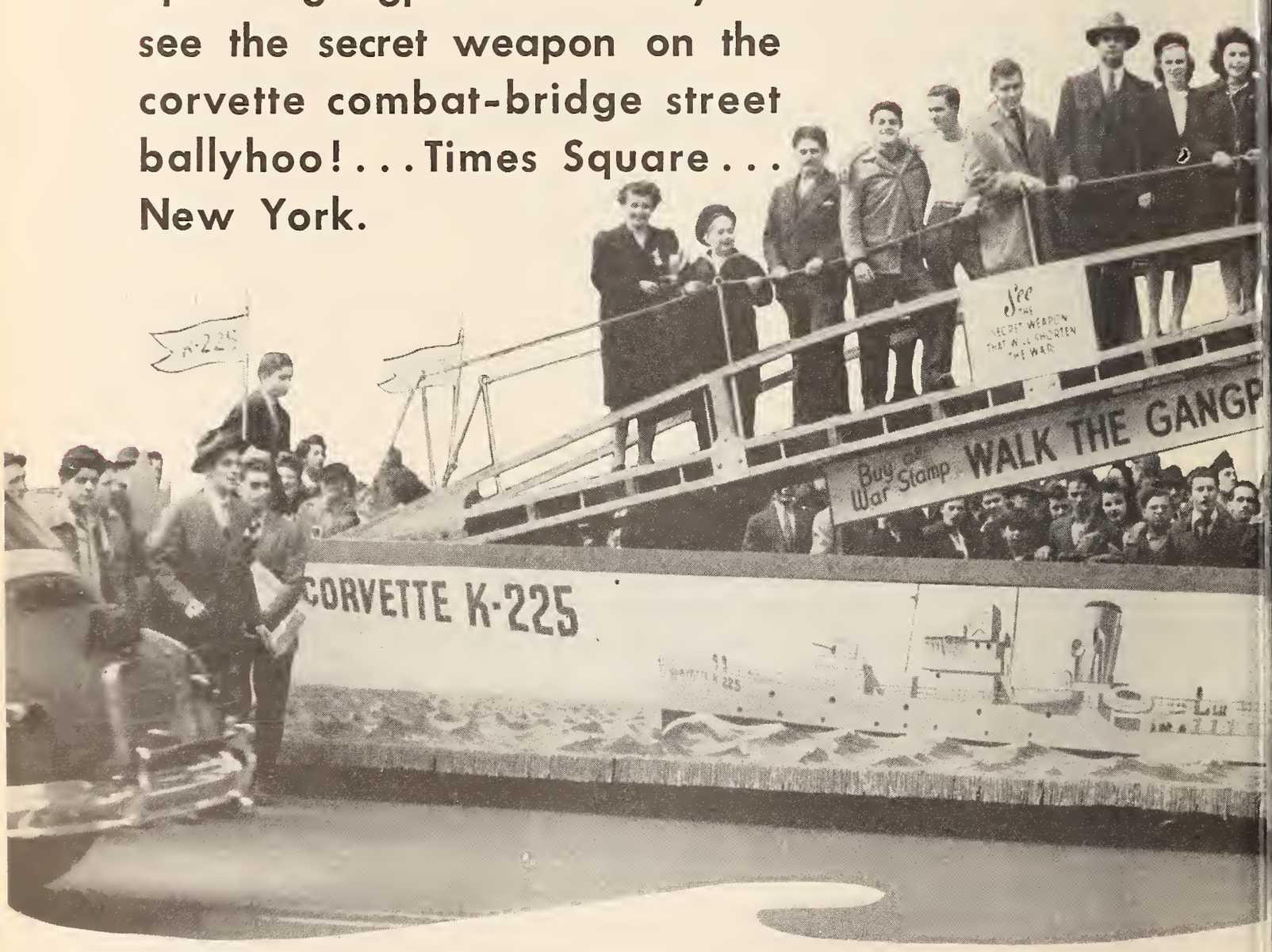
Special radio broadcast to feature New York opening of "CORVETTE K-225" when three Canadian corvette heroes will be presented.

TIMES SQUARE, NEW YORK. Huge 35-foot flat reproduction of corvette combat bridge, under sponsorship of the Howard Hawks Universal picture, "CORVETTE K-225" open to public inspection on purchase of a war savings stamp.

Let's All Give!
National War Fund
Which Gives to All!

IT STOPPED THE SHOW AT TI

A few of the 2000-an-hour buyers of War Stamps walking up the "gangplank to victory" to see the secret weapon on the corvette combat-bridge street ballyhoo! . . . Times Square . . . New York.



JUST ONE OF THE BIG PICTURE SELLING STUNTS BEHIND "CORVETTE K-225"

Let's All Give!
National War Fund
Which Gives to All!

ROSSROADS OF THE WORLD!

Taking the "oath of secrecy" after viewing the secret weapon!

HOWARD HAWKS'
MIGHTY PRODUCTION
"CORVETTE K-225"

starring **RANDOLPH SCOTT** with
James BROWN • Noah BEERY, Jr. • Barry FITZGERALD • Andy DEVINE • Fuzzy KNIGHT • David BRUCE • Thomas GOMEZ • Richard LANE and Ella RAINES

Directed by RICHARD ROSSON • Produced by HOWARD HAWKS • Original Screen Play, John Rhodes Sturdy, Lieut. R. C. N. V. R.

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Canadian Premiere
October 19th
Centre Theatre, Ottawa
•
N. Y. Premiere
October 20th
Criterion Theatre

Thank you, Kate Smith . . . and there are millions more Americans who will love "CORVETTE-K 225", too!

"I have just seen a motion picture which made me think a lot about heroes whose praises have not yet been sung. The picture is 'Corvette K-225.' It is the story of those heroes of the Royal Canadian Navy, who man the little ships which fought so valiantly to combat the submarines in the North Atlantic. All women will like this picture, because American mothers, wives and sweethearts will always remember that many American boys' lives were saved because the Canadian boys made the crossing so much safer."

25,000,000 people WILL LISTEN TO THIS

Friday, October 22nd on the KATE SMITH HOUR

. . . original dramatization, inspired by Howard Hawks' Universal production "CORVETTE K-225"

Columbia Network 8:00 to 8:55 P. M. (e. w. t.)

• • • •

OCTOBER 18-19-20-21-22

12,000,000 people daily will hear about "CORVETTE K-225" on the "KATE SMITH SPEAKS" noontime CBS program.

Let's All Give!
National War Fund
Which Gives to All!

Destroyer' and Murder' Gross 15,000 in Chi.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—"Destroyer" pled with "Murder at the Water-t" is doubling the average busi- at the Woods Theatre where a ss of $15,000 is expected. Ex- tation, higher prices and around clock operation are making the ving possible. "This Is the Army" do about $45,000 for its fourth final week, which marks the gest engagement in the history of Chicago Theatre.

For Whom the Bell Tolls" is in seventh week at the State-Lake will stay one more to set a record the longest run at advanced es in this spot, with a probable ss, $27,000.

stimated receipts for the week ng Oct. 21:

mber's Moon" (20th-Fox) 5 days, 2nd week
aska Highway" (Para.) 5 days, 2nd week
ntertime" (20th-Fox) 2 days
POLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: 00. (Average: $10,000).

s Is the Army" (WB)
ICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days, week. Gross: $45,000. (Average: $43,000).

ood It" (M-G-M) 5 days, 3rd week
ntertime" (20th-Fox) 2 days
ARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: 00. (Average: $8,500).

aind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
ventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
AND—(1,150) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c). 7 4th week in Loop. Gross: $9,000. rage: $8,000).

ngerous Blondes" (Col.)
IENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c). e: Tiny Hill and his orchestra. 7 days. s: $28,000. (Average: $22,000).

itch on the Rhine" (WB)
OSEVELT—(1,500) (50c-65c-85c). 7 4th week. Gross: $17,500. (Average, 00).

Sky's the Limit" (RKO) 6 days
ticoat Larceny" (RKO) 6 days
ed Wife" (Univ.) 1 day
've Never Been Licked" (Univ.) 1 day
LACE — (2,500) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c). s: $25,000. (Average, $19,000)

Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ATE-LAKE—(2,700) (75c-$1.10). 7 days, week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $23,000).

ven Can Wait" (20th-Fox)
ITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c). s, 3rd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average, 0)

troyer" (Col.)
rder at the Waterfront" (WB)
ODS—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days. s: $15,000. (Average, $7,500)

VB Gets Control Of Films in Italy

ess dispatches from "Somewhere outhern Italy" report that the ological warfare branch of Allied lquarters has assumed control merican films being shown in d-occupied territory.

nceforth, an order published in n newspapers states, all films be authorized by the PWB and films which are "political in char- " will be barred. Only films pro- d in the British Empire, United s, Italy, Switzerland, France, nd, Sweden and the Soviet will be dered.

Zeltner at 'U'

vin Zeltner, formerly connected Loew Theatres publicity depart- has joined Universal to handle itation on the soon-to-be-released re, "Crazy House."

Review

"Northern Pursuit"

(Warner Bros.)

STARRING Errol Flynn as a Northwest Mountie and produced by Jack Chertok, "Northern Pursuit" is an exicting medodrama set against a background of the vast-snow-covered wastes of Canada, and dealing with the attempted Nazi sabotage of a vital communications link between the United States and Canada. Helmut Dantine, Gene Lockhart and John Ridgely are featured in this one for the action fans, with Julie Bishop supplying the romantic interest in Flynn's "kampf" against the Nazi saboteurs.

Frank Gruber and Alvah Bessie have provided the screenplay from a story by Leslie T. White. It possesses a degree of timeliness as well as familiarity. Picture opens with the landing of a group of Nazis from a submarine off the Northern Canadian coast. An avalanche disposes all but Dantine, an arrogant Nazi flyer. Flynn and his partner, Ridgely, Northwest Mounties, capture Dantine, but Flynn elects to do a little espionage work on his own. It leads to complications for him, but he convinces his superiors to permit him to go on with his work of trying to discover the Canadian Fifth Columnists who were to aid the Nazis in their mission. Flynn manages to contact Dantine after the flyer's escape from the Canadian internment camp, and he eventually succeeds in frustrating the sabotage attempt. Restored to his rank, Flynn finally gets around to marrying Julie Bishop who has stood by him through thick and thin.

Direction by Raoul Walsh is satisfactory. Sid Hickox's camera work captures the beauty of the scenery, and Adolph Deutsch's musical background sets a proper tempo for the action.

Running time, 94 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification..

Majors Considering Schine Award Appeal

Some of the major distributors are understood to be considering an appeal from the arbitration award granted the Liberty Theatre in Herkimer, N. Y., operated by the Valley Theatre Corp. in the Schine circuit.

Arbitration award reduced the clearance granted the Stanley in Utica, a Stanley-Mark Strand house operated by the Warner circuit from 21 to 14 days, the clearance enjoyed by the Avon in Utica, another Warner house, from 21 to seven days; and the Olympic, Utica clearance, operated by Charles C. Gordon, Inc., from 30 days to seven days. Under the award to the Liberty Theatre, clearance is to be measured from the time pictures are made available to the Utica theatres.

Para. Files Answers In Goldman Action

Paramount filed answers in Philadelphia yesterday to the interrogatory in the anti-trust suit of William Goldman, independent Philadelphia circuit head, against the major distributing companies.

Goldman's suit is scheduled to come up for hearing in Philadelphia Federal Court in November. To speed up the hearings, questions pertaining to the case as approved by the court, were served upon the defendants for answer in advance of the actual hearing. Paramount was granted a postponement from the original date set for filing.

Legion Approves Two

Two new pictures on this week's Legion of Decency list sets a low since that organization started rating films. Twentieth-Fox's "Dancing Masters" was rated Class A-1, for general patronage, and Warners' "Adventures in Iraq" got a Class A-11 rating, for adults.

'Sahara's' $15,000 High in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Oct. 18. — Comparatively, there was a slight weekend sag in the box office curve, although the RKO Palace turnstiles were the busiest with "Sahara," which should do an estimated $15,000. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" will pull around $16,-500 on its second week at the RKO Capitol.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 20-23:

"Top Man" (Univ.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $15,800)
"Sahara" (Col.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $12,-600)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week, 2nd at this house. Gross: $4,800. (Average, $5,000)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average, at 33c-40c-44c-55c, $6,200)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Palace. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $5,200)
"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Albee. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $3,900)
"Scream in the Dark" (Rep.)
"Death Valley Manhunt" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 4 days. Gross: $1,250. (Average, $1,400)
"Beyond the Last Frontier" (Rep.)
"The Sea Wolf" (WB)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average, $800)
"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average, $5,200)

Suess, Loew Manager

Louis Suess, for many years manager of Loew's Fairmount Theatre, Bronx, and who recently has been acting as relief manager on the Loew New York circuit, died Sunday. Services will be held Wednesday at 1 P.M. at the Walter Cook Funeral Parlors, W. 190th Street. A wife and child survive.

Two B'way Records; 'Phantom', $90,000, 'Rising Sun', $40,000

Two record breakers are in the making at houses on the Rialto this week: The Capitol is headed for $90,-000 with the first week of "Phantom of the Opera" on the screen and Lena Horne and Duke Ellington and his band on the stage. Another smash will be rung up by "Behind the Rising Sun" at the Palace, with a $40,000 gross in sight. Both bills hold over.

'Lassie' a Leader

The Music Hall also is soaring in the upper gross strata with "Lassie Come Home" and a stage show. Expected take is in the neighborhood of $110,000 for the second week and the bill holds for a third. "True to Life" and Tony Pastor and his orchestra are meeting public approval at the Paramount with a gross of $69,000 expected for the first week. "Wintertime" and a stage show featuring Bert Lahr will depart from the Roxy tonight after a five-week stay. Gross for the final week is expected to hit $59,000. "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" and a stage show featuring Danny Kaye and Tommy Tucker and his band open at the Roxy tomorrow. "Thank Your Lucky Stars" and a stage show starring Sammy Kaye and his orchestra should gross about $40,000 for its third week and will hold.

'Hostages' Holds

"Hostages," after a first week's gross of $25,000, is expected to get in the neighborhood of $21,300 for its second stanza at the Globe, and holds. "This Is the Army" rolls along at the Hollywood, where a gross of $22,000 is expected for the 12th week. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" in the first week of a change-over policy from road-show run to continuous performances at the Rivoli is expected to gross $46,000.

"Thousands Cheer," which ended its fifth week at the Astor last night, grossed $17,000 and holds over. "Hit the Ice" concludes its four-week stay at the Criterion tonight with about $15,000 in the till for the final week. "Corvette K-225" opens there tomorrow. "The Strange Death of Adolph Hitler" bows out of the Rialto Thursday night after a two-week stay. About $6,500 is expected for the final week, with "Paris After Dark" opening at the Rialto Friday.

Honor Applegate

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 18.—Salem E. Applegate, who was recently made district manager for Universal here after being with the local M-G-M exchange for many years as sales manager, will be tendered a luncheon by the local industry to mark his elevation to the new post, on Nov. 8, at the Hotel Warwick. Luncheon will be sponsored by M. P. Associates.

Harmon to Speak

Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator, will address the Rotary Club of Chicago at the Morrison Hotel today on "Function of the Motion Picture in Wartime in a Democracy."

Bioff Has 'Got Religion' And Wants to Join Army

(Continued from page 1)

gear, revealing that Nick Circella and "Machine Gun Jack" McGurn, Chicago gangsters, once advised the manager of the Melrose Park Theatre, Melrose Park, Ill., that they would "move the theatre off the lot" if the manager dared show "Scarface," as billed; that Frank Nitti summoned the "boys" to the Bismarck Hotel in 1936 and laid plans to make George McLane, international president of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers' Union of the A. F. of L.; that after the death of Jerry Horan, former president of the Building Service Employes Union, A. F. of L., Frank Diamond, one of the defendants and a brother-in-law of Al Capone, laid out the gang's plans for making George Scalise president of the union; that Bioff ran short of money during his extortion trial with George E. Browne, former president of the IATSE, in Nov., 1941, and that he received $15,000 from attorney Sidney Korshak of Chicago, after having petitioned "Cherry Nose Charley" Joy, also a defendant now on trial, for financial assistance.

Dr. Hoffman Testifies

Dr. Harry Hoffman of Chicago, Illinois state alienist, appeared in the courtroom of Federal Judge John Bright yesterday, as an expert for the defense. He heard the last few minutes of Bioff's direct testimony and listened to the cross examination attentively.

Dr. Hoffman, it was ascertained, was summoned to study Bioff in court and testify whether Bioff is pathological in his treatment of the truth. The Government is also expected to call a number of experts on things pathological.

"Did you have any conversations with any of the defendants in 1936 about taking over other unions," Assistant U. S. Attorney General Boris Kostelanetz asked Bioff. (The mob had already taken over the A. F. of L. union of stage hands and projectionists operators, according to Bioff's previous testimony.)

"Yes," said Bioff, "there was a meeting at the Bismarck Hotel. Frank Nitti (indicted in the present case but a suicide the day the indictment was filed), George Brown, Nick Circella, Lou Romano and George Mc Lane were there."

Bioff's Change of Heart

Under cross examination by James D. C. Murray, chief defense attorney, Bioff described how he had gotten a change of heart while resting in the Federal detention pen, serving his ten-year sentence for extortion.

Bioff told how he had written a letter to Federal Judge Knox, who had sentenced him, asking that he be released from prison in order that he might join the Army and serve his country.

"You have a ranch in California, and you wanted to return there, didn't you?" asked Murray.

"No," said Bioff, indignantly, "I wanted to fight. I wanted to go to Pearl Harbor."

"Did you believe the judge would pay any attention to your letter, knowing that you had been convicted of pandering and extortion? You have been convicted of pandering, is that not so?"

"No," shouted Bioff, "I got that conviction for working for your client, Phil D'Andrea (one of the defendants)."

Admits False Testimony

In referring to his conviction with George E. Browne, Bioff admitted that he had testified falsely at his own trial.

"I had no choice," Bioff said, "them were my orders."

"You are not now engaged in an effort to get out of jail?" asked Murray.

"No, I'm engaged in an effort to help the Government prosecute my associates," Bioff answered.

Bioff, in his dull, baritone voice, testified that he was at first glad to stay in a Federal prison. "I had more freedom than on the outside," he said. "But now the circumstances have changed. But don't get me wrong, I want to get out."

"Why did you pay your fine of $20,000 to the Government," asked Murray.

"Oh, I owed it to the Government."

Reads Bioff's Letter

Murray then read a part of Bioff's letter to Judge Knox, in which Bioff's family promised to forfeit their liberty if he failed to return from the war. Bioff said in his letter that he would be happy to serve the remainder of his sentence but that he was more valuable fighting than in prison.

During his own trial, two years ago, Bioff admitted, he "lied and lied and lied." The plan then, conceived by the Chicago mob, he said, was to throw Joseph M. Schenck, then chairman of the board of Twentieth Century-Fox Corp. "to the wolves." Bioff, during his trial, attempted to mislead the jury into believing that the huge sums he and Browne collected from leading film producing companies were turned over to Schenck to be used for lobbying in Washington and Sacramento, Cal., for the benefit of the film industry.

Previously, Bioff testified that, in the event he were convicted, he planned to post a bond pending appeal and then skip to Mexico to hide out for a long period.

Bioff Gets 'Religion'

The impelling motive which caused Bioff to abandon his former stand and "tell the truth at the present trial," he said, was something he had obtained in prison: "religion."

"My whole life, including the testimony I gave at my own trial for extortion two years ago," he said, was a pack of lies. "But the testimony I am giving at this trial is the truth."

"As a matter of fact, you'd lie to save yourself or to get out of jail, wouldn't you?" asked Murray.

"No," Bioff answered with resolution.

"Have you gotten religion," asked Murray.

"Yes, very much," replied Bioff, piously.

"Since when?" thundered Murray.

"Since I found out what prison life is like," Bioff replied.

Murray made much of the point that Bioff, in his earlier testimony, had recited that he had been a 'muscle man' in 1932, when he was organizing the kosher butchers in Chicago to prevent price cutting, and had been instrumental in keeping the poor people of Chicago from getting enough meat.

"Too much meat is bad for poor people," said Bioff. "Anyway, Jewish people are subject to high blood pressure and diabetes."

"You've told so many lies in your life that you're not able to recollect any particular one," asked Murray.

"That's right," replied Bioff.

At another point, Bioff observed that "a perjurer sometimes tells the truth."

Murray irritated Bioff by his frequent references to Bioff's 1922 conviction as a pander.

"You're an old hand at prostitution, aren't you" asked the defense attorney.

"You have to be to be around those defendants of yours," retorted Bioff, with a baleful glance in the direction of the defendants.

"You liked the pandering business better than the trucking business?" asked Murray, referring to the time Bioff quit as a chauffeur for the late Mike Galvin, of the teamsters union, to go into the prostitution business in Chicago.

"You might ask your defendants," replied Bioff, blinking his eyes.

Barney Balaban, head of Balaban and Katz, Paramount operating subsidiary in Chicago in 1932 was pictured by Bioff as "a lamb who was easily induced to part with $20,000 to George Browne, former IATSE head, and Bioff, the latter testified in describing a meeting of the three in Chicago.

Says Balaban Paid $50,000

Bioff said he had demanded that Balaban pay $50,000 in a lump sum but, after a conference with Balaban's lawyer the amount was reduced to $20,000 which was paid.

Bioff admitted that while members of the Chicago local of projectionists were in a bad way economically, he placed five relatives of his in lucrative jobs which should have gone to union members.

"I'm not painting myself as a lily," he said. "I was part of the machine. It was not right but I wanted to take care of my family."

Murray questioned Bioff about the burlesque business in Chicago during the early 1930's pointing out that Jack Barger, at one time was the only operator operating a burlesque circuit business.

"Barger didn't love George Browne or me," explained Bioff. "He paid off because he wanted to stay in business." The answer indicated that other Chicago burlesque operators might have been prevented from doing business because they refused to meet the demands of the mob.

Travel Curb Sends Sales Heads To Field

Difficulties experienced in securing transportation for branch managers of the major distributing companies to come to New York for conferences, is causing sales heads to make more numerous trips to branches throughout the country to confer.

Hochstein Trial Date Set for December 1

Federal Judge Samuel Mandelbaum yesterday adjourned until Dec. 1 the trial of Harry Hochstein, former chauffeur and companion of the late Frank Nitti, on charge of perjury before a Federal Grand Jury investigating alleged racketeering within the picture industry.

Hochstein, one-time chief morals inspector for Chicago, prior to which he was an Illinois Game Warden, is charged with having told the grand jury that in 1934 George E. Browne and certain of the defendants now on trial for extortion in Federal Court were not visitors at a Riverside, Ill. house rented and maintained by Hochstein.

Boris Kostelanetz, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, said that members of the Al Capone mob, who "moved in" on the extortion racket instigated by William Bioff and George Browne met at the Riverside House to plot the election of Browne as president of IATSE at the 1934 convention.

This is one of a series of advance newspaper advertisements running in all important key cities.

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A bulletin describing operation of the new Victory High Intensity Carbons is available for distribution and will be sent promptly upon request.

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★

Don't miss the midnight preview of a new Paramount picture, "RIDING HIGH," at the Paramount Theatre, N. Y.

★

The time: Midnight, October 22, 1943. The price: From $1.10 in the balcony to $1.65 in the orchestra, Loges $5.50. No seats reserved.

★

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STARS AND SURPRISES GALORE AWAIT YOU!

Reviews

"The Return of the Rangers"
(PRC)

Hollywood, Oct. 1

FIRST in PRC's 1943-44 series of Texas Rangers Westerns starrin Dave O'Brien, Jim Newill and Guy Wilkerson gets the group off i high gear with a plenitude of action predicated on a story better tha most of those utilized in the Western field.

Both story and direction are by Elmer Clifton, whose handling of enterprise shifts emphasis adroitly from narrative to action and ba again repeatedly to the profit of both. The action consists of riding shooting and fist-fighting in about equal amounts, the latter comin third best but placing upon the customer no strain beyond the know ability of the Western fan to sustain. The story is about crooks wh try to dispose of a ranch illegally, but it is not the usual surface-dee script embarrassing its players; it has background and depth.

Producer Arthur Alexander supplied the leading trio with a support ing cast that includes Nell O'Day, Glenn Strange, Emmett Lynn, I Stanford Jolley, Robert Barron, Henry Hall and Harry Harvey. Th stars open the picture with a song sung on horseback and the pictur is twice interrupted thereafter for indulgence in melody.

Running time, 57 minutes. "G."* WILLIAM R. WEAVE

"Bullets and Saddles"
(Monogram)

Hollywood, Oct. 1

AN action-packed Western from George W. Weeks with Anthon Marshall directing Ray (Crash) Corrigan, Dennis Moore and Ma (Alibi) Terhune in a straight shooting, fast-riding picture that is de lightful for youngsters and others who like Westerns.

The trio ride to the rescue of a ranch mother who had raised Corri gan. They prevent the land-hungry saloon owner from framing he son for murder and rout out the outlaws who are trying to run th ranchers out of the valley so their boss can buy up the lands. When th outlaws attempt to trap them, the trio turn the tables on the band an capture them all, including the leader, whom "Alibi" has implicated in confession he wrung from a captured henchman. Elizabeth Beeche wrote the script from an Arthur Hoerl original.

Running time, 52 minutes. "G."* JACK CARTWRIGH

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Service Groups Take Over Coast Shows

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 18.—Cooperation of all theatrical unions has been promised the Armed Forces Entertainment Committee of the Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps, which has stepped in to take charge of special entertainment programs for service hospitals and outposts in this area. AFE group took over when competition between two bay area groups of women, which previously provided the entertainments, became so intense one of them "hijacked" the other's stars, by picking them up at hotel a half-hour ahead of schedule and whisking them off to a different hospital than the one generally slated.

Roxy Pay Rises

Roxy Theatre chorus members will receive raises of from $2.50 to $7.50 per week and captains will get raises up to $10. The increases were negotiated by the American Guild of Variety Artists and approved by the War Labor Board. Raises will be retroactive to Dec. 23, 1942, and will be computed according to length of service.

Lyons with RKO

Harry Lyons, RKO Theatres city manager in Yonkers, has been named to succeed Fred Herkowitz as publicist for both Westchester, Bronx, Northern New Jersey and Manhattan divisions of RKO theatres.

Take Two from Skoura

Symphony and Carlton Theatres both on New York's upper Broadway which were relinquished by Skoura Theatres on Oct. 1, are now operatin under new managements, the Sym phony having been taken by Westwa Operating Co., of which J. Bodine i president; Thomas Stokes, vice-presi dent, and Louis J. George, treasurer The Carlton went to Keystone Thea tre Corp. headed by L. J. George an Cora A. Springer.

20th-Fox Club Party

Twentieth Century-Fox "Famil Club," will hold an entertainment an dance, at the Henry Hudson Hotel Friday night, Nov. 5. Entertainmen will be provided by employees unde direction of Lew Lehr, vice-presiden of the organization. Executives o 20th-Fox are also expected to attend

To Tradeshow 'Cheer'

M-G-M will tradeshow "Thousand Cheer" in six cities today, and i all other exchange centers on Oct 26. The cities where the new colo film will be screened today are Al bany, Boston, New Haven, Ne York, Philadelphia and Washingto

Mundstuk Promoted

Promotion of Jack Mundstuk M-G-M Cleveland salesman, to loca sales manager under branch manage Jack Sogg in that office, has bee announced by Central Division sale manager John J. Maloney.

ew Clearance Complaint and Two Awards Made

New clearance complaint has been l at Los Angeles, an award ren- ed in Albany and a consent award ered in Buffalo, the American Ar- ation Association announced here erday.

) the Los Angeles tribunal, L. W. n, operating the Southgate Thea- Southgate, Calif., filed a clearance plaint against the five consenting panies. The complainant alleges t the present clearance of 49 days l by the Vogue Theatre, South- e, Calif., over the Southgate, at an nission of 25 cents is unreasonable, asks the arbitrator to grant a kimum clearance of not more than days. Allen further charges that has completed plans for the enlarg- and remodeling of the Southgate, when completed, will increase his nission price to 30 cents. Rather n file another clearance complaint later date, Allen requests the ar- ator to consider the availability of duct for the Southgate, from seven 4 days at the anticipated 30 cents nission after Vogue's first run, n rendering his decision.

t Albany, Charles J. Tobin, arbi- or, ordered a reduction in the rance of the Stanley to 14 days, mpic and Avon to seven days, all Utica, over the Liberty, Herkimer, Y., or Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th-Fox product, with the further vision that the maximum clearance e as established above shall be measured between the respective theatres from the date that pictures are released or made available by the producers to the three Utica theatres.

A consent award by stipulation was entered at the Buffalo tribunal in the complaint of Menno Dykstra, owner and operator of the Glen, Williamsville, N. Y., against the five decree companies. Intervenors were Schine's Granada and Shea's Kensington, both in Buffalo, and Dipson Theatres, Inc., operators of the Amherst, Amherst, N. Y. The stipulation states that the Glen shall have the same availability as the Amherst, provided that the Glen maintains an adult admission price of 20 cents, including tax. Maximum clearance for the Granada over the Glen shall be four days, Kensington's maximum clearance over the Glen shall be 17 days. The award shall become effective on Oct. 21.

It further provided, that, in the event the Glen shall not maintain the stated admission price then the award shall have no effect.

Review

"Find the Blackmailer"

(Warner Bros.)

PRODUCED by Warner Bros. as one of its low-budget pictures, "Find the Blackmailer" effectively combines murder and blackmail in an involved mystery melodrama on the better side of average. Featured for the action fans are Jerome Cowan, Gene Lockhart and Faye Emerson.

The screenplay which Robert E. Kent has derived from a G. T. Fleming-Roberts magazine story is of the Dashiell Hammett "Maltese Falcon" type. It presents Cowan as a tough, broken-down private detective who is hired by Lockhart, a mayoralty candidate, to steal a talking crow. The bird is owned by the ex-convict brother of Lockhart's fiancee, and is being used to continue an unfortunate extortion from Lockhart. In taking the assignment, Cowan becomes involved in the murder of the blackmailing ex-con, and tussles with some unsavory characters before he succeeds in locating the bird and putting his finger on the murderer. Seems that the ex-con was murdered by a gambler with whom he had become involved. Everyone might have been spared considerable trouble were it discovered sooner that the bird's linguistic accomplishments stemmed from the ventriloquism of the ex-con's bodyguard.

D. Ross Lederman directed. Others in the competent cast are Robert Kent, Marjorie Hoshelle, Wade Boteler, John Harmon, and Bradley Page.

"G" denotes general classification.

MILT LIVINGSTON

Pledge to Conserve 90,000 Tons of Coal

Toronto, Oct. 18.—Pledge of 1,100 theatres in Canada, through the Canadian M.P. War Services Committee, to conserve 30 percent of their coal, indicates an estimated saving of 90,000 tons of that fuel this winter, according to the Dominion Fuel Controller.

N. J. Allied Board Meet

Board of directors of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey held a luncheon-meeting at the Hotel Astor yesterday, to review and discuss problems under the consent decree.

Columbia Dividend

Board of directors of Columbia Pictures have declared a dividend of $.68¾ per share on the $2.75 convertible preferred stock, payable Nov. 15, to stockholders of record, Nov. 1.

A. G. Bonney Dies

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 18.—A. G. Bonney, retired theatre manager here, died at the Veterans Facility at Bath at the week-end.

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VOL. 54. NO. 77 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1943 | TEN CENTS

'ate of New 'Tax Bill Is Now in Doubt

epublicans Against Any Increases This Year

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—Repub- an members of the House Ways d Means Committee today an- unced their definite opposition to y further increases in individual corporate income taxes, lending ength to the possibility that there ıy be no new tax bill at all this ar or at best one raising only a ıction of the revenue asked by e Treasury.

In a formal statement issued as t hearings ended, the group de- ared that further increases in xes would threaten future solv- cy of industry and liquidation of e middle class and would, fur- ermore, be inflationary because oor would demand higher wages meet the increased tax burden.

n the light of the statement, there

(Continued on page 8)

eek Lower Prices For Teen-Agers

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 19.—The public re led by better films councils and men's clubs have started a move induce exhibitors to establish an in- mediate price range for high school l teen-age theatregoers who now subject to adult admissions.

Decision to undertake such an effort me out of the second annual motion ture clinic held here, where club- men pointed out that adult admis- ns have been upgraded almost rywhere of late and it was felt t the teen-age group could be more ancially productive to theatre box ces if a consideration in price were en them, since more of them would

(Continued on page 7)

awson to Coast as Selznick Press Chief

Mitchell Rawson has resigned as stern publicity manager for War- Bros. and has already left New rk for Hollywood to become pub- ity director for David Selznick pro- ctions. Temporary successor is Al- Meltzer, who joined Warners, from

(Continued on page 8)

Bioff Quizzed on $150,000 Payment In Local 306 Case

The defense of the Capone mob, on trial in Federal Court here for extorting $1,000,000 from major film producers, is remarkable for its simplicity. They maintain that their relationship with the motion picture industry was based on good clean bribery, for which they kept down wages and ran militant labor organizations out of business.

James D. C. Murray, chief defense

(Continued on page 7)

Films Sold 9th of 3rd Loan Bonds

CHICAGO, Oct. 19.—The motion picture industry's contribution to the war effort was told to 700 members of the Rotary Club here today by Francis Harmon, War Activities Committee executive. One-ninth of the total subscribed in the Third War Loan was attributed directly to efforts of the industry and its service

(Continued on page 6)

Rosenberg Presides At Allied Meeting

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 19.—Address on the relation of theatres to war activities and the importance of their role in present-day operations, made by H. M. Richey, public relations director of M-G-M, was one feature at the two-day session yesterday and today of the 23rd annual convention of Al-

(Continued on page 8)

But Which Year?

Picture Pioneers invited Mayor LaGuardia to be a guest of honor at its annual fall banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria here on Nov. 18. The Mayor replied that he could not accept because he had previously agreed to attend the "Night of Stars" benefit on the 18th. Jack Cohn's Pioneers obligingly postponed its affair to the following night, and so informed the press. Which seemed to please everyone—except that Nov. 16, not the 18th, is the date of the "Night of Stars" show.

Agnew Lists 4,200 Independent Deals

National circuit contracts on Paramount's first block of five for 1943-44 have been closed with Loew's, Warners, RKO and 20th-Fox-National Theatres, and with 4,200 independent theatres, including 25 independent circuits, Neil Agnew, company sales manager, disclosed here yesterday.

Deals do not include "For Whom

(Continued on page 8)

Rinzler Names Five To War Fund Drive

Sam Rinzler, New York City chairman for the industry's participation in the National War Fund Drive, has named the following to assist him: Fred Schwartz, to be in charge of major circuits and distributors; Harry

(Continued on page 8)

Wants Reports On Foreign Film Holdings

Included Among Request By U. S. to All Firms

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—Pointing to the rapid progress of Allied troops in Europe, the Treasury Department here is urging quick filing of reports of property interests in foreign countries held by Americans, including those in the film industry, required under an order issued last June 2.

Under the order, American motion picture companies and others with properties in foreign countries are required to file complete and detailed reports which, while not constituting a registry of claims against enemy countries, will give our armed forces occupying Axis dominated territory and Allied civil authorities following in their wake, information for the protection of American interests.

The department last night an-

(Continued on page 6)

Two-Month Delay in Crescent Case Seen

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—Another delay of at least two months in carrying the Government's appeal in the Crescent Amusement anti-trust case to the Supreme Court here was in sight today as the Department of Justice prepared to ask the Memphis Federal court for additional time.

Because of counter-claims of the defendants in the case that the Government's appeal was premature, the record has not been completed and

(Continued on page 6)

Clark Asks PCCITO Decree Information

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 19.—Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners executive secretary Robert H. Poole today received a letter from Assistant U. S. Attorney-General Tom C. Clark requesting him to bring to Washington exhibitor responses to the questionnaire on the consent decree distributed several weeks ago.

Poole is submitting Clark's request to PCCITO trustees who are expected to decide on Friday how and when to transmit the requested material.

Television Will Supplement Films, States Austrian

By FRED STENGEL

Television will be a supplementary form of entertainment but will not be a substitute for motion pictures. Television will not hit theatre grosses; on the contrary they will lead to larger film house audiences.

That is the opinion of Ralph B. Austrian, who on Monday started in the new post of consultant to RKO, assigned to develop a television-radio broadcasting policy for the company.

Interviewed yesterday at his new headquarters in the RKO Building, the former member of the WPB Planning committee and former as-

(Continued on page 6)

Elson Made V.-P. of Trans-Lux Corp.

Norman W. Elson, general manager of Trans-Lux Theatres, has been elected a vice-president of Trans-Lux Movies Corp., its subsidiaries and affiliated companies, it was learned yesterday. Elson joined Trans-Lux four years ago. He was formerly sales manager for Film Alliance of U. S., Inc., and prior to that was general manager of the Brandt Theatre Circuit.

Personal Mention

JACK OSSERMAN, recently appointed RKO manager in Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina, will leave for his new post Nov. 2.

•

JACK GOLDSTEIN, 20th-Fox's Eastern publicity manager, is squiring Hearst International News film editor LOUELLA PARSONS around New York hot spots during her visit from Hollywood.

•

MRS. JOHN DURKIN (Helen Somma), a JACOB WILK secretary at Warners for the past six years, resigned yesterday to become secretary to CHARLES MILLER, Music Corp. of America vice-president.

•

LT. WILLIAM MURPHY, brother of JOHN MURPHY, assistant to JOSEPH VOGEL at Loew's, has returned here after completing 50 missions as a plane pilot in the Tunisian, Sicilian and Italian campaigns.

•

JULES TROP, son of MR. AND MRS. JACK TROP, will have his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday at Temple Isaiah, Kew Gardens, with many from the film business invited.

•

MILFORD RYDELL, formerly in the RKO accounting department and now in the Navy, and Pvt. W. H. MOORE, formerly of the same department, visited the home office yesterday.

•

JOHN GRIERSON, Canadian National Film Board commissioner, officiated recently at the opening of the Latin-American exhibit in the Toronto Art Gallery.

•

J. R. GRAINGER, Republic president, left yesterday by plane for Los Angeles. He will return to New York about Nov. 15.

•

MR. AND MRS. A. W. SMITH, JR., are the parents of a daughter, ANDREA, born at Greenwich Hospital, Greenwich, Conn., on Oct. 15.

•

LT. HERBERT BEIER, former New York office manager for ALEXANDER KORDA, is in town from Camp Jackson, S. C.

•

HAL HODE, Columbia home office executive, now spends most of his time in Washington.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division manager at Warners, left yesterday for Buffalo, Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic sales executive, was a recent Milwaukee visitor.

•

IRVING BERLIN has gone to England to appear in "This Is the Army" before combat troops.

•

MARTIN JUROW, Warners' Eastern talent head, is in Boston today.

•

HARRY GOETZ, independent producer, left here for the Coast yesterday.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Oct. 19

CONJECTURE runs at free wheeling in the wake of Coca-Cola's plan for four musical shorts, free on board for the Army. Promotional, of course, but at a cost of approximately $60,000 each will be these ten-minute jobs in color featuring Harry James, Benny Goodman, Kay Kyser and Tommy Dorsey and their orchestras. Edgar Ulmer, PRC director, leaves for New York and the Fox Movietone Studios Thursday under a loanout arranged by Leon Fromkess on behalf of the R. Wolff advertising agency.

Unconfirmed, but mentioned in these parts, is the report the initial four will be followed by 28 more. The potential 32 would be made in Technicolor for regular theatre prints and in 16mm. Kodachrome for Army showings overseas. The announced four, at least, submit to this plan.

■

So far as is known in Hollywood, this development marks the first time sponsored films are to be produced for Army audiences. The visible sponsorship, moreover, is expected to show up in "Coca-Cola Presents" on the main title. Nothing beyond.

The conjecture, of course, becomes both immediate and apparent. It includes some pondering if other nationally-advertised brands won't savvy what's up in a hurry and beat a path of their own to the same objective. Cigarette companies, for instance.

Thus, if the Coca-Cola plan should spread, the industry which tried advertising reels in the grand manner some years ago and dropped them in the hot cake fashion, will be confronted with the peculiar circumstance of running competition to sponsored films in a field which certainly it never could have anticipated.

■

The rest of the conjecture automatically ties around those regular prints plotted for the proposed shorts. Theatre prints suggest theatre showings, which is no great shakes in deduction. If so, no doubt they would become available for free, as they always have. And, as they always have, a lot of exhibitors will be glad to run film which costs them nothing to play.

And that's not all. James, Kyser and Dorsey are under Metro contract; Goodman is under agreement with 20th-Fox for one picture anyway. The nature of these contracts evidently allows them to make these sponsored films, perhaps because they head primarily for the boys overseas. Regular theatre exhibition may not have been guarded against, on the other hand. If not and if Coca-Cola proposes employing its 35mm. prints in the area where it seems likely it will, the makings of an involved situation are on their way.

■ ■

Some columns ago, there was reported the inside yarn of how the studios entered the war effort very early on this Coast by supplying the military with studio lights and dummy guns. It was in the taut days immediately following Pearl Harbor.

Another chapter of the same story came to light a few days ago. The California State Board of Control gave nominal approval to a $1,714 claim filed by the Western Costume Co. whose representatives disclosed officials of the California state guard had borrowed uniforms, helmets and revolvers in large quantities to guard bridges and other vital installations.

When replacements more acutely attuned to war were made in due time, the equipment was returned. But apparently $1,714 worth was missing.

Hence, the claim.

Hence, the second chapter.

■ ■

Those who look askance at Darryl Zanuck's plan to launch two undoubtedly controversial films in a presidential election year evidently have overlooked what others feel will be a balancing factor.

If politics, consciously or otherwise find their way into both enterprises—which strikes some kind of a new low in understatement — "Wilson" will end up on the side of the Democrats and "One World" on the side of the Republicans. And that makes for counterfoil with many here.

"Wilson" is budgeted for exactly $3,000,000.

■ ■

Y. Frank Freeman, in his very brief remarks before the Writers Congress:

"I notice I am listed under 'Greetings and Messages.' When I am in meetings with the Screen Writers Guild, I'm usually under 'Controversies and Arguments.' "

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oc

THE annual meeting of Monog stockholders tomorrow at the dio will take up the election of 10 poration directors, ratification of amended employment terms giver W. Ray Johnston, Trem Carr Steve Broidy last March and appr of the employees' bonus plan alr in effect. Reelection of most o board members is anticipated.

•

Chairman Y. Frank Freeman of War Chest campaign today call meeting of the Studio Colonels Thursday to check on pre-camp pledges and finalize plans for Hollywood Bowl kick-off ceremo on Sunday.

•

Chairman Y. Frank Freeman other leaders of the industry's Chest drive, were guests tonigh Chairman P. G. Winnett of the Angeles area committee.

•

Perry Lieber, RKO studio publ director, will leave here tomor and Charles Koerner, RKO president, Friday, for the openin "The Iron Major" in Boston.

•

Mrs. Nellie Bergren, 77, mothe Edgar Bergen, died last night heart condition, following a minor eration. Her son, Clarence Berg Edgar's accountant, also survives.

•

Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox presi who will leave here for the Eas Thursday, said tonight that he ex to leave for London shortly.

15,000,000 See Our War Films in U.

Over 15,000,000 in Great Bri saw United Nations war and inst tional films distributed by the Bri Ministry of Information last year, cording to Thomas Baird, assis director of the film division of Bri Information Services here. They reached by the MOI's mobile units, special shows in picture ho and through film loans to organ tions. Baird explained that the M istry sends out 150 traveling weekly.

"British and American Gov ments have entered into close coo ation in regard to exchanging f for release in each other's countr Baird reported.

New Anti-Trust Su Is Filed on Coc

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 19.—An a tional anti-trust suit was on file today against a competing theatre Monogram and Republic. The action was filed on Monday by Al J. Law and was on behalf of J Rennie, owner of the Rennie Towne, in San Fernando, against San Fernando Theatre, operated Cinema Corp.

It charged the defendant house conspiring with Republic and M gram in withholding product f plaintiff's houses.

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From BOXOFFICE MAGAZINE, Oct. 9, 1943

"Red Hot," Metro Short, Lives Up to It's Name!

New York—A bit of short subject history is being made by a Metro Technicolor cartoon, "Red Hot Riding Hood."

At the Iselin Theatre in Iselin, N. J. the evening show drew spontaneous applause and whistling. The audience kept shouting its demands to see it again. Manager Joe Backsay obliged, putting it in place of another subject.

During the second showing, reaction continued. There were repeated demands for a third showing. Backsay announced it would be shown again after the last feature show if anyone cared to stay.

It was shown again at 11:30 p.m.—and more than 150 persons remained to see it a third time!

GIVE THIS LITTLE GIRL A REPEAT BOOKING!

M-G-M's Technicolor cartoon "RED HOT RIDING HOOD" is a show-stopper that is getting more word-of-mouth publicity than any short of recent years! Every theatre in the land owes its patrons the joy of its rare and racy fun. And a tip-off to those who have already played it: repeat bookings are pouring in and paying off in extra receipts! Call your M-G-M booker today and get it while it's hot!

FROM COAST TO COAST IT'S GETTING RED HOT RAVES!

"Best animated short of the year"—*Columnist ED SULLIVAN (East).*

"Funniest cartoon in years"—*Columnist JIMMY STARR (West).*

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

Russian: КОЛОССАЛЬНЫЙ УСПЕХ

Czechoslovak: OBROVSKY USPECH

Chinese: 轰动一时

Danish: EN KNALDSUCCES

French: UN SUCCÈS FOU

Spanish: UN GOLPE

Dutch: EEN SUCCES

Portuguese: UM ÊXITO

Arabic: آية في الابداع

"A HIT!" IN ANY LANGUAGE!

Afrikaans: 'N SLAG"

Swedish: STOR SUCCÉ

Norwegian: EN SUKSESS

Greek: ΜΕΓΑΛΗ ΕΠΙΤΥΧΙΑ

Hebrew: סרט מוצלח

Serbo-Croatian: TO JE SENZACIJA!

Italian: UN SUCCESSONE

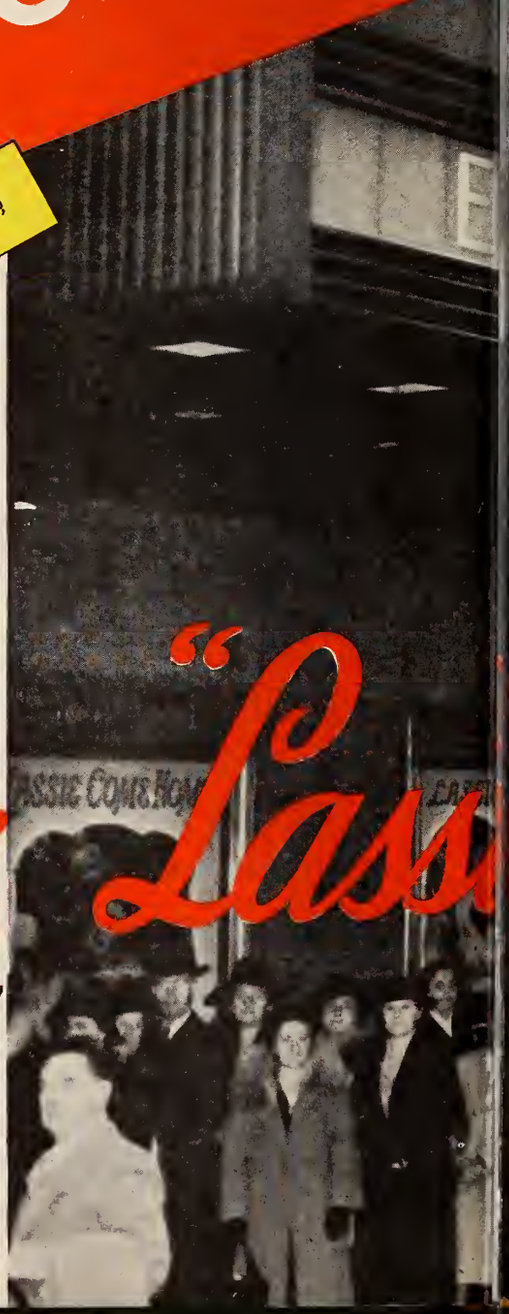
Turkish: DEHŞETLI RAĞBET KAZANMIŞ BIR FILIM

Flemish: EEN SUCCES

MGM's "Lassie"

"THE NAME METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER MEANS MORE IN THE MOTION PICTURE BUSINESS THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE NAME!"
—*Quotation from* LIFE *Magazine.*

Life-line of the Screen!



Let's All Give!
National War Fund—
Which Gives To All!

AND IN PLAIN ENGLISH:

* "SECOND HIGHEST 1st WEEK GROSS OF ANY M-G-M PICTURE IN MUSIC HALL HISTORY!"

** Topped only by M-G-M's "Philadelphia Story" at New Years.*

"LASSIE COME HOME" with RODDY McDOWALL • DONALD CRISP • LASSIE Dame May Whitty • Edmund Gwenn • Nigel Bruce • Elsa Lanchester • Photographed in Technicolor • Screen Play by Hugo Butler Based Upon the Novel by Eric Knight, author of "This Above All" • Directed by FRED M. WILCOX • Produced by SAMUEL MARX A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

RADIO CITY

NIGHT'S "LASSIE COME HOME"

SPECTACULAR AUTUMN REVUE ON STAGE

ome Home"-3rd Week!

Wants Reports On Foreign Film Holdings

(Continued from page 1)

nounced a further extension of time for the filing of reports, to Dec. 1, but announced that no further extension would be granted, and urged that all reports be filed immediately upon completion, regardless of the closing date.

Treasury tabulations show American investments totaling $1,100,000,000 in more than 100 foreign countries, of which about $129,000,000 is in Axis countries and another $78,000,000 in the principal European countries occupied by Germany. Department of Commerce statistics indicate that the "stake" of the film industry in physical properties in Europe was between $5,500,000 and $6,000,000 at the end of 1940.

Television Will Supplement Films

(Continued from page 1)

sistant vice-president of RCA, said that he will survey and analyze both fields so that RKO "will be ready to move in right after the war."

"We plan to report on what the future of a televised broadcast will mean to the industry," he said. "Television when it comes, in my opinion, will be televised pictures both to theatres and to homes."

Whether RKO will step into the field is "still up in the air," Austrian declared, and will probably be decided only after a report is made to company officials. For the present, at least, there is no intention at RKO to apply television toward the exploitation of any of the company's product on a large scale.

"It will be a long time before television broadcasts will be produced on such a lavish scale as film productions," he said. "Television's purpose now and in the immediate future will be to depict events as they are happening, such as sporting events, parades, etc.," he concluded.

Films Sold 9th of 3rd Loan Bonds

(Continued from page 1)

to the country by cooperation in other drives was also told by Harmon.

Freedom of the industry to present information to the public in dramatic style has been due to its voluntary cooperation with the Government, Harmon said. Its own program was accepted by the Government and has been more valuable because there has been no compulsion. As with newspapers, at one time one view may be presented and at another time the opposite, but to call it propaganda is an abuse of the term, he said.

Special guests of the Rotary Club included a number of industry leaders, among whom were W. E. Banford, John Balaban, Jules Rubens, Tom Gilliam, William Hollander, Allen Usher, Sam Gorelick, Nicky Goldhammer, Jack Kirsch, Eddie Silverman and Sylvan Goldfinger.

Review

"The Iron Major"

(RKO)

PAT O'BRIEN'S capable acting places this film in the top drawer. Men will like it because of its story; women will like it for its warmth; children for its action and football sequences. All in all, RKO has in "The Iron Major" exactly what the exhibitor wants, a film that will do big business on all sides.

It is the kind of production that does credit to the industry. "The Iron Major," through the medium of the story, puts across a message, calling upon the youths of America to do their best in all endeavors, in a way that is both interesting and entertaining. Exploitation possibilities are abundant, and word of mouth will swerve the pendulum heavily in the picture's favor.

The plot is a simple one. Pat O'Brien, portraying sincerely and believably the role of Frank Cavanaugh, one of the nation's great football coaches, works when a youth as a lamp lighter in order to aid his father support a large family. In high school, he stars on the football team and his coach invites him to attend Dartmouth College upon graduation. With only one more year to go at Dartmouth, O'Brien's dad dies and the boy, having made a name for himself on the football team, gets a position as grid coach at the University of Cincinnati.

Follows in rapid succession, his meeting with Florence, who becomes his wife; his finishing law school; his return to coaching, only to postpone his rise to football heights to enter the army during the first world war; the raising of a large family; his association with Boston College and Fordham, putting those schools in the top brackets on the gridiron.

An excellent supporting cast includes Ruth Warrick, as Florence; Robert Ryan, as Father Donovan, life-long friend of Cavanaugh, and Leon Ames, Russell Wade, Bruce Edwards and Richard Martin.

The picture moves along at a fast pace. It holds interest throughout. Robert Fellows' production is flawless, and direction by Ray Enright is effective. "The Iron Major" is based upon an original story by Mrs. Florence E. Cavanaugh, and a screen play by Aben Kandel and Warren Duff. Robert de Grasse was director of photography.

Running time, 85 mins. "G."* FRED STENGEL

*"G" denotes general classification.

SMPE Inspects New Film Equipment

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 19.—Members of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers attending a five-day conference here, inspected a new 20th Century-Fox developing machine at the studio this morning and attended a session devoted to discussions of scoring of films on Paramount's scoring stage tonight, as presided over by William A. Mueller.

John P. Livadary, of Columbia, and M. Rettinger, RCA Victor, spoke on "Evolution of Scoring Facilities at Columbia." C. O. Slyfield, of the Disney studio, talked on "Improvements on the Disney Scoring Stage." Calem Portman, Earl B. Mounce, of RKO, and Rettinger spoke on "Vocal Room Pre-Scoring Operations at RKO." "New Scoring Stage Shell, Vocal Studio Design" was discussed by Loren L. Ryder, of Paramount, followed by a symposium on the Paramount color still background projection system with Earle Morgan, Roy Peck, Barton H. Thompson and Farciot Edouart, all of Paramount, delivering highly technical papers on various divisions of the work.

Tomorrow will be devoted to a special demonstration of the "Norwood Exposure Meter" by Karl Freund and Capt. Don Norwood, U.S.A., retired, at the Society of Cinematographers' clubhouse, with Alan M. Gundelfinger presiding. Tomorrow night, at the semi-annual dinner-dance, Herbert Griffin, SMPE president, will make SMPE Fellowship Certificate awards to eight members elevated by a vote of the board of governors.

London Sees Last Howard Production

LONDON, Oct. 19.—"The Lamp Still Burns," a saga of the arduous perils and grim discipline of the life of hospital nurses and Leslie Howard's last production, was press-previewed with critical acclamation today prior to its premiere at the rebuilt—after bomb destruction—Leicester Square Theatre on Thursday.

No weary swan song is this, but a chant of triumph for Howard. The production is unsurpassed in the native field, both past and present, in its exquisite and lively sense of suggestion. It flirts with great issues, with London's bombing, industrial and medical problems and Governmental aid to nurses, in a manner which in lesser hands would be gauche impertinence, but which in this is done with delicate sensitiveness.

Howard's touch epitomizes subtly a perfect background of an ordinary girl who is inspired to carry the torch of Florence Nightingale and Nurse Edith Cavell. Rosamund John, as the girl nurse, is definitely star material. The production is a further example of Two Cities' screen wisdom.

PETER BURNUP

John Joseph Here

John Joseph, Universal advertising and publicity director, arrived in New York from the Coast yesterday for a three weeks' visit at the home office. While here Joseph will complete plans for campaigns on "Flesh and Fantasy," "Corvette K-225" and other new Universal product.

Albert Warner Now Holds 231,550 of Warners Common

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 19.—Purchase by Albert Warner of 3,000 shares of Warner Bros. Pictures common stock increasing his holdings to 231,5 shares, was the largest of a half-d en transactions of film company of ficials and large holders in the stock of their corporations in August, i was disclosed tonight in the monthly summary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, who also disclosed the purchase of 2,700 shares of Radio-Keith-Orpheum common by Atlas Corp., giving it 984,023 shares of that issue.

SEC report showed that Jack Cohn acquired another 300 shares each of Columbia Pictures common stock for his Ralph Cohn Trust and Joseph Cohn Trust, giving the former 2,000 shares and the latter 2,504 shares. A third account, the Robert Cohn Trust, was shown to hold 3,602 shares.

Loew's, Inc., Buys

Loew's, Inc., continued its acquisition of Loew's Boston Theatres common, adding eight shares for a total of 119,714. In Monogram Pictures Norton V. Ritchey, New York officer was reported as having acquired 1,000 shares of common stock by gift, giving him a total of 3,268 shares, and a July report for W. Ray Johnston Monogram president, showed the sale of 1,000 shares, reducing his total to 15,571 shares.

Reports on Universal Pictures (formerly Universal Corp.) disclose that Daniel M. Sheaffer, Philadelphia director, had sold 100 common voting trust certificates, reducing his holdings to 20,100, and that Samuel I. Pose exchanged 100 shares of old Universal Pictures common for 300 shares of common in the new company in June, when he ceased to be a director and also redeemed 50 shares of the old company's preferred stock. In the same month, Nathan J. Blumberg Universal president, made a gift of 500 common voting trust certificate warrants, reducing his holdings to 14,000.

Reports on holdings of persons newly becoming officers or directors of registered companies showed that Edward Muhl, Universal City, held no Universal Pictures securities when he became an officer on June 25. An amended report for A. Montague New York, showed that he held five shares of Columbia Pictures common direct and 202 shares through a partnership, together with 7,880 options for common, when he was elected an officer last Jan. 20.

Two-Month Delay in Crescent Case Seen

(Continued from page 1)

the matter has been held in abeyance until the situation is straightened out. Because of this situation, also, the defendants have not disclosed whether they, too, will appeal the decision.

If the court holds the Government's move was premature, a new appeal will have to be filed or, if the defendants appeal, a cross-appeal will be necessary.

eek Lower Prices For Teen-Agers

(*Continued from page* 1)

in a position to attend theatres re frequently.

Methods of working out such a n will be studied in an effort to ive at a system that would protect ainst the least abuse.

andalism can be curbed by edu- g the young people, through their ools that it is as un-American as otage," declared H. J. Fitzgerald, sident of Fox-Wisconsin Amuse- nt Corp., as he showed some badly naged theatre seats at the clinic. Fitzgerald gave several illustrations the increasing ravages of vandalism theatres and urged that film coun- s and theatres work together in pro- ting a program to remedy "this eading infection."

Also on the program were Mrs. ward Thwaites, president of the lwaukee Better Films Council; Dr. in E. Deer, field representative of M. P. Producers and Distributors America, and Mrs. Henry Earl ith, state chairman of motion pic- es of the Wisconsin Federation of omen's Clubs.

M-G-M Screenings Set

M-G-M yesterday announced trade- wings of four pictures. "Lost gel" and "Cry Havoc" will be eened Nov. 4 in New York, Phila- phia and Boston, and in all other change centers on Nov. 5. "The ss of Lorraine" and "Right About ce" will be shown nationally on v. 9.

Bioff Quizzed on $150,000 Payment in Local 306 Case

(*Continued from page* 1)

counsel, tried to pound that argument home yesterday in the second day of cross examination of William Bioff, star Government witness, who has testified that he and George E. Browne former IATSE president, shook down the film companies as the unhappy stooges of Paul Ricca, Louis Campagna, Charles Joie, Frank Diamond, Phil D'Andrea, Ralph Pierce, John Rosselli, alleged Capone gangsters, and Louis Kaufman, business agent of Local 244, Motion Picture Operators Union, Newark, the defendants on trial.

Bioff took refuge in a faulty memory several times when Murray pounded him with questions. Murray seemed on the verge several times of getting an admission out of Bioff that the mob forced the projectionists in the New York theatres of Loew's, and RKO, to take a wage cut in 1935, for which the theatre operators paid the mob $150,000. But Bioff's admission never came out.

Murray led Bioff carefully through the history of Local 306, New York, and established the fact that the union, formerly under direct control of the IATSE, had been enjoying autonomy when the question of a new wage contract with Loew's, and the RKO theatres came up in 1935.

Bioff said that he had told the business agent of Local 306, one Joseph Basson, to "double his demands."

"You were laying the foundation for getting money from C. C. Moskowitz of Loew's and L. E. Thompson of RKO, weren't you?" demanded Murray.

"My real motive was to get something for Basson and do myself some good, too," was the answer.

"Don't you know that Local 306 later sued Loew's and RKO for conspiring with you and Browne to cut wages and that the suit was settled last June for $150,000?" shouted Murray.

Kostelanetz Objects

Assistant U. S. Attorney General Boris Kostelanetz objected strenuously to this question, describing Murray's reference to the $150,000 settlement as a "gross misstatement of fact." Bioff said he didn't know about the lawsuit against the theatre operators.

"Did you always think of money when you thought of the producers?" asked Murray.

"No," replied Bioff, with a smirk. "I thought of money when I heard of trouble."

Finally Murray led Bioff to the day when the $150,000 was paid by the theatre operators to officers of Local 306, who were at the time negotiating for a wage contract.

Bioff testified that part of this money eventually was paid to him in California by Mort Singer, RKO theatre associate, and a larger part was paid to Browne.

"So you went behind the back of the New York Local business agent and agreed to cut wages of union members at the same time their duly elected representatives were trying to get a wage increase?"

"Yes," admitted Bioff, reluctantly.

"Didn't the wage cut proposal come to you from Charles Moskowitz, who was then general manager of the Loew's circuit in New York?"

Bioff agreed that it might have.

"And didn't Thompson of RKO make a similar proposal?"

Again Bioff had difficulty remembering but thought that might have been the case.

"Did the business agent of Local 306 ever tell you that the members would strike if their wages were cut?" asked Murray.

"They couldn't strike because no local could strike without the approval of our international IATSE president. If the local had struck without our permission we would have moved in and taken over its affairs."

Following the negotiations, Bioff said, Loew's and RKO met his and Browne's demand for $150,000 and the money was paid.

Murray asked Bioff if he hoped to have his 10-year sentence, imposed in 1941 after he and Browne were convicted of extortion, reduced as the result of his testimony in the present case.

"I have a hope and a prayer that that will happen," said Bioff.

Bioff denied, however, that he had been promised any consideration by the Government for his efforts to land his former associates in jail.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 19.—Charles Skouras, Harold I. Besbeck, Charles P. Russell and Herschel Presnell were today subpoenaed by the defense in the Bioff extortion trial in New York.

Agnew Lists 4,200 Independent Deals

(Continued from page 1)

the Bell Tolls," being sold as a special, and 1,000 contracts signed in two weeks on "The City That Stopped Hitler—Heroic Stalingrad," also going out as a special. They represent "the fastest selling Paramount has had since the inception of decree selling," Agnew said.

Among circuit deals closed, beside those mentioned, Agnew listed Robb & Rowley, McNeil and Naify, Griffith Amusements, Shea, Walter Reade, Wilmer & Vincent, Monarch Theatres, Basil Bros., F. H. Durkee Enterprises, Harris Amusements, N. D. Dipson, Rome Theatres, Thalheimer, J. Real Neth, Roy Martin, Everett Enterprises, Durwood-Dubinsky Bros., Lewen Pizor, A. R. Boyd, Mid-State Theatres of Pennsylvania, David Snaper, Blatt Bros., A. R. Boyd, Fishman Theatres, and Smith & Sloan.

Promotions Listed at 20th-Fox NY Branch

In addition to the recent appointments of Morris Sanders and Morris Kurtz as sales managers in the 20th Century-Fox New York exchange, Joseph Burke, former traveling auditor, has been named office manager; Seymour Florin, supervisor of the booking department; John Fornicola, zone salesman, and Joseph St. Clair, chief statistician. Joseph Rosen has been transferred from the 20th-Fox Boston exchange to top salesman in the New York zone.

Fornicola's new position was made possible, according to the announcement by Tom Connors, in charge of distribution, through the transfer of Elliot McManus to a sales post in Panama.

Rawson to Coast as Selznick Press Chief

(Continued from page 1)

Paramount, a few months ago to handle "This Is the Army" local premiere promotions.

Before joining First National Pictures in 1929, Rawson was a newspaper reporter and editor, going to Warners when the latter purchased F. N.

Rawson will succeed Joseph H. Steele in the Selznick post. Latter is understood to have attempted to have Steele remain as personal representative for Selznick stars. However, he will leave the company in four weeks.

Rinzler Names Five To War Fund Drive

(Continued from page 1)

Brandt, independent exhibitors; Si Fabian, independent circuits; Arthur Mayer, producers; and Harry Mandel in charge of publicity. Schwartz is also treasurer.

Rinzler and his committee are making calls on local film leaders to familiarize them with the fund which embraces 26 war relief agencies of the United Nations. There will be no collections in theatres.

'Acquaintance' Tradeshow

Warner Bros. will hold a national tradeshowing of "Old Acquaintance," Bette Davis-Miriam Hopkins starrer, on Nov. 8, it was announced yesterday.

Review

"In Old Oklahoma"

(Republic)

A VIGOROUS saga of the Oklahoma oil fields in 1906 provides the story for "In Old Oklahoma," Republic's "super-Western" starring John Wayne and Martha Scott. It is definitely one of the company's most ambitious undertakings, and associate producer Robert North has not spared the production budget. The fine supporting cast which he has assembled includes Albert Dekker, George (Gabby) Hayes, Marjorie Rambeau, Dale Evans, Grant Withers, and Sidney Blackmer. Emphasis has been placed on the romantic triangle between Wayne, Miss Scott, and Dekker, all with an eye to making this a top-money picture. The result is a combination romantic adventure-action Western which should do well at the box office.

Thomas Burtis' story, "War of the Wildcats," which provides the basis for the screenplay by Ethel Hill and Eleanore Griffin, is hewn in a familiar pattern. Miss Scott as Cathy Allen, a prim, small-town school-teacher, who has written a daring and shocking book for 1906, leaves town to taste some of the life about which she has written. On the train she encounters Dekker, a shrewd, unscrupulous oil operator. She also meets Wayne, a cowboy Spanish-American war veteran. Instead of heading for her aunt's home in Kansas City as she originally planned, Miss Scott settles for Sepulpa, Okla., Dekker's bailiwick. A feud develops between Wayne and Dekker over leases on Indian lands and over Miss Scott's favors. Encouraged by the lady and by townspeople who have been swindled by Dekker, Wayne becomes a competitor to Dekker in the oil business. It is a nip and tuck battle complicated by Miss Scott's blundering in not breaking away completely from Dekker, but Wayne eventually wins out, both in oil and with Miss Scott.

Albert S. Rogell's direction keeps the story moving, and Jack Marta's camera work makes the most of the outdoor scenery. Several of the old musical favorites are spotted to good advantage with J. McCree and Albert Van Tilzer's "Put Your Arms Around Me, Honey," providing Miss Evans with an opportunity to display vocal talents.

Running time, 102 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

Rosenberg Presides At Allied Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

lied Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania.

An unscheduled regional meeting of exhibitors from Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan was also held at the Roosevelt Hotel, scene of the convention.

Other speakers were Arthur Greenblatt, general sales manager of PRC; George Dembow and Jack Cohen of National Screen; Sidney E. Samuelson, Philadelphia; Ray Branch, president of Michigan Allied, and Martin G. Smith of Toledo. There was a closed meeting of exhibitors this afternoon and a banquet in the evening, as arranged by M. A. Rosenberg, president, who presided, and George J. Corcoran, general convention chairman.

Fate of New Tax Bill Is in Doubt

(Continued from page 1)

were indications that any tax bill written by the committee would have to depend upon increases in excise taxes as its backbone. A raise from 10 to 30 per cent in the admission tax was included in the excise recommendations of the Treasury, but sentiment for such drastic levy appeared lacking in Congressional quarters.

Roberts Leaves RKO

Edward Roberts, for the past four years a member of the press book department at RKO's home office, has resigned. His future plans were not disclosed.

WB Anticipates Musicals

Warner Bros.' music subsidiaries will increase the personnel of its sheet music promotion department in anticipation of a greater number of musical productions coming up, it was stated here yesterday, following return from the Coast of Herman Starr, general sales manager of W. B. music firms.

Industry to Sell Spuds for Uncle San

Request of the Office o Emergency Managemen channeled to the War Activi ties Committee through th OWI, places the industry i the role of potato salesman.

Fall crop of what crosswor puzzles refer to as "edibl tubers," will be so plentifu that the OEM wishes to en courage housewives to bu them in preference to othe starches. So, the WAC Hollywood division is havin stills prepared showing top flight stars eating potatoes hauling potatoes, buying po tatoes, etc.

Ampa Benefit Shou 'Previews' Over A

With two days to go for the r night preview of Paramount's "Ri High" at the Paramount Theatre the benefit of the motion picture r fund of the Associated M. P. vertisers, the fund-raising and ti selling committees have decided "air" the fund-raising program.

Martin Starr, head of United ists' radio department, and a men of AMPA's committee for the fair, will be guest Ampa comme tor on the following programs ing the two days: Ethel Col "Broadway Busybody," over sta WMCA; Paula Stone's "Hollyw Digest," WNEW; Adrienne A program, WHN; Judith All WINS; Alma Dettinger's "O People's Business," WQXR, Martha Deane's program, sta WOR.

'Wamps' Resume Mond

Women of Advertising and Mo Picture Services will resume for 19 44, at luncheon here on Monday the Brass Rail.

CHARLES BOYER ★ BARBARA STANWYCK

★ ROBERT BENCHLEY ★ ROBERT CUMMINGS

The motion picture above all...

So different it defies comparison... so enthralling it has no equal ...with eight of your favorite stars

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

★ THOMAS MITCHELL ★ CHARLES WINNINGE

This is one of a series of advance newspaper advertisements running in all important key citi

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 78 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1943 | TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

British Pay No More Than U. S. Owners

Film Heads Unperturbed Over British Charges

British exhibitors are not being arged any higher percentage rms than American exhibitors, it felt by some of the major com- ny foreign heads here, and these rcentages have been in effect for me time in England.

The C.E.A. has voiced numerous otests over allegedly high sales rms for more than a year. Its com- aints have been taken to both the R.S. and the Board of Trade on veral occasions and, recently, a E.A. protest was cabled to Will H. ays here who referred it to home ice foreign department heads. The ter referred the matter back to eir managing directors in London.

The Board of Trade on past occa- ns has advised the C.E.A. that it is t inclined to attempt any regula- n of film prices under its war pow- s and that if it were to do so it

(Continued on page 4)

Governor Moves In on Vandalism

BOSTON, Oct. 20.—Vandalism and olence in connection with it, much it within film theatres, has reached e point here where Governor Ever- Saltonstall has stepped in and or- ed increased police protection and widespread investigation by state lice.

Theatres and other properties have ffered much damage and members

(Continued on page 4)

Sorrell to Ask 10% Night Differential

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20.—Herbert Sor- l, president of the conference of dio unions, today told MOTION CTURE DAILY technical unions will mand a 10 per cent differential for ing shift workers and a six-day arantee for a work call instead of present six-hour guarantee, when gotiations for revision of producer tracts are undertaken.

Sorrell said negotiations must await npletion of the Bioff extortion trial. U includes technicians, machinists, toonists, set designers, painters.

Many Tell Gov't Films Influenced War Bond Buying

Impact of motion pictures and motion picture showmanship on the public during the Third War Loan was an important factor in the sensational success of the war bond drive, according to preliminary figures included in an official "appraisal" of the campaign, prepared for the U. S. Treasury by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and discussed in conferences here of advertising experts who are preparing for the Fourth War Loan, in January.

"Judging by the facts revealed in the Third War Loan survey and by comments at recent Treasury meetings, there seems little doubt that Secretary Morgenthau will ask the motion picture industry to participate in the coming Fourth War Loan, early in 1944," said Oscar A. Doob, chairman of the War Activities Committee's public relations unit, and as-

(Continued on page 4)

Rabinovitch Also On Peskay Roster

Ed Peskay, Eastern representative for Hal Roach and Samuel Bronston and vice-president of Bogeaus Prod. in charge of distribution, is reported to have completed negotiations to act also as Eastern representative for Gregor Rabinovitch, independent producer releasing through United Artists. Rabinovitch recently completed "Three Russians Girls," first for UA.

Screen a 'Vital' Bond Sale Factor

"A vital factor" in the success of the Third War Loan campaign was the part played by the screen, according to a statement to the press issued by the War Finance Committee here yesterday. W. Randolph Burgess, state chairman, linked the screen and theatre contributions to the War Bond sales with those of the newspapers and radio for effectiveness.

The screen, stage, radio and press "had a general effect in arousing the public that cannot be summarized explicitly in dollars and cents," he said.

May Conclude Bioff Testimony Today

William Bioff, star Government witness at the extortion trial of seven Chicago gangsters and a Newark labor leader, told in Federal Court yesterday some interesting details in connection with his original demand that the industry pay $2,000,000 to avoid strikes which would close hundreds of theatres.

Bioff and George E. Browne, former president of IATSE and, with Bioff, serving a long jail term for extortion, first broached the demand in April, 1936, at the New York basic agreement meeting between Hollywood producers and the heads of studio unions. Leo Spitz, testified Bioff,

(Continued on page 4)

Increase in Multi 1st-Run Day-and-Dates

Rise Also in Subsequents Changing to 1st Runs

Noticeable increase is taking place in multi day-and-date bookings among the nation's first-run houses, and in further changeovers of majors' subsequent run theatres to first-runs in order to relieve product jams.

Two principal factors cited for the first policy change are: better than average product and second, greater audiences, with grosses zooming in almost all situations.

Booking of "This Is the Army" stimulated day-and-date bookings in many cities where exhibitors hesitated to try it before. It is expected that the policy will be continued in these spots as long as product justifies the move.

Typical of the many switches of

(Continued on page 4)

Coast Suits Wait Upon Negotiations

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 20.—Additional suits against distributors and circuit theatres in this area are in prospect unless negotiations now under way for their settlement are successfully concluded, Albert J. Law, counsel for independent exhibitors here, stated today following the filing of the John Rennie action against Cinema Corporation's San Fernando Theatre and Monogram and Republic.

When asked if this was one of the

(Continued on page 4)

Archibald Says the British Don't Lag on U.S. War Films

By FRED STENGEL

George Archibald of London, head of the British Ministry of Information films division in this country, stated yesterday that "no action is being taken now by the British Ministry of Information over there in regard to post-war marketing of British films." It is true, he added, that the MOI is cooperating with producers in that country in distributing films for liberated countries, just as the U. S. OWI is doing, but nothing is being done as yet in regard to post-war film matters."

Archibald returned Tuesday from a six-week stay in London, during which, he said, he found substantial

(Continued on page 4)

Monogram Sales Up $645,000 for Year

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20.—Monogram sales so far this year, stockholders were told today at the annual meeting at the studio, were $645,000 in excess of the same period last year.

The executive roster remains unchanged except for the election of Sam Wolf, company attorney, as secretary and Arthur C. Bromberg was elected to the board of directors succeeding John Mangham. Company executives announced that "JohnnyDoesn't Live Here Any More" has been added to the previously announced eight releases.

No Relaxation On Building Ban

Washington, Oct. 20.—Reports circulating variously around the country that the War Production Board intended shortly to relax its strict prohibitions against new construction, including construction in the film business, are wholly unfounded, WPB officials warn here. No such move is contemplated, they added.

Personal Mention

ED KUYKENDALL, MPTOA president, arrived in New York yesterday for a brief visit.

•

ALICE KARR, secretary to MARTIN JUROW, Warner's Eastern talent head, will start a leave of absence and will soon marry LT. ARTHUR M. DUPAY, Army Air Force pilot.

•

JACK FROST of the Warner circuit, Philadelphia, will leave for the Army today with LUKE LIPKA replacing him as a circuit sign shop manager.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, Universal's assistant general sales manager, will return to New York from Detroit on Friday.

•

LT. JACK FURSHA, formerly of the Bell Theatre, Scranton, Pa., and now stationed in Mobile, Ala., recently married BETTY ELLIOTT in that city.

•

LT. AND MRS. JAMES GAVIN are parents of a daughter. Before entering the Army, Gavin was with the Comerford circuit in Scranton.

•

VELMA BIXLER of Central States Theatres, Des Moines, has married CAPT. KENNETH J. ALLEY at St. Louis and has resigned her theatre position.

•

LEO BLANK, manager of the Monogram exchange in Des Moines, has returned to his desk from a five-week stay in Minneapolis.

•

BARNEY ROSENTHAL of the Monogram St. Louis exchange, returned to that city last night after several days in New York.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Western division manager for Universal, is in Minneapolis today en route to the Coast.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, returned yesterday from a trip to the Midwest.

•

JULIUS GORDON, president of Jefferson Amusement Co., Beaumont, Tex., is a New York visitor.

•

ROY HAINES, Warner Eastern division sales manager, has returned from a two-week tour of his territory.

•

SAUL GOLDMAN, head of Variety Pictures, Chicago, will leave that city for St. Louis tomorrow for a week.

•

ABE KRONENBERG of Warners' publicity department here, returned yesterday from two months in the South.

•

W. F. RODGERS, M-G-M vice-president, returned yesterday from Philadelphia.

•

H. M. RICHEY, assistant to W. F. RODGERS, returned yesterday from Pittsburgh and Washington.

•

HARRY ROYSTER of Netco Theatres, Poughkeepsie, is in town.

Nazis Have Good Aim on Sullivan

Neil Sullivan, Pathe News war correspondent who covered the Italian campaign with the Allied 5th Army from the inital landing at Salerno through to Naples, was injured by the time bomb explosion in the Naples post office. Although suffering from a leg injury, Sullivan continued at his post. During the landing at Salerno, Sullivan's two musette bags containing all of his personal belongings were blown up by a direct hit.

Ned Buddy, war correspondent for the American newsreel pool, was injured in the head at the same time as Sullivan. Buddy is coordinating frontline newsreel coverage for the U. S. reels.

'Old Maestro' Dies After Long Illness

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20.—Ben Bernie died here today from a recurrence of heart trouble that followed an 11-week siege of pneumonia last spring. "The Old Maestro" was 52.

He had been recovering slowly during the past few weeks but suffered a relapse four days ago. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Patricia Bernie; Pvt. Jason Bernie, a son, and Herman, a brother.

Known with his band to millions who danced to his music and who were entertained by him on the radio, Bernie also appeared in several pictures. In 1934, he appeared in Paramount's "Shoot the Works" and "Stolen Harmony." In 1937, he starred for 20th Century-Fox in "Wake Up and Live" and "Love and Hisses." He also appeared in numerous Paramount short subjects.

15 Stars Contribute To Ampa Relief Show

James J. Walker and Harry Hershfield will be co-masters of ceremonies of the show preceding the screening of "Riding High" at the midnight preview tomorrow at the Paramount Theatre here for film relief fund, and sponsored by the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers.

Stars have contributed personal effects which will be auctioned during the show prior to the screening. Contributing were Greer Garson, Sonja Henie, "Lassie," Rita Hayworth, Red Skelton, Bette Davis, Paul Henreid, Betty Grable, Ida Lupino, Alexis Smith, Olivia de Havilland, Humphrey Bogart, John Garfield, James Cagney and Dorothy Lamour.

Representatives of AMPA committees working on arrangements met at the Hotel Edison yesterday to report progress. Present were Vincent Trotta, Jacques Kopfstein, James Zabin, Dave Bader, William McKee, Max Stein, Mel Gold, Herman Schleier, Charles Alicoate, James Ivers and Milt Livingston.

Gillette, 7 Others Get SMPE Awards

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Oct. 20.—Society of M. P. Engineers, in convention here elevated eight members to fellowships tonight when President Herbert Griffin presented certificates at the semi-annual dinner-dance at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. Recognitions were made for technical achievements.

The eight were Dr. Charles R. Daily of Paramount; Lt. Gordon A. Chambers, U.S.N.R., formerly with Eastman Kodak; Col. Melvin E. Gillette, Army Signal Corps, formerly stationed at Astoria and now filming our Italian invasion forces; R. M. Corbin, Eastman, Rochester; Wallace V. Wolfe, RCA, Hollywood; Sidney P. Solow, Consolidated Films, Hollywood; Clyde R. Keith, ERPI, New York, and Gordon E. Sawyer, Goldwyn Studios.

Officers-elect were presented officially by Griffin at the dinner, and also various honor guests.

Thursday's sessions deal mainly with papers on training films, climaxed by a showing of "Fog", color film made for the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics and not yet publicly released. Evening schedule includes a discussion on "Post-War Television Planning and Requirements," by Klaus Landsberg, director of Television Prod., Inc., Paramount subsidiary.

The entire day and evening will be spent on RCA's scoring stage under the chairmanship of Wallace V. Wolfe. Final sessions on Friday will resume at the Roosevelt where sound will be discussed. An open forum will precede adjournment Friday night.

Midwest Section of SMPE Temporarily Suspends

CHICAGO, Oct. 20.—Midwest section of the Society of M. P. Engineers has discontinued activities for the duration and will operate in conjunction with the Atlantic Coast section, according to Larry Strong who was secretary-treasurer of the local organization.

Decreased participation by members here is due to the fact that manufacturers are occupied nearly exclusively with war work. Motion picture business is restricted to maintenance of a limited stock pile which is used for the Army and Navy or for replacements on approved orders.

Chicagoans now attending the SMPE convention in Hollywood include Wm. C. DeVry, J. E. McAuley and R. J. LaVezzi. R. J. Van Niman, Motiograph sound engineer, who has been studying future requirements of the studios for three months, will remain there to represent Motiograph.

Honor A. W. Brown

Prominent illustrators and 20th-Fox executives will attend a supper in honor of Arthur William Brown, at the Society of Illustrators here tomorrow, following a showing of "Claudia." Brown illustrated the book and magazine stories of "Claudia."

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 2

UNIVERSAL today confirmed r ports that Joan Harrison, pr ducing "Phantom Lady" as her fir for the studio, will leave the lot c its completion. Lack of suitable pro erties is ascribed as the reason f non-renewal.

•

Universal today elevated writer mund Hartman to a writer-produce ship and assigned him an untitle Olsen-Johnson feature to follo "Cornzapoppin."

•

The Superior Court today approve Shirley Temple's contract with Va guard stipulating annual increas from $2,250 to $5,000 weekly over seven-year period with options.

•

Paramount has cast Barry Sulliva to replace suspended Brian Donle in "Incendiary Blonde" and announc the film will be in Technicolor.

•

RKO will star Katina Paxinou i "Mamma's Bank Account," the Katl ryn Forbes' novel acquired for tl star. Harriet Parsons will produc

File for 624 W.B. Home Office Worker

M. P. Office Employees Unio Local 23169, AFL, has filed with tl War Labor Board here a schedule classifications covering 624 Warn home office employees, with minimu and maximum wage ranges for 32 j classifications, as well as a repo covering length of service, merit-an promotion increases over a period two years up to and including Au 9, 1945.

Present contract will expire as to a provisions except salary on Aug. 1 1944. It was said that the plan su mitted will eliminate friction on sa aries for the next two years.

Similar plans and scales are bei worked out covering employees music publishing houses controlled 1 Warners and office employees of Wa ners' film laboratory subsidiary.

Chas. Reagan Cites Big 'Bell' Grosse

New high grosses for "For Who the Bell Tolls" were claimed yeste day by Charles Reagan, Paramoun assistant general sales manager, wl cited "Bell's" fifth-week $49,300 gro at the Paramount Theatre, San Fra cisco, playing two-a-day at advanc admissions; the $45,000 gross from tl first week of a switchover from tw a-day to continuous playing at tl Rivoli here, running $6,500 better tha the opening week last July; $62,0 for the first week at the Metropolita Boston, and $331,000 for ten weeks the Carthay Circle and United Artis theatres in Los Angeles.

Monsky to Denver

DES MOINES, Oct. 20.—May Monsky, Universal salesman here f the past four years, has left to ma age the Universal office at Denver, a E. Pickler has replaced him here.

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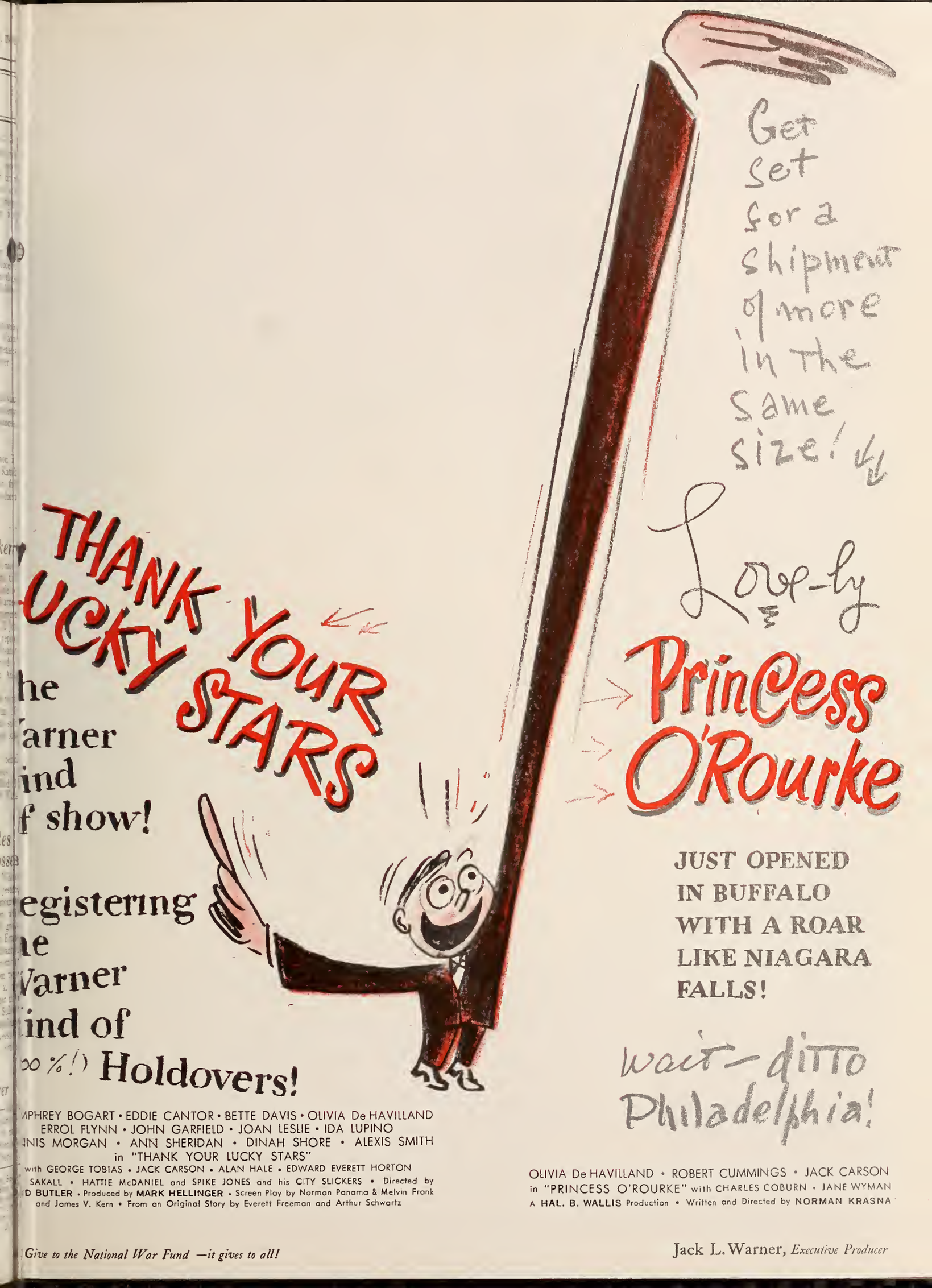
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MPHREY BOGART • EDDIE CANTOR • BETTE DAVIS • OLIVIA De HAVILLAND
ERROL FLYNN • JOHN GARFIELD • JOAN LESLIE • IDA LUPINO
NNIS MORGAN • ANN SHERIDAN • DINAH SHORE • ALEXIS SMITH
in "THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS"
with GEORGE TOBIAS • JACK CARSON • ALAN HALE • EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
SAKALL • HATTIE McDANIEL and SPIKE JONES and his CITY SLICKERS • Directed by
D BUTLER • Produced by MARK HELLINGER • Screen Play by Norman Panama & Melvin Frank
and James V. Kern • From an Original Story by Everett Freeman and Arthur Schwartz
Get set for a shipment of more in the same size!
Love-ly
Princess O'Rourke
JUST OPENED IN BUFFALO WITH A ROAR LIKE NIAGARA FALLS!
wait—ditto Philadelphia!
OLIVIA De HAVILLAND • ROBERT CUMMINGS • JACK CARSON
in "PRINCESS O'ROURKE" with CHARLES COBURN • JANE WYMAN
A HAL. B. WALLIS Production • Written and Directed by NORMAN KRASNA
Give to the National War Fund —it gives to all!
Jack L. Warner, Executive Producer

May Conclude Bioff Testimony Today

(Continued from page 1)

acted as liaison man for the industry.

"Who was present when the pay-off agreement was reached?" asked James D. C. Murray, chief defense attorney.

"Nicholas Schenck, the late Sidney Kent, then head of 20th Century-Fox; Pat Casey, chairman of the producers committee, and Spitz," replied Bioff.

The $2,000,000 demand was not met, Bioff testified previously, but an agreement was concluded under which the major companies, including Paramount, Warners, 20th Century-Fox and Loew's, were to pay $50,000 each per year.

The smaller companies, including RKO, Bioff said, agreed to pay $25,000 a year.

Companies Paid Bioff

The bigger companies paid him and Browne according to the agreement, Bioff said, but RKO, in financial straits later, found it difficult to meet the full payments on time. After Bioff had bought a home in Hollywood, he said, he asked Spitz to permit him to purchase some draperies through RKO at wholesale.

"Of course, I didn't expect to pay for it," he added.

"How much did such presents from Spitz amount to?"

"About $5,000."

"So RKO helped you to furnish your home in part?" asked Murray.

"No, because I've learned the company is suing me in an effort to collect."

Bioff said he met Nicholas Schenck shortly before the basic agreement meeting. Bioff was with Browne at the time and shortly thereafter Loew's and RKO paid a total of $15,000. Local 306 of the projectionists union was negotiating for a wage increase at the time, Bioff said, but wages were reduced.

Most of the negotiations for the payment of tribute by the various companies, Bioff said, were between Nicholas Schenck, Browne and himself.

"Unless the industry comes across, you know what will happen—the same as in Chicago," Bioff said he told Nicholas Schenck.

The threat related to Bioff's attempts to shake-down Chicago theatre operators several years before, which resulted in the darkening for a short period of every motion picture house in that city.

Browne Makes Demand

Once, at another basic agreement meeting in 1935, in the office of Pat Casey, Bioff said, Browne told Casey that unless the IATSE had its jurisdiction restored, he (Browne) would close every theatre in the country. Bioff said he himself never asked Casey to use his influence to take the IATSE back into the basic agreement.

Murray spent considerable time in attempting to get Bioff to admit that he (Bioff) knew the money he and Browne collected represented bribes and not extortion, but achieved little success. The entire defense is the contention that Bioff and Browne were bribed and that the defendants on trial participated in no extortion scheme.

Bioff's cross-examination, in progress since last Monday, is scheduled to end today, when a new witness, possibly Browne, will be called by Boris Kostelanetz, Special Assistant U. S. Attorney General, in charge of the prosecution.

Archibald Says the British Don't Lag on U.S. War Films

(Continued from page 1)

proof that all U. S. Government pictures that have been sent to England for distribution either have been exhibited or will be shortly, refuting a mistaken impression in the United States.

Among these are five features: "Battle of Britain," "Nazis Strike," "Divide and Conquer," "Battle of Russia" and "Report from the Aleutians" and two short subjects, "Japanese Relocation" and "Swedes in America."

The MOI pact with eight American majors for release in this country of one British MOI feature by each company during 1943-44 and two shorts by each company has been renewed, Archibald revealed. During the past season three features and 12 shorts were released in this country, although six features and 85 shorts were received here for release. Those not released were deemed unsuitable for the American market.

Speaking not as an MOI official but as an industry figure (he formerly was United Artists co-managing director in Great Britain and Europe), Archibald declared that a story appearing in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Monday, from Nathan D. Golden, chief of the film section of the U. S. Department of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, warned that the American film might find itself in an unfair fight for post-war markets, was "unnecessarily alarmist in nature."

Archibald said, "If the British film industry in the post-war era produces from 100 to 150 films each year, there will be at the most 50 of these that can enter the foreign market. I cannot envision any film market in the world that would be a healthy one without American product, and cannot agree with Golden. There is plenty of room for both industries and will always be, in my opinion."

The British Quota Act has not restricted the exhibition in England of one U. S. picture, Archibald declared. Purpose of the act, when passed in 1927, he said, was to aid the growth of the British home industry, but not to restrict American product in any way, he further stated.

Governor Moves In on Vandalism

(Continued from page 1)

of theatre staffs have even been physically attacked by the rowdies, who became so uncontroliable recently that local police were forced to call military police and shore patrols from nearby armed services for emergency help.

Gov. Saltonstall took recognition of reports that there may be some foundation to charges that the disturbances are originating from racial disturbances.

In calling in state police, the Governor also disclosed that he would appoint a committee of prominent Catholic, Protestant and Jewish citizens for advice. His actions followed conferences at the State House with John F. Stokes, State Commissioner of Public Safety; Abraham E. Pinanski, brother of Sam Pinanski, head of M. and P. Theatres; Monsignor Robert E. Barry; Rabbi Joshua Liebam; Captain Joseph L. Ferrari, chief of detectives of the state police, and assistant Attorney General Frank G. Volpe, acting for Attorney General Robert T. Bushnell.

38 Army Premieres For 'Crazy House'

World premiere of Universal's "Crazy House" will be held in 38 foreign spots for troops in combat areas, according to arrangements made with the Army Overseas M. P. Service.

Universal's 16 mm prints are being shipped by air to the Overseas Service's Exchanges. Showings will be held simultaneously on Oct. 28 in Italy, Sicily, North Africa, England, Alaska and wherever else we have troops.

Increase in Multi 1st Run Day-and-Dates

(Continued from page 1)

subsequents to first runs are Loew's Bridgeport, Bridgeport, and the Poli-Bijou, New Haven, both formerly operating half week as first run, and the rest of the week second run, and which now are operated as full first run houses. National Theatres this week converted the Egyptian, Hollywood, and the Los Angeles and Uptown, Los Angeles, to first run houses, and will convert other houses to first-run shortly, National executives stated here yesterday. On Broadway, RKO converted the Palace into a first-run showcase for product.

On the multi day-and-date first run front, the Fenway and the Paramount in Boston play day-and-date, and day-and-date bookings are being made in Washington, Bridgeport, Denver, Des Moines, Norfolk, Corpus Christi, Montclair, N. J., Portland, Ore., Sacramento, San Diego and several other spots.

In Portland, Ore., four different houses, the Paramount, Oriental, Playhouse and Orpheum are used interchangeably on a day-and-date basis. Four houses also are used in San Diego, the Fox, State, California and Adams, and four in Sacramento, the Senator, Alhambra, Tower and Esquire.

Coast Suits Wait Upon Negotiations

(Continued from page 1)

suits charging discriminatory practices which Law told MOTION PICTURE DAILY last August probably would follow the Bard Theatre anti-trust suit against 20th Century-Fox and its theatre subsidiaries here, Law answered in the affirmative.

"However," he said, "if current negotiations work out satisfactorily, there will be no more suits. If not, there will be. In fact, we are prepared to file another within a week."

Many Tell Gov't Films Influenced War Bond Buying

(Continued from page 1)

sistant national director of the Treasury's War Finance Division.

"Ted R. Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division, at the ad meetings, credited the film industry with having had an important part in helping the Treasury pile up the unprecedented Third War Loan sale of over $5,000,000,000 to individuals, including nearly $2,500,000,000 in the small 'E' bonds," said Doob.

Final figures for the September drive show a grand total of $18,900,000,000.

Based on Interviews

The Treasury survey, discussed at the meetings of the War Advertising Council, was based on interviews with persons all over the country.

In answering a query as to what type of bond promotion appealed most, "rallies, booths, displays, etc.," figured high on the list, indicating that various phases of showmanship were an important influence on the small bond buyer. "Admissions given with bonds" was another item that received a very high preference by the bond-buyers questioned. Analysis showed that this criticism was based on undignified stunts bordering on bad taste. Interrupting movies to sell bonds" was mentioned as an annoyance but so slightly that the survey indicates this sentiment as less than one per cent, too trivial to tabulate. "Having movie stars sell bonds" also was mentioned by so few that it received no listing in percentage.

Some Mono. Chiefs Moving Back East

At least part of Monogram's home office is moving back to New York from Hollywood. Already here are Peter Friehofer, corporate secretary and Lloyd Lind of the sales department. Arriving next week will be John Harrington, head of the print department.

Company has taken larger quarters in connection with its New York exchange, at 630 9th Ave., to accommodate those transferring East.

Steve Broidy, Monogram sales manager, is due in New York next week from Hollywood, presumably on a periodical visit.

British Pay No More Than U. S. Owners

(Continued from page 1)

would be necessary for it to impose controls on theatre admissions as well.

A report from England yesterday that British exhibitors had asked Hugh Dalton, president of the Board of Trade, to take action toward boycotting American product in that country, "because of extortionate demands made by Hollywood" left home office foreign department executives here unperturbed.

Production costs have gone up enormously, and the selling of film on percentages in England, are on the same basis as those sold in the U. S., one foreign sales head observed here.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER's

"SALUTE TO THE MARINES"

"M-G-M SHOT THE WORKS!"

TOPS IN PRODUCTION! A Big Budget for a Big Subject!
TOPS IN TECHNICOLOR! Spectacular Scenes! Stirring Action!
TOPS IN U. S GOVERNMENT COOPERATION! The U. S. Marines in all their glory!

IS DOING 200% BUSINESS!

"SALUTE TO THE MARINES"
starring
WALLACE BEERY
with Fay Bainter • Reginald Owen • Ray Collins • Keye Luke • Marilyn Maxwell • William Lundigan
Screen Play by George Bruce • Story by Robert Wells Root • Adaptation by D. Andrews • Photographed in Technicolor • Produced by John W. Considine, Jr. • Produced by S. Sylvan Simon

It's Just *One* of M-G-M's New Group, Famed "12 TOPPERS." The Line-up to sign-up!

Let's All Give to the National War Fund Which Gives To All

The 'Princess' Does $17,200 Over in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 20.—Activity at downtown houses this week is centered mostly on new features. Out in the lead is "Princess O'Rourke" at the Mastbaum, pointing to $36,200, and "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," giving the Stanley a heavy $29,400. Among the holdovers, "So Proudly We Hail" is holding up best, aiming at $10,800 for its seventh week. Rain on Friday and Saturday held down weekend business.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 20-22:

"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $10,300)

"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
ARCADIA—(600) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,850. (Average: $3,500)

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $19,000)

"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO) (6 days)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (46c-57c-75c) 6 days of vaudeville including Johnny Long's orchestra, Paula Kelly and the Modernaires, Judd Lyon, Gene Williams and Patti Dugan. Gross: $22,900. (Average: $23,900)

"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
FAY'S — (2,200) (29c-35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days of vaudeville including Cootie Williams' orchestra, Billy Eckstein. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
FOX — (3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $17,800)

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
KARLTON — (1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $4,700)

"Souls at Sea" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75) 7 days, 2nd week (Re-issue). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,300)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $36,200. (Average: $22,900)

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" 20th-Fox)
STANLEY — (3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $29,400. (Average: $18,300)

"Crime School" (WB)
STANTON — (1,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days (Re-issue). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,400)

Sue to Prevent 'In Oklahoma' Release

Suit to restrain Republic from releasing "In Old Oklahoma" was filed in Federal Court here this week by the Theatre Guild, Oscar Hammerstein, 2nd, and Richard Rodgers, stage producer, author and composer, respectively, of the current Broadway musical, "Oklahoma."

Complainants allege that Republic plans to release the film, based on a story, "War of the Wild Cats," and assert that such release will damage their musical and its future motion picture rights to the extent of $500,000. Such release would constitute unfair competition and be a violation of copyright rights and would be for the purpose of capitalizing on the goodwill and value created in the title "Oklahoma" in the plaintiffs' musical play.

Cowan Buys Pyle Book

Lester Cowan's second feature under his new releasing deal with United Artists will definitely be an adaptation of Ernie Pyle's book, "Here Is Your War."

Review

"Gildersleeve on Broadway"

(*RKO-Radio*)

Hollywood, Oct. 20

THE Great Gildersleeve's radio followers will find him pitted here against the comedy talents of Billie Burke and Richard LeGrand (otherwise Peavey) in an adventure characteristic of his offerings. Director Gordon Douglas kept the three evenly matched with benefit to all. He also got spectacular results with a small boy, wholly incidental to the story, who collects the best laughs of the enterprise.

Robert E. Kent's story and screenplay open with Gildersleeve engaging himself to a decorous young woman and moves shortly to Broadway where, in efforts to aid retail druggists running short of merchandise, he becomes involved with a jittery woman of means (Miss Burke) and a blonde on the make for a mink coat (Claire Carleton). The remainder of the proceedings are transacted in a New York hotel with devices ranging from mistaken identity to high-and-dizzy ledge-walking utilized for comedy with varying degrees of success.

Production is by Herman Schlom and the supporting cast includes Freddie Mercer, Hobart Cavanaugh, Margaret Landry, Ann Doran, Leonid Kinsky, Lillian Randolph and Michael Todd.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."*

"G" denotes general classification.

'Bell's' $23,000, Baltimore's Best

BALTIMORE, Oct. 20.—In its second week, "For Whom the Bell Tolls" at Keith's, with increased prices, is taking $23,000, to top current box-office figures. Next in line is a newcomer, "Thank Your Lucky Stars," classed for $19,000 at the Stanley.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 21:

"Johnny Come Lately" (U.A.)
CENTURY — (3,000) (28c-44c and 55c weekends.) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (75c and $1.10) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average at regular prices: $11,900)

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (15c-28-35c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,300)

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,280) (15c-28c-39c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,100)

"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
HIPPODROME — (2,205) (15c-28c-39c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days. Stage show: Pat Rooney, Sr., "Sharkey," Cordan & Sawyer, DeVal Merle & Lee. Gross: $17,500. Average: $16,500)

"At Dawn We Die" (Rep.)
MAYFAIR — (1,600) (20c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,100)

Paramount Cuts Its 2nd Block to Four

Paramount's second block of features for 1943-44 will consist of only four pictures, according to Neil Agnew, general sales manager.

Group includes "Miracle of Morgan's Creek," written and directed by Preston Sturges and starring Eddie Bracken and Betty Hutton; "Riding High," Western musical in Technicolor, and starring Dorothy Lamour, Dick Powell and Victor Moore; "Henry Aldrich Haunts a House," with Jimmy Lydon, Charles Smith, Joan Mortimer; "Minesweeper," starring Richard Arlen, Jean Parker and Russell Hayden.

Sets Roxy Record

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" set a new opening day's record at the Roxy yesterday with a gross estimated by the company at nearly $15,000, ahead of both "Heaven Can Wait" and "Coney Island," the two previous record holders.

'Army' in Toronto Does Good $18,300

TORONTO, Oct. 20.—"This Is the Army" pointed to $18,300 for its opening week at the Imperial and "Let's Face It," in its second week at Shea's, gave promise of $13,200.

Estimated receipts grosses for the week ending Oct. 21:

"The Lady Vanishes" (British)
"Night Train to Munich" (British)
EGLINTON—(1,068) (18c-30c-42c-60c) 3-day holdover. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $4,300, six days)

"This Is the Army" (WB)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $18,300. (Average: $12,300)

"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S — (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $12,900. (Average: $11,400)

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,200. (Average: $12,200)

"Spotlight Scandals" (Mono.)
"Action in the North Atlantic" (WB)
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $5,100. (Average: $4,600)

"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) 18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,800. Average: $9,800)

Scott and Rosson Honored for 'K-225'

Randolph Scott, star, and Robert Rosson, director of Universal's "Corvette K-225," were presented with the Navy League of Canada's Medal of Distinction at the world premiere of the film in Ottawa, Tuesday night, before an audience including Prime Minister MacKenzie King, Governor-General of Canada, and the Princesses Alice and Juliana of the Netherlands, the company reported here yesterday.

Film opened in New York yesterday at the Criterion Theatre.

'Theatre Post' Opens

BOSTON, Oct. 20.—"Theatrical Post" of the Vernon A. Macaulay American Legion Post opened this week. Harry P. Smith, of RKO, and past commander of the post, and Harry Browning of M. and P. theatres and present post commander, are credited with establishing the service men's canteen.

'Victory' and 'Diddle' Do $46,500 at 3

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 20.—The new Fox West Coast tri-theatre first run setup (Egyptian, Los Angeles, Uptown) got off to an impressive first week with "Victory Through Air Power" and "Hi Diddle Diddle" aggregating a $46,500 gross from its collective 5,403 seats, which compares with $55,500 aggregated by "The Fallen Sparrow" and "Adventures of a Rookie," at the other FWC first run threesome (Chinese, Loew's State, Ritz) from its 7,376 seats.

Warner trio turned in a strong second week for "Thank Your Lucky Stars," running a neat $5,000 over their collective average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 20:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 10th week. Gross: $17,400. (Average, $8,407)

"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average, $14,052)

"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
EGYPTIAN—(1,590) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, not yet available)

"I Walked with a Zombie" (RKO)
"Leopard Man" (RKO)
HAWAII—(1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $3,000. (Average, $9,264)

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
"Good Luck, Mr. Yates" (Col.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average, $15,244)

"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average, $20,752)

"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average, Not yet available)

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
"Good Luck, Mr. Yates" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (45c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $25,500. (Average, $12,810)

"Hit the Ice" (Univ.) 3rd week
"Frontier Badmen" (Univ.) 2nd week
PARAMOUNT (Hollywood)—(1,407) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $10,808)

"Hit the Ice" (Univ.) 3rd week
"Frontier Badmen" (Univ.) 2nd week
PARAMOUNT (Downtown)—(3,595) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $15,250. Average, $19,768)

"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
RITZ—(1,376) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average, $9,416)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 10th week. Gross: $30,100. (Average, not yet available)

"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
UPTOWN—(1,715) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, not yet available)

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Hollywood)—(3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,215. (Average, $13,651)

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Downtown)—3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,890. (Average, $16,094)

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Wiltern)—(2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,511. (Average, $12,794)

Majestic Quits Vaudeville

BOSTON, Oct. 20.—Majestic Theatre here, acquired some months ago by the E. M. Loew circuit and which adopted a vaudeville policy recently, has reversed it and abandoned stage shows.

"SAHARA" SETS A N

TOPS "THE MORE THE

FOX THEATRE,
DETROIT, MICH.

45% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

LOEW'S VENDOME THEATRE,
NASHVILLE, TENN.

30% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

MALCO THEATRE
MEMPHIS, TENN.

12% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

GARDE THEATRE,
NEW LONDON, CONN.

11% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

PALACE THEATRE,
LAWRENCE, MASS.

11% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

COLUMBIA PICTURES

W COLUMBIA RECORD!

MERRIER" EVERYWHERE!

EMBASSY THEATRE, JOHNSTON, PA.

20% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

COLONIAL THEATRE, ELMIRA, N. Y.

20% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

LOEW'S OHIO THEATRE, COLUMBUS, OHIO

14% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

PALACE THEATRE, BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

10% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

HUMPHREY

BOGART

The Sensational star of 'Casablanca'

SAHARA

with

BRUCE BENNETT • J. CARROL NAISH
LLOYD BRIDGES • REX INGRAM

Screen Play by John Howard Lawson and Zoltan Korda • Directed by ZOLTAN KORDA

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

'S ALL GIVE TO THE NATIONAL WAR FUND! IT GIVES TO ALL!

48 Shooting, 72 Editing, 48 Preparing

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20. — New pictures started during the week showed an increase over the previous week. Nine were put before the cameras, compared with five the week before. This brought the total in work from 46 to 48 due to seven finishing. Cutting rooms reported 72 editing, while studios were preparing 48 for early starts. The production scene:

Columbia

Shooting: "Curly," "Ten Percent Woman," "Cover Girl," "None Shall Escape."

Finished: "Klondike Kate."

W. R. Frank (Independent)

Shooting: "Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels, His Life and Loves."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed," "The Canterville Ghost," "Gaslight."

Monogram

Shooting: "Where Are My Children?" "Return of the Ape Man."

Paramount

Started: "When I Come Back," with Paulette Goddard, Sonny Tufts, Beulah Bondi, Marie McDonald.

Shooting: "Rainbow Island," "Going My Way," "Frenchman's Creek," "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay," "The Man in Half Moon Street," "Double Indemnity."

Finished: "The Story of Dr. Wassell," "The Navy Way."

P. R. C.

Shooting: "The Drifter," formerly "Buster Crabbe No. 3."

RKO-Radio

Started: "The Falcon in Texas," with Tom Conway, Barbara Hale, Rosemary LaPlanche, Russell Wade.

Republic

Shooting: "The Fighting Seabees," "Casanova in Burlesque."

Finished: "California Joe."

20th-Fox

Started: "The Purple Heart," with Dana Andrews, Richard Conte, Donald M. Barry, Farley Granger, Kevin O'Shea, Dave Willock, Sam Levene.

Shooting: "The Sullivans," "Eve of St. Mark," "Home in Indiana," "Lifeboat."

Finished: "The Lodger."

United Artists (Arnold Productions)

Started: "It Happened Tomorrow," with Dick Powell, Linda Darnell, Jack Oakie, Eddie Acuff, George Chandler, Jack Gardner, Eddie Coke, George Cleveland.

(Bogeaus Productions)

Shooting: "The Bridge of San Luis Rey."

(P. C. A.)

Shooting: "Knickerbocker Holiday."

(Harry Sherman)

Shooting: "Timber."

(Vanguard Films)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

Universal

Started: "Gypsy Wildcat," with Maria Montez, Jon Hall, Leo Carillo, Gale Sondergaard. "Patrick the Great," with Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, Frances Dee, Donald Cook, Eve Arden. "Her Primitive Man," with Louise Allbritton, Robert Paige, Edward Everett Horton, Helen Broderick, Robert Benchley, Ernest Truex.

Shooting: "Phantom Lady," "When Ladies Fly," "The Impostor," "Gung Ho," "Three Cheers for the Boys."

Finished: "Swingtime for Johnny."

Warners

Started: "Mr. Skiffington," with Bette Davis, Claude Rains, Richard Waring, Walter Abel. "Animal Kingdom," with Ann Sheridan, Dennis Morgan, Alexis Smith, Jack Carson, John Loder, Jane Wyman, Thurston Hall.

Shooting: "Uncertain Glory," "Rhapsody in Blue," "Passage to Marseille," "Outward Bound."

Review

"Lad from Our Town"

(Artkino)

THANKS to attractive Anna Smirnova, who portrays the wife of a Russian tank officer with warm and appealing simplicity, and the engaging personality of Nikolai Kriuchkov, who typifies the heroism of the Russian Army, Artkino's newest release, "Lad from Our Town," emerges as a satisfactory romantic drama. Frederick Ermler guided the production, made at Central Art Film Studios of Alma Ata, U.S.S.R., while the Germans were hammering at the gates of Moscow, with Alexander Stolper and Boris Ivanov handling the directorial assignment, which manages to fuse the romantic action and the war sequences without permitting the latter to dominate the film.

Konstantin Simonov, author of the play, "The Russian People," produced by the Theatre Guild in New York last season, has provided a simple story that depicts the anxiety and devotion of a young Russian wife, whose husband has chosen an Army career. Kriuchkov enters the Tank School at Omsk in the early '30's, to become a soldier rather than a scholar. Miss Smirnova is the girl whom he leaves behind. She goes on to Moscow to become an actress. Though they marry after Kriuchkov graduates from Omsk, Kriuchkov's life as a soldier permits him but brief interludes with his devoted wife, for he serves with the Loyalist Army in Spain, and finally in the heroic defense of his own country. Miss Smirnova endures the separation by entertaining at hospitals and army camps, inspiring other soldiers with song.

Others who turn in fine performances besides Miss Smirnova, and Kriuchkov, are Nikolai Bogoliubov and Nikolai Mordvinov. Charles Clement has written the English sub-titles.

Running time, 65 mins. "G."*

MILT LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

W.B. in WAC Tieup

"Women at War," Warner's color two-reeler about the Women's Army Corps, will play eight Manhattan newsreel theatres and several other houses day-and-date tomorrow in a tie-up with the WAC's current recruiting drive. Members of the women's corps will be stationed in theatre lobbies. Tie-up includes the five Embassy newsreel theatres, two Translux houses, Grand Central, Strand, Fox Brooklyn and several other local theatres.

'Phantom' Weathers Cleveland Storms For $19,500 Gross

CLEVELAND, Oct. 20.—Heavy rain turning to snow on Saturday and all day rain on Sunday hit theatre business with resulting lowered grosses. "Phantom of the Opera" with $19,500 at Warners' Hippodrome made the best showing among the new pictures and Bob Hope's "Let's Face It" held well in its second week at $17,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 20:

"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
ALLEN—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,300)

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $17,100)

"Heaven Can Wait" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,100)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (75c-$1.10) 4th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: none yet)

"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c and 85c Sundays and holidays) 7 days. Stage: Clyde Lucas and orchestra, also Al Dexter and his "Pistol Packin' Mama" gang. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $25,800)

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,800)

"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,600)

$7,800 Above Par For 'Bell' in Buffalo

BUFFALO, Oct. 20.—"For Whom the Bell Tolls" is still playing to big houses and will reach $24,200 at the Great Lakes. "Watch on the Rhine" was a hit in its first week and has been moved to the Hippodrome, where it is bidding for a big $14,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 23:

"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (40c-65c) 7 days. On stage: Cab Calloway and his orchestra, with the Chocolateers, The Cab Jivers, Cholly & Dotty, Heard & Jones, Fay Canty and Ralph Brown. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $16,500)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,200. (Average: $16,400)

"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,500)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
"Murder on the Waterfront" (WB)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,600)

"The Strange Death of Adolph Hitler" (Univ.)
"Honeymoon Lodge" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,500)

Drop Suit Against RCA-NBC Over Blue

CHICAGO, Oct. 20.—Anti-trust suit against Radio Corporation was dismissed here yesterday by Federal District Judge John P. Barnes on a motion filed by the Government's anti-trust division.

Dismissal, which the Government requested, was granted after the Federal Communications Commission had approved the sale of RCA's Blue Network, formerly operated by NBC. Alleged monopolistic practices resulting from the operation of the Blue had provided the basis of the suit.

CHARLES BOYER ★ BARBARA STANWYCK ★ EDWARD G. ROBINSON ★ BETTY FIELD ★ THOMAS MITCHELL ★ CHARLES WINNINGER ★ ROBERT BENCHLEY ★ ROBERT CUMMINGS

Nominated as the picture to be seen twice! . . .

flesh and fantasy

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

It outstars the all stars with eight of your favorites headed by Charles Boyer and Barbara Stanwyck

This is one of a series of advance newspaper advertisements running in all important key cities.

Milwaukee Filmites Aid WAC Recruiting

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 20. — With the appointment of H. J. Fitzgerald, president of Fox-Wisconsin Amusement Corp., as state director for the Women's Army Corps recruiting drive, the following have been chosen to serve on the Milwaukee county drive: Al Kvool, district manager, Warner Bros.; L. F. Gran, head of Standard theatres; Marcel Brazee, district manager, Warner Bros. Theatres; Hank Tollete, supervisor, Fox-Wisconsin; Gene Kilburg, supervisor, Fox-Wisconsin downtown theatres.

Walton Quits Canada Advisory Prices Unit

TORONTO, Oct. 20.—Tom Walton, owner of the Rio Theatre here, has resigned from the Advisory Council of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board to permit the appointment of Mayor A. J. Mason of Springhill, N. S., to that unit as a representative of the National Council of M. P. Exhibitors of Canada. R. G. McMullen, administrator of theatres and films, had stated that he could not accept Mason's nomination until Walton stepped out.

Cook Heads Film Critics

Alton Cook, N. Y. *World-Telegram* film critic, was elected chairman of the New York Film Critics at a meeting held at Chateau Richelieu here. Otis L. Guernsey, assistant drama and film critic for the N. Y. *Herald Tribune*, was elected secretary.

Review

"Mystery Broadcast"

(*Republic*)

Hollywood, Oct. 20

NOVELTY of idea and workmanship in its execution combine to impart audience values to this melodrama about a radio program which goes into the business of crime-detection with tragic results. It lacks nothing of importance but names with which to promote it.

The idea, unveiled in an original screenplay by Dane Lussier, concerns a girl broadcaster whose program, which advertises cigarettes and features unsolved murder mysteries, is diverted into realistic terms when she announces she will reveal the name of the murderer in an unsolved crime next week. A welter of melodramatic episodes, including two more murders, follow her announcement, but she makes good by digging up the truth in the case and proving the guilt of the long-sought murderer.

Associate producer-director George Sherman extracts utmost values from his script, providing a well-rounded and satisfying product. The players, all competent, are Frank Albertson, Ruth Terry, Nils Asther, Wynne Gibson, Paul Harvey, Mary Treen, Addison Richards, Joseph Crehan, Alice Fleming, Francis Pierlot, Ken Carpenter and Emmett Vogan.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G" *

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"G" denotes general classification.

Four Spots for Henie Ice Show

CHICAGO, Oct. 20.—Sonja Henie is in town to start rehearsals on this year's ice show. After conferences with Arthur Wirtz of the Chicago Stadium, and a short trip to New York, she will continue preparations. The show will also play in Indianapolis, Detroit and New York. This year's local engagement will begin Christmas Eve.

Republic Closes Two More Circuit Deals

Republic has closed deals covering its 1943-44 program with Durkee Theatres, operating 30 houses in Maryland, and the A. E. Lichtman circuit, operating 30 in Washington and Virginia.

S. H. Durkee and A. E. Lichtman, respectively, represented the circuits, with James R. Grainger, president, representing Republic.

British Tilt Over Moscow Showings

LONDON, Oct. 20.—First-rate sensation seems developing here as producing interests were jockeying intensely, even endeavoring to actually solicit support of members of the Cabinet in behalf of competeting factors in the British industry for representation of their products on the screen of the all-British theatre which the Soviet Government has announced would be permitted in the Russian capital.

J. Arthur Rank and his widespread producing interests is lined up on one side against Michael Balcon, representing "independent" producers and others. British Ministry of Information, the ostensible arbiter in making a selection, referred inquiries to the Soviet Embassy, which, in turn, referred them to Moscow.

"Desert Victory" and such subjects are certainties for Moscow showing, and it can be stated authoritatively that "Blimp" is desired by Moscow officialdom, but home authorities here feel that the subject is a dubious one for that purpose. They insist on further examination and possible revision of the production.

Ministry of Information, in conjunction with the British Mission stationed at Moscow, is also now engaged in promoting the public exhibition in all Russian cities of stills showing the development of the British film industry from the days of "quickies" to present wartime classics.

Short Subject Reviews

"Little Miss Pinkerton"
(*Our Gang—M-G-M*)

Our Gang kids while sleuthing their way through "The Window Dresser Murder Mystery" in hopes of winning the prize money for a solution unwittingly become involved in a real murder. The boys are kidnapped, but Janet saves the day, bringing the police, while Froggy swallows the kidnapper's car key. Good entertainment, directed by H. Glazer. Running time, 11 mins. Release date, Sept. 28.

"1-A Dogs"
(*Universal*)

Interesting film on training of dogs for war services, demonstrating how the animals are trained for disarming saboteurs, as well as for other defense duties. Sequences showing training by the hand-signal method are featured. Photography and direction are excellent, making for an exceptionally good release. Running time, 15 mins. Release date, Oct. 18.

"Football Thrills of 1942"
(*M-G-M Pete Smith Specialty*)

Annual resume of the gridiron preseason, highlighting the thrills of former big games. Trick shots and amusing commentary plus sequences of those never-to-be-forgotten 90-yard runs make a good reel. Running time, 10 mins. Release date, Sept. 25.

Review

"Overland Mail Robbery"
(*Republic*)

Hollywood, Oct. 20

PROBABLY the best so far of the Wild Bill Elliott, George "Gabby" Hayes series, "Overland Mail Robbery" was produced by Louis Gray, with John English holding the directorial reins. It is full of action and has more plot than most of this type of film.

Wild Bill and "Gabby" help save a stage line after a cut-throat family, firmly entrenched as bankers and store owners, has almost succeeded in killing off everyone who might be able to pull it through the robberies perpetrated upon its strong boxes. Anne Jefferys supplies good heroine stuff with the right touch for a Western while Alice Fleming stands out as the store owner-mother of the family and the brains of the crooked band. Nancy Gay does a good bit as the temptress who plants dynamite in the safe but later supplies the information Wild Bill and "Gabby" need to capture the rest of the family.

Action is plentiful from beginning to end, including the usual fast riding and straight shooting, a supposedly runaway stage coach and the final fist fight in which Wild Bill vanquishes the heavy. Screenplay is by Bob Williams and Robert Yost from an original by the latter.

Running time, 55 minutes. "G" *

*"G" denotes general classification.

Invite Para. Servicemen

Invitations have been extended to 250 former Paramount employes in the services who are in the vicinity of New York to attend the 1943 dinner-dance and show of the Paramount Pep Club at the Hotel Astor, tomorrow evening, Herman Lorber, president of the club, announced yesterday. This year's affair, "A Salute to the Services," is dedicated to Paramounteers in uniform. Harold L. Danson is entertainment chairman. Assisting him are Frances Weil, George Harvey and William Schneider.

RKO Theatres Lists Managerial Changes

RKO Theatres has made the following personnel shifts in the circuit: Arthur Meyers was appointed assistant manager at the New 23rd St. replacing William Aperance; Henry Laskoski, assistant manager of the Republic transferred to the Albee succeeding Lloyd Willis who was shifted to Laskoski's post at the Republic; Thomas Johnston, assistant manager at Keith's, White Plains, transferred to Proctor's, Yonkers, replacing Bradford Manning who has gone into the Army; Arthur Koch, assistant manager, Proctor's, Mt. Vernon, shifted to Keith's, White Plains in a similar capacity; Mrs. Alice Rudolph, secretary to H. R. Emdee, district manager, promoted to assistant manager at Proctor's, Mt. Vernon.

Walter Ahrens has been named manager at the Orpheum, Des Moines, replacing E. Franke, resigned. John S. Clifford was named assistant manager at the Orpheum, Des Moines, replacing Marvin Johnson, who was shifted to the post of manager at the Orpheum, Champaign, Ill. Richard Fredericks was named assistant manager of the Grand, Chicago, succeeding R. E. Helberg, resigned.

Johnson's MPAS Now 80% on War Films

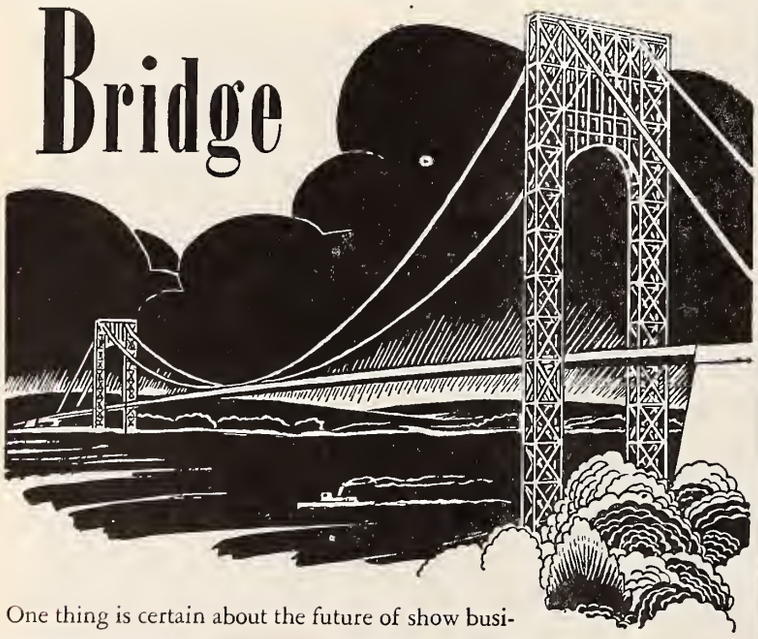
Eighty per cent of current production by M. P. Advertising Service, New Orleans, is now on government-approved war messages, according to William Johnson, president, who reports that principal subjects now are WAC recruiting, job safety, war savings and conservation, backed by national, sectional and local sponsors.

Johnson said that MPAS's Washington office has been requested to develop plans for marketing Latin American products in the United States, via film ads, in the post-war period.

Boston Canteen Closed

BOSTON, Oct. 20.—Building Commissioner James H. Mooney today requested the operators of the Stage Door Canteen recently opened here in a building donated by the Shuberts to close immediately and make structural changes before reopening.

Bridge



One thing is certain about the future of show business—both the immediate war-time future, and the remoter after-war future: the exhibitor's dependence on the trained technician—trained in the ever-changing science of electrical physics—will *increase* with the years. Between the exhibitor's present and future technical needs, Altec Service is a dependable, time-proven bridge.

ALTEC SERVICE CORPORATION

250 West 57th Street New York 19, N. Y.

Protecting the theatre — Our "first line of morale"

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Oct. 20

CAMERAS are turning on a locked and closely guarded sound stage at 20th-Fox on the first picture that Darryl F. Zanuck has put into production since he returned from duty as a Signal Corps Colonel.

It is "The Purple Heart," and has Lewis Milestone directing with Dana Andrews, Richard Conte, Donald M. Barry and Farley Granger in the cast. All anyone at Fox will say about it is that is a story of American heroes who have won the "Purple Heart" award founded by George Washington.

Apparently this is the first of those pictures "with significance dressed in glittering robes of entertainment," which Zanuck mentioned at the recent Writers Congress here. Next to follow are "Wilson," story of the famous World War I president, and "One World," based on Wendell Willkie's book.

•

Airel Heath, former RKO contract player, has been signed by Jack Schwarz for a featured role in "Talent School" at PRC and is being tested by two other studios for pictures preparing. . . . Edward Linden has been engaged by Daniel T. O'Shea to photograph special sequences for "Since You Went Away," now in filming. . . . Republic has borrowed Michael O'Shea from Hunt Stromberg for the lead in "Man From Frisco," story of Henry J. Kaiser. . . . M-G-M has given Lassie, the dog in "Lassie Come Home," a five-year contract.

•

John Hodiak will play Lana Turner's husband in "Marriage Is a Private Affair," now preparing under Pandro Berman's guidance at M-G-M. . . . Joe May will direct "Johnnie Doesn't Live Here Anymore," first King Brothers comedy for Monogram. . . . Pine and Thomas have signed William Frawley for "Rhythm Ranch," a Western musical for Paramount, of course. . . . Milroy A. Anderson, manager of the RKO-Hillstreet Theatre, has been appointed to the Los Angeles Fire Commission.

Juvenile Curfew Law Seen for St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 20.—A curfew law for 'teen-age St. Louisans has been recommended to Mayor Kaufmann and the Board of Aldermen by the Juvenile Commission, which was appointed several months ago by the mayor. The commission did not recommend a specific curfew hour or set an age limit, explaining both questions were up to the Board of Aldermen. So far no action has been taken on the commission's report.

RKO Sends Gifts

More than 125 former RKO-Radio home office employees now in the armed forces will receive Christmas packages from their home office colleagues. A fund, jointly contributed to by the company and employees, made the gifts possible.

NEWS FROM UNIVERSAL

HOWARD HAWKS'

MIGHTY PRODUCTION

CORVETTE K-225

gets the biggest opening ever had by any motion picture at the Criterion Theatre, New York!

Let's All Give!
National War Fund
Which Gives to All!

"Phantom of the Opera"
at the Capitol Theatre
Broadway N.Y. breaks
all-time attendance
record!

... and doing great
everywhere!

FILE COPY
DO NOT REMOVE

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

L. 54. NO. 79 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1943 | TEN CENTS

dmission Tax ollections in eptember Sag

Fall $2,250,000 from August Record

ASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Falling he lowest level touched in three ths, Federal admission tax col- ons in September dropped to 926,347, some $2,250,000 under the d high of $16,178,306 in August only $264,000 more than the Sep- er, 1942, receipts of $13,662,337, as reported yesterday by the In- l Revenue Bureau.

he drop in business appeared to been spread throughout the coun- with the Third New York adway) District, where receipts from $2,062,989 to $1,706,121, ac- ting for only about 12 per cent of oss.

e drop in the New York area was in all categories on which the ssion tax is imposed, collections ox office admissions falling from 9,987 to $1,531,457; tickets sold

(*Continued on page* 10)

fer Plan to Curb Theatre Vandalism

o combat theatre vandalism, one e manifestations of juvenile de- ency which has challenged the- owners, a long-range constructive preventative plan, using as its base motion picture theatre itself, was osed this week by Community ncils of the City of New York.

e central theme of the idea is blishment of Junior American s which will hold meetings, par- ate in special radio programs, en- in contests and amateur theatri- and conduct other activities once

(*Continued on page* 10)

ilson Buys Assets Of G. N. in England

aurice Wilson, independent Brit- distributor, has acquired the assets rand National Film Corp. of En- d, it was learned here yesterday. on will reorganize that company n independent distributing organi- n with exchanges throughout t Britain. The deal involves the lue of Grand National in that try which went out of business al years ago.

Cleveland O.D.T. Orders Sunday Film Deliveries Stopped

CLEVELAND, Oct. 21.—The regional Office of Defense Transportation has ordered all local film exchanges and film carriers in this area to eliminate Sunday film deliveries, it was learned today.

The action was taken by the regional office in a general move to further reduce consumption of gasoline and tires and to conserve on trucking facilities in the area.

Local distribution officials and carrier concerns have protested the action to home offices, the MPPDA and Washington officials of the ODT, it was learned. Their protest against the order is based upon a national ODT ruling that deliveries may be made six days a week, with the days of deliveries unspecified. The national order, it is contended, further

(*Continued on page* 10)

Hyman President of W. Va. Theatre Men

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Oct. 21.—S. J. Hyman, of Huntington, was reelected president of the West Virginia Association at the annual meeting held here at the Prichard Hotel. Other officers named include J. C. Shanklin, Ronceverte, executive vice-president, and W. H. Holt, secretary-treasurer. Twelve regional vice-presidents were also named.

Harry Thomas, Monogram sales manager, spoke on post war planning in production. Twenty-nine exhibitors and 20 film distributors and guests attended the meeting and banquet.

30 More Areas to Get 48-Hour Week

Washington, Oct. 21.—Dallas, Indianapolis and Oklahoma are among the film exchange centers included in a list of 30 new labor shortage areas which must operate on a 48-hour week basis by Nov. 15 under a new War Manpower Commission directive issued today. In its order the WMC also listed 939 additional areas where acute labor shortages, implying a 48-hour week, may be expected within six months.

Television Dream No More, SMPE Told

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—Projection of high quality television pictures to theatre screen size is no longer a laboratory dream. That statement by Klaus Landsberg, director of Television Productions, subsidiary of Paramount, was the most significant observation made at the Thursday session of the SMPE conference which dealt with television. Sidney Solow, recently elevated to a fellowship, presided.

Landsberg spoke on "Post-War Television Planning and Requirements," stressing the fact that "quality of television pictures today is such that it can be compared to quality of 16mm pictures."

He also stated, "Wartime mass production of similar equipment, (referring to radio), has shown the way for production of television receivers below $100."

Discussing various technical aspects of television, he concluded by stating "Black and white television is ready

(*Continued on page* 10)

U. S. Pleads for Further Travel Reduction by Industry and Public

Washington, Oct. 21.—Office of Defense Transportation today made an urgent plea for voluntary restriction of non-essential train and bus movement by film persons and others.

No priorities or other restrictions will be imposed on the travel movements of show people or others except as a last resort, it was declared, ODT officials explaining that in their view the hardships which such a step would develop and the large number of persons required to enforce it far outweighed the benefits which would result.

It is estimated here that one-fourth of all persons traveling now are engaged in movements which are not essential to the war or their business but it is also recognized that much of this may be for rest and recreation badly needed by persons working hard to win the war. However, ODT declares, a considerable portion of this travel could well be eliminated by voluntary co-operation on the part of industry and the public.

J. M. Schenck Was Innocent, Bioff Asserts

'Convicted for Telling The Truth'

William Bioff, convicted labor racketeer, asserted in Federal court yesterday that Joseph M. Schenck, former chairman of the board of 20th Century-Fox, was "sent to jail for telling the truth, and I'm responsible for sending him there."

Bioff, star Government witness at the extortion trial of seven Al Capone gangsters from Chicago, and a Newark labor leader, on charges of conspiring to extort more than $1,000,000 from the film industry, admitted that he was "a person of low type," and said, "I feel very sorry for Joe Schenck."

Schenck was convicted on income tax evasion charges three years ago, chiefly because of a suspected loan of $100,000 to Bioff. Bioff and George E. Browne, former president of IATSE, were convicted two years ago of extorting more than $1,000,000 from major producing companies and are now serving prison terms of 10 and

(*Continued on page* 10)

Film Workers Face Gas Card Loss: OPA

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—Absenteeism equivalent to an acute studio labor shortage looms in an OPA directive to studio transportation committees, clamping the lid on workers who use automobiles without conforming to the "share-the-ride" plan. In a sharply worded rebuke citing the gasoline shortage, indicated by a 25 per cent ration cut, OPA Director Paul Barksdale said the "no riders-no gas" rule

(*Continued on page* 10)

Ampa Benefit Tonight Almost a Sell-Out

William McKee and Herman Schleier of AMPA's Ticket-Selling Committee announced yesterday that almost all tickets for the midnight preview for the benefit of motion picture relief are sold. The affair takes place tonight at the Paramount Theatre, where "Riding High," a Paramount feature, will be screened, and a stage show will also take place. The film and the theatre were contributed gratis by Paramount.

Personal Mention

NATE J. BLUMBERG, president of Universal Pictures, underwent a minor operation here yesterday at the Fifth Ave. Hospital. It is expected that he will be confined to the hospital for seven or eight days. His condition was reported satisfactory.

•

LIEUT. THOMAS J. CALLAHAN, son of EDWARD X. CALLAHAN, New England division manager of 20th-Fox, has received the Air Medal. LT. CALLAHAN'S wife, MRS. BETTY CALLAHAN, recently had a daughter, MARY LOU, which he has never seen.

•

O. HENRY BRIGGS, president of PRC, will leave today for conferences on the Coast. NAT LEFTON, district manager for Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Cincinnati, will accompany him.

•

LT. DON SMITH, son of LEMOTTO SMITH, circuit operator in West Virginia, is a prisoner of war in Japan, according to a War Department telegram.

•

GEORGE D. HELMS, North and South Carolina manager for the U. S. Army motion picture service, has reported at Camp Croft, S. C., for induction into the Army.

•

JOHN D. LATCHIS, formerly of Latchis Theatres, New England, before joining the Army Air Force, has become engaged to EUGENIA KARRAS of Brooklyn.

•

A. A. SCHUBART, RKO Radio manager of exchange operations, will leave tomorrow on a three-week inspection trip of the company's Western branch offices.

•

W. A. SCULLY, Universal general sales manager, returned to his office yesterday after being confined to his home with a cold for the past week.

•

DON DEMIEN of Fox Wisconsin Theatres' advertising department in Milwaukee, has enlisted in the Army Air Corps.

•

LEON FROMKESS, vice-president in charge of PRC production, is due here from Hollywood the first week in November.

•

GEORGE GILL, PRC Washington franchise holder, and FRED ROHRS, Southern district manager, arrived here yesterday.

•

ROBERT BUCKNER, Warner producer, is expected to arrive here from the Coast on Monday for a two-week stay.

•

SPYROS SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, will arrive from the Coast today.

•

PAUL JONES, Paramount producer, is expected here from the Coast today.

•

HAROLD FLAVIN is in Hollywood from New York.

Schoenstadt Action Reply Due Nov. 10

CHICAGO, Oct. 21.—The H. Schoenstadt and Sons anti-trust suit has been assigned to Judge Philip L. Sullivan in the District Court here and the defendants' reply is called for by Nov. 10. Schoenstadts are trying to improve the playing time of their Picadilly Theatre in a suit against Balaban and Katz Corp., Warner Bros. Circuit Management Corp. and eight distributing companies. Hearing in the Palace Theatre, Gary, Ind., arbitration case has been postponed from Oct. 26 to Nov. 23 at the request of Vincent O'Brien, attorney for Warner Bros. The Palace Theatre is seeking a reduction of the clearance granted the Chicago, Tivoli, Avalon, Southtown and Capitol Theatres in Chicago.

National War Fund Drive Gets Underway

The personal calls on local motion picture exhibitors by New York chairman Sam Rinzler and his committee on behalf of the National War Fund are beginning to bear fruit. General contributions have been received from Walter Reade, Max A. Cohen, Julius Joelson, Joseph Seider, Rugoff and Becker, Raff and Ruden, David Weinstock, Morris Lane and Morris Kutinske.

Rinzler has added Joe Hornstein to his committee, placing the latter in charge of the accessories division. Donation checks to the National War Fund, which eliminates the multiple demands previously confronted by givers, are to be sent to Fred Schwartz, treasurer, at 50 Rockefeller Plaza.

Rodgers to Coast to Set New MGM Block

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution, is scheduled to leave for Hollywood over the weekend, to confer with M-G-M studio officials on recently completed and unreleased product to determine the balance of the film for distribution in M-G-M's second block of features for the 1943-44 season.

First block of the new season comprised 12 features, the largest block ever offered by M-G-M under the consent decree. At present, only five films have been chosen for the second group, "Thousands Cheer," "Lost Angel," "Cry Havoc," "The Cross of Lorraine" and "Right About Face."

Balaban and Agnew Off to Coast Today

Headed by Barney Balaban, president of the company, a group of Paramount executives will leave for Hollywood today to confer with studio officials on current and future product.

Accompanying Balaban will be Neil Agnew, vice-president in charge of sales; John Hicks, Jr., vice-president in charge of foreign operation; Russell Holman, Eastern head of production, and Robert M. Gillham, director of publicity and advertising.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 21

BOB HOPE will be master of ceremonies of the KFWB half-hour program to be relayed mass meetings at all studios Tuesday noon starting the industry war chest campaign, introducing Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president, and union and guild heads, it was announced today following the meeting of Studio Colonels.

•

Loyd Wright, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, announced today the unanimous election of Edward Golden to membership. Golden will leave here tomorrow for the East to complete plans for expansion of his production unit.

•

Private funeral services for Ben Bernie were held here tonight at the Mortuary Chapel. The eulogy was given by George Jessel. The body will be shipped East on Sunday for interment in Flushing.

•

Arch Reeve, secretary of the industry public relations committee, will arrive here tomorrow from two weeks of conferences in New York on HVC and USO affairs.

•

George L. Bagnall, United Artists vice-president, will leave here tomorrow for a three-week stay in New York.

•

Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., United Artists ad-publicity head, will leave here for the East on Tuesday.

•

Steve Broidy, Monogram general sales manager, will leave here Sunday for the East.

•

Lester Cowan, the producer, left here today for New York.

Mono. Stockholders Hold Annual Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—Franchise holders and company representatives of Monogram were present at the annual stockholders' meeting yesterday at the company studio. Those at the meeting were: E. Blumenthal and John Franconi, of the Dallas exchange; George West, St. Louis; Arthur C. Bromberg and John Mangham, Atlanta; Charles Trampe, Milwaukee; William Hurlbut, Detroit; Lon T. Fidler, Denver; Herman Rifkin of Boston, and Howard Stubbins of Los Angeles and the Northwestern offices.

Midwest Gas Ration Cuts Theatre Income

DES MOINES, Ia., Oct. 21.—Midweek business of Iowa theatres has been noticeably affected by the three-gallon gas ration which went into effect several weeks ago.

Some houses have been forced to eliminate mid-week changes on their film bills since, although week-end business has improved over last year, the poor week night attendance has cut profits considerably.

Ruling Reserved on Setay Applicatio

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 21.—The S curities and Exchange Commissic here today reserved decision on t proposal by Consolidated Film I dustries, Inc., to vest its 67 per ce interest in Republic Pictures Corp. Delaware in Setay Co., Inc. The a plication was presented to Patric Griffin, SEC counsel.

Griffin expects to be inducted ne week and if he is, the decision will b held up. Otherwise a decision on th application is expected within tw weeks.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
ERIC KNIGHT'S beloved novel
"LASSIE COME HOME"
with RODDY McDOWALL—DONALD CRISP
An M-G-M Picture in Technicolor
Gala Stage Revue Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

RADIO CITY MUSIC HA
PORTUGAL- EUROPE'S CROSSROADS
20th CENTURY-FOX RELEASE
Another First From The MARCH OF TIM

Mary MARTIN . Franchot TONE . Dick POWELL . Victor MOORE
"TRUE TO LIFE"
IN PERSON
THE INK SPOTS
TONY PASTOR and His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
THE JAPS ARE WORSE THAN KILLERS
'BEHIND THE RISING SUN'

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
JAMES CAGNEY
GRACE GEORGE
'JOHNNY COME LATELY'
IN PERSON
ANN CORIO
HERB MILLER & ORCH.

BETTY GRABLE
ROBERT YOUNG
ADOLPHE MENJOU
Sweet Rosie O'Grady
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
IN TECHNICOLOR!
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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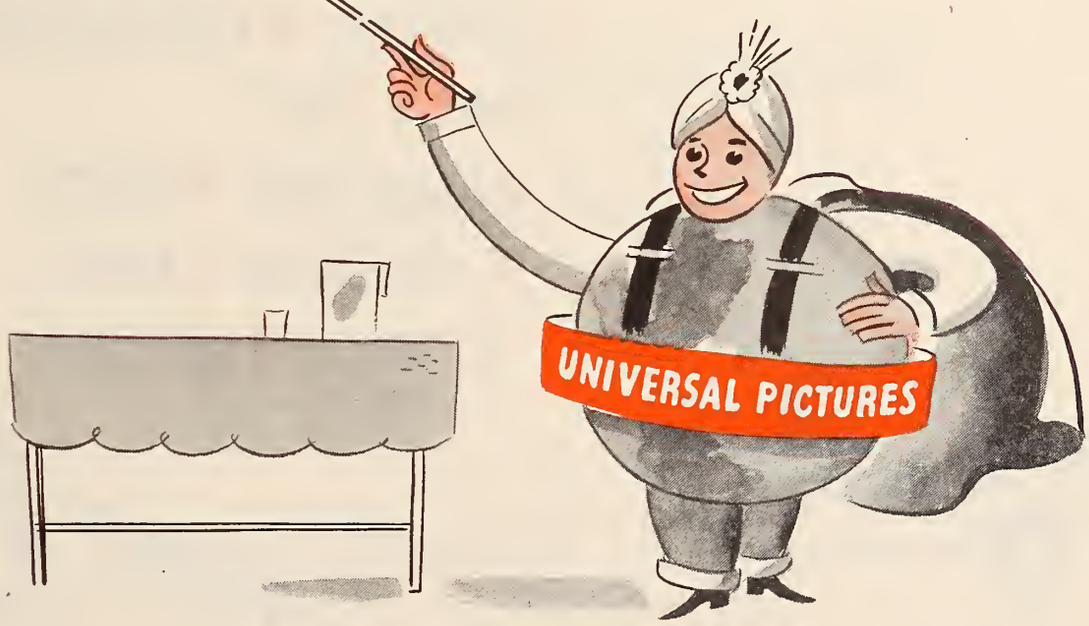
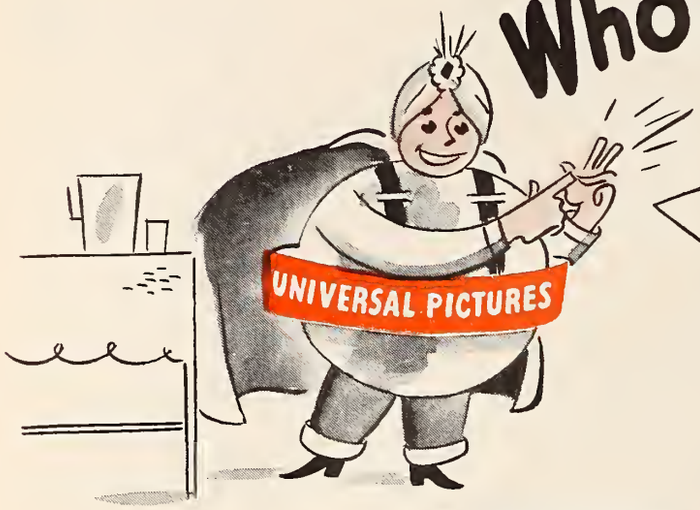
not only know
all the Answers...

...but
I know
all the Questions!



Who's in IT?

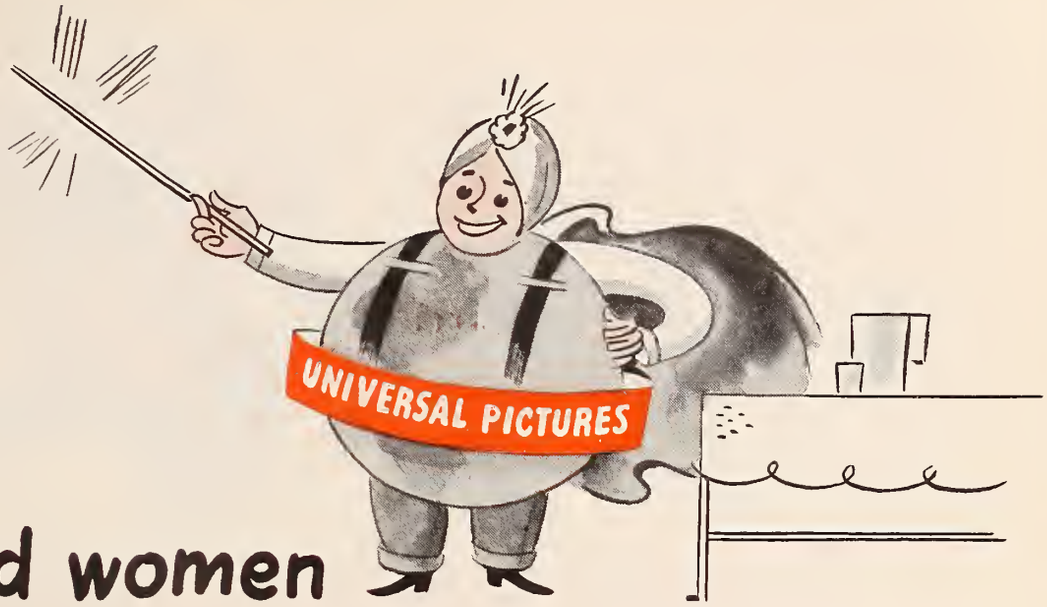


CHARLES BOYER
BARBARA STANWYCK
EDWARD G. ROBINSON
BETTY FIELD
ROBERT CUMMINGS
ROBERT BENCHLEY
THOMAS MITCHELL
CHARLES WINNINGER
ANNA LEE
DAME MAY WHITTY
C. AUBREY SMITH
EDGAR BARRIER

NAME VALUE!

FLESH AND FANTASY

What's IT About?



Men and women
Life and death
Love and laughs
Fortune and chance
Conflict and passion
...and good solid
Entertainment...

STORY and PRODUCTION VALUE!

FLESH AND FANTASY

Who'll go to SEE IT?

HIGH-BROW!

LOW-BROW!

ALL-BROW!

DOWN-TO-EARTH...

UP-TO-THE-SKIES

Soldiers
Sailors
Marines
Wacs
Waves
Spars
Riveters
Shipbuilders
Bookkeepers
Clerks
Advertising Men
Grocery Clerks
Bankers
Brokers
Butchers
Bakers
Candlestick-makers
Doctors
Lawyers
Indian Chiefs
Housemaids
Housewives
Husbands
Wives
Sweethearts
and Lovers
Duchess and dowager
and just plain
men and women

BOX OFFICE VALUE!

FLESH AND FANTASY

Nominated as the picture to be *SEEN* twice...

"FLESH AND FANTASY"

starring in the order of their appearance

ROBERT BENCHLEY
BETTY FIELD
ROBERT CUMMINGS
with
EDGAR BARRIER

EDWARD G. ROBINSON
with
THOMAS MITCHELL
C. AUBREY SMITH
ANNA LEE
DAME MAY WHITTY

CHARLES BOYER
BARBARA STANWYCK
with
CHARLES WINNINGER

Directed by JULIEN DUVIVIER · Produced by CHARLES BOYER and JULIEN DUVIVIER

Screen Play by Ernest Pascal · Samuel Hoffenstein · Ellis St. Joseph
Laslo Vadnay · Ellis St. Joseph

Based on Stories by Oscar Wilde

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

THE PICTURE THAT WILL ADD *NEW* MEANING TO THE WORD "ENTERTAINMENT"...

FLESH AND FANTASY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Sept. 25	DANGEROUS BLONDES Allyn Joslyn Evelyn Keyes D—(4016)	(Fourth Block) HARRIGAN'S KID D—70 mins. (329) PRESENTING LILY MARS Judy Garland M—104 mins. (330)	SPOTLIGHT SCANDALS Billy Gilbert Frank Fay M—(307)	(Sixth Block) SO PROUDLY WE HAIL Claudette Colbert Paulette Goddard Veronica Lake D (4228)		DEATH VALLEY MANHUNT O—55 mins. (375)	Special Releases COASTAL COMMAND D—60 mins. SPITFIRE Leslie Howard David Niven D—90 mins.			ALWAYS A BRIDESMAID Andrews Sisters Patric Knowles Grace McDonald C—(8023)	THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS All Star Musical M—127 mins. (303)
Oct. 2	FOOTLIGHT GLAMOUR Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—68 mins. (4020)	THE YOUNGEST PROFESSION C—81 mins. (331) PILOT #5 Franchot Tone D—70 mins. (332)		DIXIE (Technicolor) Bing Crosby Dorothy Lamour M—89 mins. (4230)	GIRL FROM MONTERREY Armida C 61 mins. (412)		(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C	SWEET ROSIE O'GRADY Betty Grable Robert Young (Technicolor) M—76 mins. (408)	BAR 20 William Boyd Andy Clyde O—54 mins.	CORVETTE K-225 Randolph Scott Andy Devine D A Howard Hawks Production	(Re-Issues) Song of the Saddle Prairie Thunder The Cherokee Strip Empty Holsters Guns of the Pecos Land Beyond the Law
Oct. 9	DOUGHBOYS IN IRELAND Kenny Baker Jeff Donnell M	DU BARRY WAS A LADY (Technicolor) Red Skelton M—101 mins. (333) HITLER'S MADMAN D—84 mins. (334)	BLAZING GUNS Hoot Gibson Ken Maynard 54 mins. O—(258)	HENRY ALDRICH SWINGS IT Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith C—65 mins. (4226)	LONE RIDER IN RAIDERS OF RED GAP O—(368)		THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D			CRAZY HOUSE Olsen & Johnson Martha O'Driscoll Count Basie & Band M	ADVENTURE IN IRAQ John Loder Ruth Ford D—(304)
Oct. 16	SAHARA Humphrey Bogart Bruce Bennett J. Carroll Naish D—97 mins.—(5003)	RANDOM HARVEST Ronald Colman Greer Garson D—126 mins. (370) HUMAN COMEDY Mickey Rooney D—117 mins. (380)	OUTLAWS OF STAMPEDE PASS Johnny Mack Brown O—(255)	ALASKA HIGHWAY Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—68 mins. (4227) SUBMARINE ALERT Richard Arlen Wendy Barrie D—67 mins. (4229)		SCREAM IN THE DARK Marie McDonald (229) OLD BARN DANCE (Re-issue) Gene Autry—(2307)	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C	PARIS AFTER DARK George Sanders Brenda Marshall Philip Dorn 85 mins. (409)		HI-YA SAILOR Elyse Knox Donald Woods M	
Oct. 23	THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME Chester Morris George E. Stone Jeanne Bates (1943-'44) D—(5034)	(First Block) (1943-44) ABOVE SUSPICION D—90 mins. (402)	THE UNKNOWN GUEST Victor Jory Pamela Blake D—(309)	(Re-Issue) UNION PACIFIC Barbara Stanwyck Joel McCrea D—138 mins. (4250)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN THE RETURN OF THE RANGERS THE UNDERDOG Barton McLane (316)	MAN FROM THE RIO GRANDE John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O—55 mins. (363)	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D			YOU'RE A LUCKY FELLOW, MR. SMITH Allan Jones Evelyn Ankers M—(8033)	PRINCESS O'ROURKE Olivia DeHavilland Robert Cummings D—(305)
Oct. 30	IS EVERYBODY HAPPY? Ted Lewis and his Band M	BEST FOOT FORWARD Lucille Ball M—94 mins. (405) DR. GILLESPIE'S CRIMINAL CASE Lionel Barrymore D—89 mins. (407)	BULLETS AND SADDLES A Range Buster O—(268)	(Re-Issue) SOULS AT SEA Gary Cooper George Raft D—93 mins. (4254)		MAN FROM MUSIC MOUNTAIN Roy Rogers Ruth Terry O—(257)	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C	(Re-Issues) IN OLD CHICAGO D—94 mins. (406) BANJO ON MY KNEE M—95 mins. (407)	THE WOMAN THE TOWN Claire Trevor Albert Dekker D	FLESH AND FANTASY Edward Robinson Charles Boyer Barbara Stanwyck D—(8062)	
Nov. 6	SILVER CITY RAIDERS Russell Hayden Adele Mara O—(5202)	GIRL CRAZY Mickey Rooney Judy Garland C—99 mins. (409) LASSIE COME HOME (410) Roddy MacDowall D	MYSTERY OF THE 13th GUEST Dick Purcell D—(211)	(First Block) (1943-44) LET'S FACE IT Bob Hope Betty Hutton M—76 mins. (4301)	THE DEVIL RIDERS Buster Crabbe O—(460)	OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY "Wild Bill" Elliott Ann Jeffreys	Second Block THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)	GUADALCANAL DIARY Wm. Bendix Lloyd Nolan D (412)		SON OF DRACULA Robert Paige Louise Allbritton—D THE MAD GHOUL Evelyn Ankers David Bruce—D	FIND THE BLACKMAILER Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson D—(306)
Nov. 13	RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE Nina Foch Bela Lugosi D	SALUTE TO THE MARINES Wallace Beery Fay Bainter D—(401)	NEARLY EIGHTEEN Gale Storm Bill Henry D—61 mins. (226)	TRUE TO LIFE Mary Martin Franchot Tone Dick Powell C—94 mins. (4303)		HERE COMES ELMER Al Pearce Dale Evans C—(303)	GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)			COBRA WOMAN Maria Montez Jon Hall Sabu D (in Technicolor)	NORTHERN PURSUIT Errol Flynn Julie Bishop D—(307)
Nov. 20		SWING SHIFT MAISIE (404) Ann Sothern C—86 mins. ADVENTURES OF TARTU (406) Robert Donat Valerie Hobson D—103 mins.	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43) M—(210)	HOSTAGES Luise Rainer Arturo de Cordova Paul Lukas D—88 mins. (4305) THE GOOD FELLOWS Cecil Kellaway Helen Walker James Brown C—70 mins. (4302)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN BOSS OF RAWHIDE O—(452) HARVEST MELODY M—(402)	MYSTERY BROADCAST Frank Albertson D—(304)	GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)	DANCING MASTERS Laurel and Hardy C—63 mins. (413)		NEVER A DULL MOMENT The Ritz Brotherss Frances Langford Mary Beth Hughes C	
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal D	YOUNG IDEAS Susan Peters (408) Mary Astor D—77 mins. THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER D—103 mins. (411)		TORNADO Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—83 mins. (4304)		DRUMS OF FU MANCHU (Adapted from Serial) Henry Brandon D—(305)	GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)		GUNG HO Randolph Scott Alan Cnrtis (Walter Wanger Prod.) D	
Dec.		I DOOD IT D—102 mins. (403) WHISTLING IN BROOKLYN Red Skelton	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer)	(Special Release) THE CITY THAT STOPPED HITLER—HEROIC STALINGRAD		CANYON CITY John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O	THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D				

ahara' Dual Big New Haven Week

New Haven, Oct. 21.—"Sahara" "Thumbs Up" at the Loew-Poli k $9,900, and the bill moves over the College for a second week.

Estimated takings for the week end- Oct. 21:

bly Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
ng of the Cowboys" (Rep.)
LJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: 00. (Average: $3,600)
hnny Come Lately" (UA)
at Nazty Nuisance" (UA)
OLLEGE—(1,565) (40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd k. Gross: $3,300. (Average, $3,200)
hara" (Col.)
umbs Up" (Rep.)
OEW-POLI—(3,005) (40c-50c) 7 days. ss: $9,900. (Average: $9,300)
r Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ARAMOUNT—(2,373) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,200)
antom of the Opera" (Univ.)
oneymoon Lodge" (Univ.)
OGER SHERMAN—(2,037) (40c-50c) 7 s. Gross: $7,200. (Average, $6,200)

Navy Shows 3 Shorts

Navy's industrial incentive division, ded by Rear Admiral Clark H. odward, at Washington, will show ee new short subjects today to the ss at the Prevue Theatre, 1600 adway. Subjects, all for distribu- exclusively to war plants, are ed: "Full Speed Ahead," "Decem- 7th" and "The Life and Death of Hornet."

New Votion Financing

Arrangements have been made ereby the Bankers Trust Company l finance all future "Lum and Ab- " pictures, to be produced by Jack ion Productions, Inc., for RKO ease, it was learned yesterday.

Theatre Collects Servicemen Gifts

The 55th St. Playhouse here set aside Monday evenings until Christmas to collect Yule gifts for men and women in service. Patrons who bring a wrapped parcel for a fighting man will receive free admission to the Playhouse.

Gifts received at the Playhouse will be turned over to the National Catholic Community Service, a unit of the New York USO, for distribution here or abroad to men and women in service.

15% of Mexicans Reject War Films

Hollywood, Oct. 21.—Fifteen per cents of Mexican audiences reject war themes in pictures, according to a Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs report on a personally conducted poll taken in lobbies of Mexico City theatres.

Breakdown by type of pictures preferred revealed the following ratios: dramas 113; war 86; comedy 70; musicals 6; historicals 28; romances 14.

Julius Gordon Delayed

Julius Gordon, president of Jefferson Amusement Co., Beaumont, Texas, who was scheduled to arrive in New York on Wednesday for Paramount home office conferences, was delayed because of transportation conditions. He will arrive here tomorrow instead, and will be at the Belmont Plaza Hotel until Oct. 27.

'Lucky Stars' Does Well in Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, Oct. 21.—Playing at the Stanley without the usual stage bill, and in a week of miserable winter sleet, "Thank Your Lucky Stars" still looked like $22,000 for the week. Attendance in general was fair.

Estimated receipts for week ending Oct. 19-22:

"Bomber's Moon" (20th-Fox)
"Frontier Bad Man" (Univ.)
FULTON—(1,700) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,700)
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
FULTON—(1,700) (30c-40c-60c) 3 days, 5th week. Gross: $4,200. (Average for full week, $7,700)
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,300)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
PENN—(3,400) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,800)
"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week (moveover after 1 week at Penn, 1 at Warner). Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,800)
"The Oklahoma Kid" (WB re-issue)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $3,200)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average, $19,200)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week (moveover from Penn). Gross: $7 000. (Average, $6,900)

Reelfellows to Elect

Chicago, Oct. 21. — The Reelfellows' Club will nominate officers for the coming year at their next meeting, which will be held at the Blackstone Hotel on Sunday, Nov. 14. A check for $10 will be sent as a Christmas gift to each member of the club who is serving in the armed forces.

Short Subject Review

"Children of Mars"

(RKO—"This Is America")

One of the finest in Frederic Ullman's "This Is America" series, "Children of Mars," presents the problem of the "war casualties" on the home front—the children whose parents are now engaged in war work. In no wise a criticism of the parents who have gone to work in defense of the nation, the film rather seeks to present the answer to the problem, found in community activity sponsored for the youngsters as a substitute for the home life necessarily lacking in these unusual times, brought on by all-out war effort. Excellent direction and photographic technique by Frank A. Donovan and Harry Smith, respectively, as well as interesting narrative by Dwight Weist contribute in making "Children of Mars" an unusually good short. Running time, 20 mins. Release date, Oct. 21.

Para's 'Salute' Tonight

Paramount's "Salute to the Services" will be held tonight in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Astor. A block of tickets for the preview of "Riding High" at the Paramount, starting at midnight tonight and being held for the benefit of the AMPA Relief Fund at advanced prices, will be given away in a series of dance contests. Paramount's men and women in the armed forces will be guests at the affair.

Decline Recorded In Admission Tax Collections for Sept.

(Continued from page 1)

by brokers, from $15,435 to $10,773, and admissions to roof gardens and cabarets, $197,567 to $163,891. It was the fifth successive month on which no taxes were collected on tickets sold by proprietors in excess of the established price. and the third on which nothing was collected on permanent use or lease of boxes and seats.

The September collections brought the total for the first nine months of the year to $119,793,645, against $104,443,544 for the corresponding period in 1942, the bureau reported.

Cooper Enters Denial In Paramount Suit

Joseph H. Cooper, in an answer filed in Federal Court here yesterday, denies allegations contained in a suit filed against him by Paramount Pictures Corp. for an accounting of assets of the Lincoln Theatre Corp., Lincoln, Neb., and asks dismissal of the suit.

Paramount alleged in its suit that it had a 50-50 partnership with Cooper in the operation of three Lincoln film houses, but that Cooper holds in his own name all of the stock of Lincoln Theatre Corp., the operating company.

Cooper, in a counter-action, alleges the misuse of $138,581 of corporate funds, which he and Paramount withdrew from Lincoln in 1928 and 1932. He claims that without his knowledge Paramount's share was credited to overhead and his to salary, which resulted in an investigation by the internal revenue department.

To Vote on Sunday Films in Knoxville

KNOXVILLE, Oct. 21.—Knoxville voters will cast a ballot Nov. 18 which will decide the question on Sunday films. The city council ordered the referendum. The State Supreme Court held that the question cannot be referred to the city council again until the city charter is amended. About 20,000 names appeared on a recent petition in favor of Sunday screenings.

Film Workers Face Gas Card Loss: OPA

(Continued from page 1)

will be rigidly enforced, adding "all cars are to be checked on highways near your place of business, and those that do not have full a complement of riders assigned to them, or a written permit from the transportation committee, will have B and C ration books taken up and voided without further notice."

Transportation committees are urging employees to enter "share-the-ride" plans under studio arrangements now available.

JACK SHAINDLIN
Musical Direction
In Preparation:
"YOUTH IN CRISIS"
March of Time

Schenck Was Innocent, Bioff States at Trial

(Continued from page 1)

eight years, respectively. The defendants on trial are involved in the same extortion, with Bioff and Browne named as co-conspirators in the indictment.

Go to Washington

Bioff, under cross examination by defense attorney James D. C. Murray, stated that he and Joseph Schenck went to Washington to discuss the $100,000 transaction with the then Attorney General Frank Murphy.

"Didn't you and Joseph Schenck lie to Murphy about that deal?" demanded Murray.

"Joe Schenck went to jail for telling the truth," replied Bioff.

"Yes, but he said he loaned you $100,000 when you went before Murphy, didn't he?" asked Murray.

"Yes, he did," replied Bioff.

"And he lied, didn't he?" pressed Murray.

"Yes, he lied then but when he told the truth about it later he was indicted for perjury," insisted Bioff.

After Schenck's conviction on income tax evasion charges, for which he was sentenced to three years, he entered a plea of guilty to the perjury indictment and his sentence, at that time, was reduced to one year and one day.

Felt Sorry for Schenck

"I felt sorry for Joe Schenck," said Bioff. "I was responsible for his going to jail."

"Did you so testify at his trial?" asked Murray.

"No, I didn't," said Bioff.

"Did you tell the Federal authorities the truth—that Joe Schenck was innocent?" asked the attorney.

"I couldn't afford to," replied Bioff. "I was under indictment on income tax charges in California at the time."

Bioff, under further cross examination by Murray, admitted that he had done everything he could during his own extortion trial to block the government so that he wouldn't have to go to jail.

"I was a low-type person," he said, with reference to his concealment of the innocence of Schenck.

Bioff, toward the end of his testimony yesterday, described how he equalized the matter of overhead between two theatre chains. Sol Rosenblatt, former N.R.A. administrator of the film industry, Bioff said, came to him and told him that the costs of operating Fox Metropolitan Theatres ran $60,000 more in booth costs annually than those of the Randforce Circuit, a competitor. Rosenblatt asked Bioff, the latter said, if he could do something about the Fox chain.

"We met in Rosenblatt's office," Bioff said, "and I was told it was embarrassing for Fox because Fox banked at the same bank as the other chain and this made it difficult for Fox to get bank loans because of the difference in operating costs.

Bioff Accepts Deal

"I turned to Rosenblatt and said: 'Well, Sol, you've heard the deal. I'll accept the deal if you stand responsible for the $50,000.'

"As a result of that conversation I called in the heads of the other circuit and raised their operating costs $60,000. I told them they had a circuit comparable with Fox and must operate on a comparable basis."

Bioff revealed that the members of the mob-controlled IATSE were forced to foot a $40,000 bill for Bioff's income tax consultant. The tax consultant was later identified as Charles Russell, formerly attached to the Internal Revenue Bureau, who also was tax consultant for Joseph Schenck and the late Sidney Kent.

Bioff was at his evasive best when Murray tried to get him to admit that Louis B. Mayer, Nicholas Schenck and Leo Spitz had helped to kill a California legislative inquiry in 1937 into Hollywood labor affairs.

Admits $5,000 Payment

Bioff admitted that he paid $5,000 to one "Honest John" Neblet of Los Angeles, whom he identified as a law partner of the late Senator William G. McAdoo, to kill the investigation. The $5,000 was a "down payment," Bioff said, under the guise of a legal fee.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 21.—U. S. Attorney Charles H. Carr today dispatched to the conference of studio unions acknowledgement of receipt of a letter from the organization setting forth its belief the "case charging income tax evasion against William Bioff should be brought to trial and not dismissed."

WAC to Distribute 'Battle of Russia'

"Battle of Russia," the War Department's full-length orientation feature, will be distributed by the War Activities Committee. William F. Rodgers, chairman of the distribution division, stated that a company will soon be designated to distribute the film. A minimum rental will be charged, Rodgers explained, to recoup the cost of the prints, a trailer and other advertising accessories.

The film, which details the struggle taking place in the Soviet, was presented to the WAC by the Office of War Information acting upon a request from the War Department to give it theatrical distribution.

Offer Plan to Curb Theatre Vandalism

(Continued from page 1)

a week in local neighborhood theatres.

Suggested 13-week trial of the plan is being submitted to the WAC in New York, according to Eli Gottlieb, chairman of the agency's youth division, who announced that 20th-Fox has agreed to produce a short reel to be made in New York, which will be used in the program.

PRC Names Halligan

Arthur Greenblatt, PRC vice-president in charge of sales, yesterday announced the appointment of C. R. Halligan as branch manager in Albany.

RKO Officials to l At 'Major' Premie

BOSTON, Oct. 21.—Prior to world debut of RKO's "The I Major" at Keith's Memorial on M day, Ned E. Depinet, president RKO Radio, will tender a receptio Charles W. Koerner, RKO vice-pr dent in charge of production, at Ritz-Carlton, which will be atter by the press, exhibitors, governn and company officials, Pat and M O'Brien, Ruth Warrick, Mrs. Fr Cavanaugh, widow of Frank Ca naugh, famous football coach, wh story is told in "The Iron Majo Gov. Saltonstall, of Mass.; Ma Maurice Tobin, and other guests.

As a curtain raiser to the premi and in honor of the memory of Fr Cavanaugh, a memorial football ga will take place on Sunday at Fenw Park between the varsity team of B ton College and a picked team fr the Army base at Hingham Fi with the total proceeds to be divi between the Athletic Funds of two organizations.

Among those who will be pres are Robert Mochrie, Nat Levy, W ter Branson, Edward L. Alperson, Dawson, Harold Hendee, Schwartz, Harry Mandel, S. Bar McCormick and Perry Lieber, RI studio publicity head.

Columbia Year's N Up to $1,802,2

Harry Cohn, president of Colum Pictures, discloses that gross earni of the corporation for the year end June 30, 1943, were $5,481,842, incl ing a reversal of a reserve of $248, for foreign taxes no longer requi After deducting taxes of $3,679, net earnings were $1,802,279. the prior year gross profits w $2,775,276 and after taxes amount to $1,163,617, net profit was $1,611,

Balance sheet shows current as of $18,526,604 and current liabili of $4,307,684.13, resulting in work capital of approximately $14,219,

Television Dream No More, SMPE To

(Continued from page 1)

now to give highly adequate ser with presently used systems and st dards."

Friday's session, bringing the f day conference to a close, will cuss sound. Dr. Edward M. Ho was chairman at today's aftern meeting.

SMPE delegates will be retur home at the weekend following conference which William Kunzm of National Carbon declared the "m successful in the history of the org zation." The board of governors vo to hold the next meeting in Apri the Hotel Pennsylvania, New Yor

Order Sunday Film Deliveries Stopp

(Continued from page 1)

authorizes a maximum of five deliveries to a theatre during the days. Local industry officials are lying upon the national ODT to bi about a revocation of the local one, enforcement of which, it is char would seriously affect hundreds theatres in this exchange area.

ıisie', Re-Issues, ıow Pep at B. O. n St. Louis Week

Louis, Oct. 21.—"Swing Shift e" at Loew's State is the only film in town this week and is ll for $22,000. Proving that re- still have box office magnetism, ld Chicago" and "The Call of Vild" at the St. Louis will do

mated receipts for the week end- ct. 20:

Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
erous Blondes" (Col.)
W'S STATE—(3,162) (30c-40c-50c-55c) Gross: $22,000. (Average: $16,900)
Face It" (Para.)
Good Fellows" (Para.)
—(5,038) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,800)
om of the Opera" (Univ.)
ny With Music" (Univ.)
ASSADOR—(3,154) (30c-40c-50c) 7 nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average:

to the Marines" (M-G-M)
ght Glamour" (Col.)
W'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (30c-40c- 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average,

Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
Comes Elmer" (Rep.)
OURI—(3,514) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. $9,000. (Average: $7,300)
d Chicago" (20th-Fox)
Call of the Wild"
LOUIS—(4,000) (35c-40c) 7 days. $6,500. (Average, $4,400)

my' $17,000 in inneapolis Week

NEAPOLIS, Oct. 21.—"This Is my," at State theatre, appeared for a heavy $17,000 gross, fol- a special premiere perform- which netted more than $2,000. Matrimony" is attracting a gross, at the Century. Light snowfall and initial frost did harm to theatre business.

mated receipts for the week end- ct. 23:

Constant Nymph" (WB)
LD—(350) (40c-50c-55c-75c) 7 days, k. Gross: $3,000. (Average, $2,200).
Door Canteen" (UA)
C—(1,250) (40c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week. $6,500. (Average. $4,500)
s the Army" (W.B.)
E—(2,300) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: (Average, $12,000).
Matrimony" (Fox)
TURY—(1,600) (40c-55c) 7 days. $9,000. (Average, $7,000).
Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
HEUM—(2,800) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. $8,000. (Average, $11,600).
From Music Mountain" (Rep.)
HER—(998) (35c) 7 days. Gross: (Average. $3,400).
r on the Waterfront" (W.B.) 3 days
ght Glamour" (Col.) 3 days.
ER—(900) (20c-30c) 7 days, with mid- change. Gross: $2,800. (Average,

ty Field Stars in New Film Bulletin

Film Bulletin No. 4, titled Share and Play Square," is made here today by Paramount eel, with Betty Field featured. lm is being produced for the of War Information at the re- of the Office of Price Adminis- , and deals with wartime food ges in relation to rationing and ck market.

bulletin will be released this o theatres attached to the news- of all the five companies. Sub- tly, it will be distributed in 15,000 houses.

Kansas City Likes 'Rising Sun' Dual

Kansas City, Oct. 21.—High gross this week goes to "Behind the Rising Sun," companion feature, "Henry Aldrich Swings It," at the Orpheum, approximating $22,000. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" (at advanced prices) in its second week at the Newman is grossing more than $16,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 20-21:

"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
"Good Luck, Mr. Yates" (Col.)
MIDLAND—(3,600) (35c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (75c-$1) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $10,900)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
"Henry Aldrich Swings It" (Para.)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $10,000)
"Larceny With Music" (Univ.)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) 7 days. Bill Robinson on stage. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $9,400)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $5,600)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $2,200. (Average, $1,450)

'Bell' Big $15,000 In Oklahoma City

Oklahoma City, Oct. 21.—"For Whom the Bell Tolls" opened at $1.10 top admission (usually 55c) at the Midwest and rang up a joyful $15,000 at the box office with all indications of long playing time on the run. Other films were all at good figures.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 21:

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
CRITERION—(1,500) (25c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,000)
"The Oklahoma Kid" (WB)
"Cowboy in Manhattan" (Univ.)
LIBERTY—(1,200) (20c-25c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $3,250)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
MIDWEST—(1,200) (54c-75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $5,600 on 45c top).
"Mr. Lucky" (RKO)
"I Walked With a Zombie" (RKO)
STATE—(1,100) (25c-45c-50c) 5 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average for full week: $4,500). Total run 10 days.
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (UA)
STATE—(1,100) (25c-45c-50c) 2 days. Gross: $1,500.
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
TOWER—(1,000) (20c-25c-40c) 7 days. Moveover from Criterion. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,500)

'Claudia's' $12,500 Tops Indianapolis

Indianapolis, Oct. 21.—"Claudia," with an estimated $12,500 week at the Indiana is leading box office receipts here this week. At the Circle "Nobody's Darling" and "Princess O'Rourke" will do $12,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 19-21:

"Nobody's Darling" (Rep.)
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
INDIANA—(3,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,500)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Second week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,900)
"The Oklahoma Kid" (WB)
"The Seventh Victim" (RKO)
LYRIC—(2,000) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $4,500)

'Licked', $15,400 With Show; 'Bell' $10,100 in Omaha

Omaha, Oct. 21.—"We've Never Been Licked" billed with Sonny Dunham's band and stage show at the Orpheum grossed $15,400. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" did $10,100 in its second week at the Paramount.

Estimated receipts for week ending Oct. 21:

"Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
BRANDEIS—(1,700) (30c-35c-44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,500)
"Moon and Sixpence"
"Get Going" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (30c-35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $7,500)
"We've Never Been Licked" (Univ.)
Sonny Dunham and his band and stage revue
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,400. (Average, $7,500)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, holdover, 2nd week Gross: $10,100. (Average: $7,500)

'Phantom' at $8,750 Leader in Tulsa

Tulsa, Oct. 21.—"The Phantom of the Opera" played a $8,750 tune at the Ritz here this week to show the way on a moderate week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 21:

"Dr. Gillespie's Crime Case" (M-G-M)
MAJESTIC—(570) (25c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,500)
"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,400) (20c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,250. (Average: $7,500)
"Souls at Sea" (Para.)
"Ghost and the Guest" (PRC)
RIALTO—(1,250) (20c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average: $1,500)
"A Stranger in Town" (M-G-M)
"Mexican Spitfire's Blessed Event" (RKO)
RIALTO—(1,250) (20c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $1,900)
"The Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
RITZ—(2,000) (25c-40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,750. Average: $7,750)

Boston Gross Soars; 'Bell' Big $30,100

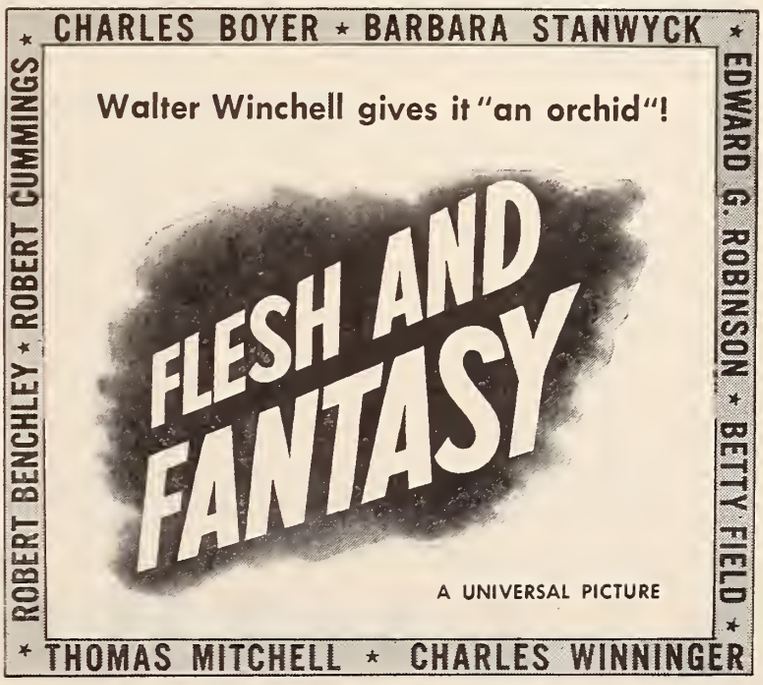
Boston, Oct. 21.—Two Boston theatres suspended free lists for the past week, an indication of business at the moment locally. The Metropolitan is holding over "For Whom the Bell Tolls" on which present year records have been broken. Keith Memorial had a surprisingly big week with "Top Man" and the two Loew theatres, the State and the Orpheum, did exceptionally well with "Salute to the Marines," held for a second week.

Box office receipts for the week ending Oct. 21:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (75c and $1.10) (This engagement only). Second week Gross: $30,100. (Average: $27,100)
"This Is the Army" (Warners)
News reels and shorts
PARAMOUNT—(1,207) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $8,400)
"This Is the Army" (Warners)
News reels and shorts
FENWAY—(1,089) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,700. (Average: $5,800)
"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Seventh Victim" (RKO)
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,800. (Average: $19,300)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,900. (Average: $17,100)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,800. (Average: $23,700)
"Honeymoon Lodge" (Univ.)
KEITH BOSTON—(3,800) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,800. (Average: $26,-800). On stage: Dante the Magician and Moy Yoi Miller.

So Long, 'Army'

Warners' "Old Acquaintance" will open at the Hollywood Theatre on Broadway on Nov. 2 with a popular-price, continuous run policy to follow "This Is the Army."



This is one of a series of advance newspaper advertisements running in all important key cities.

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Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

L. 54. NO. 80 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1943 | TEN CENTS

onciliation Is uccess, Says MPTOA Head

uykendall Claims Many Disputes Settled

he principle of conciliation of utes between exhibitors and ributors, long championed by TOA, is working out in actual tice, Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA ident, stated Friday during a to New York.

Kuykendall reported that "numer- trade complaints brought to the ntion of MPTOA's trade practice grievance committee during the five months have been amicably sted to the satisfaction of all con- ned with a minimum of effort. s record, he said, is practical stantiation of the principle of con- tion of internal industry disputes. he MPTOA trade practice and

(Continued on page 7)

usic Hall to Show 11 in All This Year

Radio City Music Hall will have wn 11 features during the current r, a far cry from the 46 pictures wn in 1933 when its current policy t into effect, it was learned at the kend. The diminishing number of s exhibited each year at the na- 's biggest theatre is attributed to lover of product, and the quality eatures booked into the house. resent picture playing the Music

(Continued on page 7)

Ask New Films for Italian Showings

Foreign department executives here have been asked by Robert Riskin of the Overseas Films Division of the Office of War Information for additional 16 mm. and 35 mm. prints of feature pictures for showing in Italy, it was learned at the weekend. The request was taken under advisement by the company representatives.

Riskin's request was based upon reports of extensive destruction of public properties in occupied Italy, it was said.

Willie Bioff Claims He Was the Real Boss of Hollywood

William Bioff, the Government's star witness at the Federal Court extortion trial of seven Al Capone gangsters and a Newark labor leader, boasted from the witness stand Friday that he was the real boss of Hollywood.

The convicted panderer and extortionist told how he made the producers of Hollywood "dance to my music."

Otto Christiansen, of defense counsel, aimed a series of questions at Bioff in cross-examination designed to show that "Bioff was the real boss of Hollywood." Referring to a September, 1939, conversation which Bioff had with several IATSE representatives, the attorney asked:

"Did you say that you were getting

(Continued on page 7)

Mangham's Mono. Holdings to West

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—George B. West, Monogram franchise holder for the St. Louis and Cincinnati territories, will acquire John Mangham's partnership interest with Arthur Bromberg in the Atlanta, Memphis, New Orleans and Charlotte branches under the terms of a deal now near-

(Continued on page 7)

U.A. Deal for Goetz-Spitz Product Cold

Hollywood, Oct. 24.—Negotiations for United Artists distribution of the Leo Spitz-William Goetz International Pictures, which were under way here for some time, are reliably reported to have been broken off. Inability of the two parties to get together on a deal which is said to have involved allocation of a block of United Artists stock to International is believed to have been responsible for the breaking off of negotiations.

M-G-M to Re-Release 10 Top-Flight Films

Responding to requests from exhibitors, who pointed to a shortage in some localities of pictures available for subsequent runs, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Friday announced it will make available 10 films from productions released several years ago.

No effort will be made to sell these productions, it was stated, but they will be available at exchanges for M-G-M customers to book any or all, as individual situations may require. They therefore will not be handled as re-issues.

D. of J. Starts Decree Meets For Exhibitors

Kuykendall, U.I.E. Men To Confer with Clark

Exhibitor reactions to consent decree proposals now under discussion, as well as an amplification of exhibitor viewpoints concerning changes in the decree will be developed by Department of Justice officials in Washington this week, it was learned on Friday.

Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president, is scheduled to arrive in Washington today for further conferences with Assistant U. S. Attorney Generals Tom C. Clark and Robert L. Wright, in charge of the decree negotiations. On Wednesday, representatives of the Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York will go to Washington for conferences with the Department of Justice officials. Later in the week, Robert H. Poole, executive secretary of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, may arrive in Washington for a meeting

(Continued on page 7)

See $7,500,000 '43 W.B. Earnings

Current Wall Street estimates place Warner Bros. net profit for the current year, which ended Aug. 31, well over two dollars per share, or approximately $7,500,000, on the more than 3,800,000 shares of outstanding common stock, giving the company the biggest per share earnings on common stock since the peak year of 1929.

Inasmuch as the year ended in Au-

(Continued on page 7)

Entertainment First in Production, Goldwyn Says

Controversial subjects and propaganda have no place in motion pictures, Samuel Goldwyn, whose production of Lillian Hellman's "The North Star," story of Russian civilians in the war, will have its world premiere here Nov. 6 at the Palace and Victoria on Broadway, stated in an interview late last week.

Goldwyn defined his production policy as "entertainment," observing that he believes he has been "fairly successful" in adhering to that policy. He likened recourse to propaganda and controversial issues in films to the utilization of news columns for the expression of editorial viewpoints, pointing out that this is regarded as bad practice by newspapers and publications, which maintain editorial columns for the expression of opinions, and is no less an evil when practiced by motion picture producers.

Goldwyn expressed the opinion that

(Continued on page 7)

Set Emergency Meet In Film Truck Crisis

To meet a threatened breakdown in film deliveries to theatres in the greater New York area, exhibitor, distributor and film carrier representatives will meet Thursday at the N. Y. Film Board of Trade headquarters to formulate plans for obtaining War Production Board priorities for the purchase of new trucks to replace many now in use.

Rejection of applications by the bureau of motor carriers of the Office of Defense Transportation for purchases of heavy trucks and lighter vehicles necessitated the calling of the emergency meeting.

Among those who will attend the session are: William A. White, general manager of Skouras Theatres; Sam Rinzler, of the Randforce cir-

(Continued on page 7)

Ask Holiday Week Dates for 'Cheer'

Bookings for the full Christmas through New Year's week will be sought by M-G-M for "Thousands Cheer," it was learned on Friday. The policy was outlined in a letter to all of the company's branch managers from the home office, sent recently. Exchanges were asked not to accept split-week playdates for the picture immediately before or after the year-end holidays.

Personal Mention

CHARLES F. COE, MPPDA vice-president and general counsel, will leave for Montreal tomorrow. ARTHUR DE BRA and MARK LARKIN of the MPPDA, have arrived in Montreal.

•

HAROLD ZELTNER, former manager of Loew's Kings, Brooklyn, honorably discharged from the Marines, has rejoined Loew Theatres in Brooklyn as relief manager.

•

KARL HERZOG, PRC treasurer, accompanied O. HENRY BRIGGS, company president, to the Coast over the weekend.

•

CHARLES D. PRUTZMAN, Universal vice-president and general counsel, returned to New York from Wilmington, Del., at the weekend.

•

ED KUYKENDALL, MPTOA president, spent the weekend in New Haven and left there for Washington last night.

•

GEORGE HOOVER, general manager of Paramount Enterprises, Miami, and MRS. HOOVER are vacationing in New York.

•

HUGH OWEN, Paramount Eastern division manager, returned at the weekend from Charlotte, Atlanta and New Orleans.

•

LEO JAMES WOODS of Paramount's legal department, was presented with a kit by the Paramount Pep Club upon leaving for the Army.

•

MORRIS EPSTEIN, Republic branch manager, expects to be discharged from Mt. Sinai Hospital soon following a recent operation.

•

ROBERT W. HUFFMAN, M-G-M field representative in Denver, has resigned to join the United States Maritime Service.

•

CAPT. MIKE CULLEN, former Loew Theatres district manager at Pittsburgh, has arrived in North Africa.

•

ROBERT GLEASON, assistant manager at E. M. Loew's Hartford theatre, visited in Boston over the weekend.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, will be in Philadelphia today.

•

HERMAN LEVY, MPTOA general counsel, was in New York from New Haven at the weekend.

•

MARTIN MULLIN and SAM PINANSKI, of M & P Theatres, are here from Boston.

•

MAJOR HAL ROACH, accompanied by MRS. ROACH, are at the Hotel Delmonico, for a week's stay.

•

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, United Artists president, returned to New York at the weekend from the Coast.

•

JAMES CAGNEY left for Hollywood over the weekend.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

HOME office foreign department executives relate, some with amusement and some with bitterness, accounts of a recent request addressed to the MPPDA here by the British Ministry of Information, films division, in London. It seems that every government-in-exile in London has a motion picture representative assigned to the MOI. In addition, United States representation in the organization is in the hands of the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information.

Recently, this international unit identified with the MOI, so the story goes, asked the MPPDA to see that the London unit was informed of all postwar plans of the American motion picture industry as such plans are developed. Nothing was said apparently about a reciprocal arrangement by which the American industry would be kept advised of the same sort of plans of the various nations represented in the international group in London. The request was passed along to the home office foreign department heads by the Hays Office.

Whether the incident is viewed by trade leaders here with amusement or resentment appears to depend on individual points of view. For the most part, those who are amused are the industry champions of a postwar blueprint for American films calling for the active cooperation of the Federal government. Aware that little, if anything, is being done in this direction, within or without the industry, they turn from the request that this industry's postwar planning be made international proerty with the bland inquiry: "What postwar planning?"

• •

Incidentally, some foreign department officials were told by a representative of the French government in exile, who was in New York from London recently, that his principals already have prepared a complete plan for the postwar supervision and regulation of all foreign-made films entering France. The details were a little surprising even to those foreign department officials who from long experience with foreign markets are seldom surprised by anything.

Exhibitor and distributor opinion here on what is likely and unlikely to crop up in the revised industry consent decree, if and when, is beginning to take shape. Expected is some absolute restriction on tying-in the sale of any one block of pictures with any other block. Individual picture blocks are not expected to be enlarged materially unless at the option of the company or companies concerned. This because it is obvious that even a consent decree cannot force a producer-distributor to sell more pictures at one time than he may have on hand, and the Department of Justice appears to be adamant against a return to full-line selling of uncompleted pictures.

Enlarged blocks could be authorized and reasonable control over so-called block booking be exercised by a provision to the effect that an individual block may consist of "not more than X number of feature pictures." The only more specific alternative in view would appear to be something on the order of the United Motion Picture Industry (Umpi) proposal of last year providing for the sale at one time of a certain number of completed and trade-shown films together with a definite number of other uncompleted but identified films.

• •

They say that Samuel Goldwyn was really vexed about that Russian picture, "We Will Come Back," preceding his "North Star" into the Victoria. Seems to be a matter of story similarity and some dissatisfaction on the part of the producer with the house itself. But, like so many other things nowadays, the demand for Broadway houses far exceeds the supply.

• •

With postwar theatre building plans currently in the news it may be of interest to some to learn that Jim Mason, operator of the De Luxe, Cherry Valley, O., has been bitten by the same bug. He puts aside his whittling long enough to write us that he has engaged a local architect to design a new structure which, in the postwar period, will relieve patrons of the De Luxe of the necessity of crossing busy Highway 17 to the service station on the corner.

Coming Events

Oct. 26—Annual Convention, Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, Athletic Club, Indianapolis.

Oct. 27—Charles Francis Coe addresses Montreal industry executives at Canadian Club, Montreal.

Oct. 30—Local Variety Club 10th anniversary dinner, Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati.

Nov. 5—20th Fox "Family Club" entertainment and dance, Henry Hudson Hotel, New York.

Nov. 9—New York Labor War Chest pageant, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 10—20th Fox birthday dinner for U. S. Marine Corps with private screening of *Guadalcanal Diary*, Chicago.

Nov. 14—Reelfellows' nomination of officers, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago.

Nov. 16—"Night of Stars" show, United Jewish Appeal, Madison Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 19—Fall Dinner, Picture Pioneers, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

Cleveland Disregards Sunday Delivery Ban

CLEVELAND, Oct. 24. — Pending a further Government opinion by national officials of the Office of Defense Transportation, and to service theatres for Sunday shows, a ruling by the regional ODT to discontinue Sunday film delivery within the greater Cleveland area is being temporarily disregarded.

Deliveries are being continued, however, in line with the national order permitting six-day deliveries without specifying the days. Thus no city deliveries are made on Mondays and practically no out-of-town Sunday deliveries are being made on account of Friday deliveries to service Sunday shows.

2 Canada Film Board Members Renamed

TORONTO, Oct. 24.—Executive members of the National Film Board here are being reappointed for a term of three years by the Dominion Government. Members already announced are: Dr. J. G. Bouchard of the Federal Department of Agriculture and Professor Donald Cameron of the University of Alberta at Edmonton. John Grierson continues as film commissioner of the board and also as general manager of the Wartime Information Board.

Bolton Heads Col. Studio Publicity

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—Whitney Bolton is officially functioning now as publicity director of the Columbia studio, with Don King assisting him. Howard G. Mayer, now in Chicago, has about nine months under the existing contract and bore the title until now.

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. Pa. Allied Hits ithholdingofFilms

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 24.—A protest inst the alleged withholding of pic-es by Columbia on its 1942-43 con-cts and a resolution endorsing the orts of Abram F. Myers, national ied States chairman and general nsel, on both the consent decree and 30 per cent admission tax, which re submitted to the Department of tice, featured the recent closed eting of the Allied Theatre Owners Western Pennsylvania, M. A. Ros-berg, president, announced.

Myers, in addressing the session, lyzed the decree questionnaires t to exhibitors by National Allied, l reported on the House Ways and ans committee meeting on the ad-ssion tax. Other speakers were: rtin Smith, of Toledo; P. J. Wood, Columbus; Leo Jones, of Upper San-sky, and Ray Branch, representing chigan Allied. Sidney Samuelson, siness manager of Allied Theatre ners of Eastern Pennsylvania, re-ted on local and national Allied ravan activities. Judge Benjamin mcher, of the Allegheny County urt, spoke at the closing banquet. The Eastern Central regional meet-of Allied States, held last week, ablished closer territorial relation-p among exhibitors and laid plans immediate intensive activity of the lied Caravan. Attending this ses-n were: Smith, Wood, Jones, Sam-lson, John Kalafat, P. E. Essick, ank Reif, George Erdmann of eveland, and officers of Western nnsylvania, including Rosenberg; arry Walker, vice-president; Joseph llman, treasurer, and Fred J. Her-ngton, secretary.

PG-Majors Dispute To Be Arbitrated

Screen Publicists Guild and the ajor film companies concerned in esent contract negotiations with the ion agreed to refer their wage ad-stment dispute to a single industry-ide arbitration, to be binding on all rties, at a meeting held late last eek under the auspices of Commis-oner James Fitzpatrick of the U. S. onciliation Service.

Arbitration is expected to start ortly. Film companies involved are olumbia, Paramount, M-G-M, United rtists, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's heatres, RKO Radio, and RKO ervice Corp.

Miss Terry Mulaney Feted by 20th-Fox

Miss Terry Mulaney, a member of th-Fox's foreign publicity staff, will port for active duty as a Marine ext weekend. Before leaving the ompany Miss Mulaney was guest of onor at a farewell luncheon Friday t the Hotel Woodward, tendered by xecutives and members of the foreign epartment.

Among those attending were Irving lass, Leslie Whelan, Arthur Silver-tone, Albert Cornfield, Marian Kley, dwin Fraser, Arthur Stromberg, olph De Alberich, Marion Shoule, J. arner-Ribalta, Marina Villar and dith Prigozy.

Short Subject Reviews

"Wizard of Autos"
(Universal)

Featured in this release is Alvan McCauley, president of the Automotive Council of War Productions and board chairman of Packard Motors. McCauley, in his spare time, does wood-carving and collects guns. Other sequences include a unique collection of keys, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Mace; Mrs. Childreth, the country's champion baker; and Tony, the wonder dog, who belongs to Earl McKinney. Tony performs on a tight rope and rolling barrel. A well-directed, entertaining film. Running time, 9 mins. Release date, Sept. 20.

"Seeing Nellie Home"
(RKO)

Slapstick comedy featuring Leon Errol as the long suffering husband, and Elmira Sessions as "Nellie," his wife's friend, who periodically subjects him to her practice vocalizing. Following one of her solo concerts at his home, Leon undertakes to see her home and the difficulties encountered en route make for many hilarious sequences. Produced by Bert Gilroy and directed by Ben Holmes, "Seeing Nellie Home" is entertaining fare for the Errol fans. Release date, Sept. 3. Running time, 17 mins.

"Farmer Gene Sarazen"
(Universal)

Featuring Gene Sarazen, golfer, as a Victory gardener, this release includes other not-so-well-known personalities, engaged in interesting hobbies. Sequences include the Kelly museum in California where relics of the "gold rush" days are preserved; Mrs. Sarah Durr, a lumber-woman of the Oregon woods and inmates of the Colorado state prison who are experts in making hooked rugs. An interesting and enlightening film, well-directed. Good commentary. Running time, 9 mins. Release date, Oct. 27.

"Fixin' Tricks"
(Pete Smith Specialty—M-G-M)

Helpful hints for housewives and "the modern man in apron" are presented in this M-G-M reel which features the "handy" husband who can't fix the leak in the sink. The technique of repairing a faulty window shade is demonstrated with amusing comments. Also remedies for doors that are stuck and other minor household problems. Interesting commentary; timely subject, since most good repairmen have gone to war. And there is good comedy. Directed by W. Jason. Running time, 10 mins. Release date, Sept. 18.

"Film Vodvil"
(Columbia . . . No 2, Series 1)

Cast headed by Cootie Williams, great Negro trumpet player, makes this musical short a snappy one, featuring swing classics such as "Things Ain't What They Used to Be," and the more recent "Gid-yap, Mule." Directed by Harry Foster, the latest "Film Vodvil" release provides entertaining fare for the jive addicts. Running time, 10 mins. Release date, Oct. 8.

"Not on My Account"
(RKO)

This latest Edgar Kennedy comedy is a hilarious farce which concerns a coat which the "slow burning" Kennedy's mother-in-law purchased. Unhappy Edgar determines the coat will go back to the store and, after being pushed from department to department, ruining the coat on the way, mother-in-law arrives on the scene to say the coat was bought in another store and Edgar must pay for the damage. Directed by Charles E. Roberts and produced by Bert Gilroy, the short is entertaining and amusing. Release date, Sept. 17. Running time, 17 mins.

"Storm"
(M-G-M—Passing Parade)

A treatise on the subject of the weather, "Storm" presents sequences on some of the pretty big storms. Commentary explains the part the weather plays in everyday life and the scientific discoveries which have enabled anyone to prepare for whatever the skies are going to give. Interesting and educational. Directed by P. Burnford. Running time, 10 mins. Release date, Oct. 23.

"A Rookie's Cookie"
(Columbia)

El Brendel joins the police force and, being gullible, is tricked into being middle man in a local numbers racket operating on his beat. Some hearty laughs are forthcoming as the rookie "wakes up" and nabs the crooks. Robust slapstick, capably produced and directed by Jules White from a story and screenplay by Felix Adler. Release date, Oct. 8. Running time, 17 mins.

"Field Trial Champion"
(RKO)

A superior release in dog training films, now being distributed in large numbers, "Field Trial Champions," produced by Frederic Ullman, Jr., presents the steps involved in the training of hunting dogs. This reel will appeal especially to hunters and outdoor enthusiasts. Release date, 9 mins.

"War Dogs"
(M-G-M cartoon)

A take-off on dogs in service, this is a clever cartoon in Technicolor, featuring Private Smiley, the mongrel who executes commands in a strictly unmilitary fashion. His tent-pitching technique is unique. He also manages to fall into a camouflaged 16-inch gun, all of which makes for laughs. Running time, 7 mins. Release date, Oct. 10.

"Nursery Crimes"
(Columbia)

Dave Fleischer's latest cartoon proposes some new theories on old favorite nursery rhymes. Though the theme is familiar, the release is an amusing one and Paul Worth's musical touch adds the final trimming to a clever short. Release date, Oct. 8. Running time, 7 mins.

Local 702 Seeking Precision Lab Pact

Motion Picture Laboratory Technicians, Local 702, IATSE, plans to open negotiations on Nov. 15 with representatives of Precision Film Labs. in New York looking toward the signing of a contract granting the union representation of the company's employees.

The union filed a wage increase petition with the War Labor Board at the week-end seeking 10 to 20 per cent increases for several employees of the laboratory unit of National Screen Service, retroactive to April 12.

Members of the union employed at Producers Laboratories who left their jobs last Tuesday returned to work late last week following the agreement of the management to bring wages up to scale and to refrain from hiring new employees without consent of the union. Two minor differences between Producers Lab and the union remain to be settled.

Delay Granted in Film Container Case

New York film exchanges, film laboratories, and freight forwarders, who received summonses from Fire Department inspectors to appear in Magistrate's Court last Friday because of their alleged violations of municipal ordinances by using fibre film containers in lieu of tin, creating fire hazards, have been granted a two-week postponement of the case.

Paramount's New York exchange and Massce-Barnett, film freight forwarders, as well as some laboratories at 630 9th Avenue, were among the first served with summonses. Exchanges, laboratories, and freight forwarders face possible revocation of licenses, fines, or six-month jail terms, if found guilty of the offense.

Exhibitors to Aid Xmas Bond Drive

The nation's theatremen will embark on a new bond-selling campaign to persuade their patrons that there is no better Xmas gift than a war bond, the War Activities Committee announced at the week-end. This new campaign was exclusively reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY Sept. 29.

Campaign will begin around Thanksgiving Day and will conclude on Dec. 25. In addition to a campaign book prepared by Treasury War Finance committee, the retailers, and WAC which will be sent to all theatres, WAC is preparing a brief trailer asking audiences to give "The Present With a Future," which will be obtainable at National Screen Service exchanges.

Entering Award in E. M. Loew Complaint

The five decree companies are understood to be preparing to enter consent awards in the clearance complaints filed several months ago by E. M. Loew, New England theatre operator, covering the Paramount Theatre at Newport, R. I., and the Plymouth Theatre in Worcester, Mass. Companies will probably file consent awards this week.

The Books it Sold!

4 tremendous editions...Book-of-the-month and three best-seller popular-price reprints! 1,100,000 copies!

The Readers it Ha

Cosmopolitan, for instance, picked it as "preview book-of-the-month"! 9,000,000 read

Th

Richard Tregaskis'

GUADALCANAL DIARY

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Compare with... THE PICTURE IT IS!

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PRESTON FOSTER · LLOYD NOLAN · WILLIAM BENDIX

RICHARD CONTE · ANTHONY QUINN

and Richard Jaeckel · Roy Roberts · Minor Watson

Ralph Byrd · Lionel Stander · Reed Hadley · John Archer

Directed by LEWIS SEILER · Produced by BRYAN FOY · Associate Producer ISLIN AUSTER

Screen Play by LAMAR TROTTI · Adaptation by JERRY CADY · WILLIAM GOETZ in Charge of Production

20th CENTURY-FOX

"LET'S ALL GIVE TO THE NATIONAL WAR FUND WHICH GIVES TO ALL!"

8 Incorporations Filed in New York

ALBANY, Oct. 24.—Recent motion picture incorporations, announced by Thomas J. Curran, Secretary of State, include: Toplane Picture Productions, Inc., 100 shares, no stated par value, by Herbert E. Christie, Inez D. DeSoucey and Josephine Elliott, New York; Sound View Theatre, Inc., Bronx, 200 shares, by Florence Brown, Helen Berman and Lottie Goldberg, New York; Juramus Associates, Inc., $20,000 authorized capital stock by Harry B. Frank, Joseph L. Gould and Samuel S. Levine, New York; Sirrah Productions, Inc., Manhattan, 200 shares of stock, by Delight Dellert, New York; Hugo Schaaf, Jamaica, and Lillian Marlow, Kew Gardens, with Fitelson and Mayers, New York filing.

Also S&M Amusement Corp., 100 shares of stock, no stated par value, by S. L. C. Battistella, Ruth Young and Martin H. Young, who filed the papers, New York; Hurok Productions, Inc., 500 shares of stock, no stated par value, by Solomon Hurok, Emma Hurok and Mae Frohman, New York, Elias Lieberman filing the papers; Lehab Operating Co., Inc., Manhattan, 200 shares of stock, by Murray H. Yachnin, Anne Schleider and Joseph Friedberg, New York, Yachnin filing the papers, and Globe Productions, Inc., Manhattan, 200 shares of stock, by Carl E. Jampel, Hannah G. Weidler, Bronx, and Bette Garbelow, Brooklyn, with Leonard J. Reich, New York, filing the papers.

Warners Backing 'Janie' Chicago Co.

Warner Bros. are understood to have a substantial financial interest in the legitimate road-show company of Brock Pemberton's production of "Janie," currently playing in Chicago, with an extensive tour of key cities planned.

Columbia originally supplied financing for the play, which is now in its second year on Broadway, but withdrew, selling out its interest acquired through financing. Warner Bros. purchased the film rights to "Janie" for a reported $225,000 early this year.

Ross Switches Five Branch Managers

Five shifts of branch managers have been made by Ross Federal, in Cleveland, Indianapolis, Minneapolis, Cincinnati and Oklahoma City.

O. M. Young, branch manager in Cleveland, has moved over to Indianapolis; H. O. Gleiss shifts from Cincinnati to Minneapolis and C. C. Charles goes to Cincinnati. S. B. Rose has become Cleveland manager, while A. O. Caza is the new head at Oklahoma City.

Schoenstadts Buy Three, Now Have 20

CHICAGO, Oct. 24.—H. Schoenstadt & Sons has purchased the Olympia and Radio theatres from Bland Bros. and the Crown from the Crown Building Corp. Purchases raise the total for the Schoenstadt circuit to 20 and reduces the Bland holdings to two.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Oct. 24.

SEEDLINGS planted in Hollywood by those anxious to see the screen used as a medium to correct wartime juvenile delinquency are beginning to sprout on at least two plots of ground with one of them even at the branching stage. What kind of a shadow the resultant plants will cast for other studios remains to be seen when it comes time for the Office of Censorship to inspect the foliage insofar as export license is concerned.

Monogram, ranking it well up the budget list, has "Where Are My Children?" underway, while on the RKO-Radio lot Producer Val Lewton has assigned Mark Robson to direct "Are These Our Children?" scheduled for an early camera go signal.

The OC does not, in so many words, ban juvenile delinquency pictures from export, but the regulations cover what material may be given an export license and they do not include the kind of material most people associate with the subject under discussion. If these two are to be shown only in the United States and possessions, it remains to be seen whether or not the returns will warrant production costs.

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"For Whom the Bell Tolls" concluded a ten-week run at Carthay Circle recently and moved to the Four Star for an indefinite run. . . . Mark Sandrich has cast Walter Sande in a featured role in his tentatively titled "When I Come Back" starring Paulette Goddard and Sonny Tufts. . . . Darryl Zanuck put his first production in more than a year before the cameras when Director Lewis Milestone started work on "The Purple Heart."

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Director Peter Godfrey put the "Animal Kingdom" remake before the cameras at Warners with Ann Sheridan, Dennis Morgan, Alexis Smith and Jane Wyman in top spots, while on another stage Director Vincent Sherman started work on "Mr. Skeffington," starring Bette Davis with Claude Rains in the title role. . . . Sam Goldwyn sold a half interest in his contract with Virginia Mayo, exceedingly shapely young actress, to RKO, where she'll be put through intensive dramatic coaching, and if she turns out well she will have the title role in the latter studio's "Petty Girl" picture.

Hollywood Films Aid Morale in Panama

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—Hollywood's contribution to civilian and military morale is as great in Panama as it is in the United States, according to Don Rogelio Arosemena, president of the Municipal Council of the province of Panama, who visited the Warner studios last week as the guest of Paul Henreid.

"Panama is probably more affected by the war than any other country in the Americas and, certainly, were we not privileged to see motion pictures and thereby learn more as to the enemy we are fighting and enjoy the pleasures of escapism in the theatre, life would be less pleasant," said Arosemena. "Incidentally, never have motion picture theatres in Panama experienced such good business."

NEIC Service Flag Dedication Nov. 11

National Entertainment Industry Council's service flag dedication and pledge rally has again been postponed, this time to Nov. 11.

New plan is to dedicate the all-industry service flag containing almost 100,000 blue stars and more than 35 gold stars, at 11 A.M., on Armistice Day with attendant ceremonies conducted on Broadway.

Film Salesmen Elect

DES MOINES, Oct. 24.—Des Moines Film Salesmen's Club held its semi-annual election of officers at a dinner meeting here last week. Pearl Robbins, Paramount salesman, was elected president succeeding Bill Bremer, of Republic; Jack Siegel, candy machine operator for theatres, was elected secretary, succeeding W. E. DeFriend of RKO, and Howard Dunn of M-G-M, was elected treasurer, succeeding George Baumeister, also of M-G-M.

LeSourd Gives High Praise to Industry

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Oct. 24.—Members of Springfield's films council recently heard Dr. Howard M. LeSourd, dean of Boston University Graduate school, outline many benefits of motion pictures in wartime, principally their bringing before the people actual war conditions and warnings against enemy designs.

Dr. LeSourd pointed out that pictures are "an excellent way" of circulating postwar plans. At present, he said, the industry is doing much to stimulate bond sales. He commended also the success of education in schools through films and predicted that peacetime education would be carried on largely in this way. He added that the Army and Navy have found films ideal for training.

Propose Boost In Children's Prices

CLEVELAND, Oct. 24.—Proposed five-cent boost in children's admissions was discussed by members of the Cleveland M. P. Exhibitors at a meeting held here recently.

Many exhibitors apparently favor the move but with the proposed 30 cent Government tax pending, they are reluctant to institute an admission policy change at this time. Since admission prices for children is now actually nine cents and a fraction, it is not subject to tax.

Philbrick in Two Jobs

BOSTON, Oct. 24.—Herbert Philbrick, assistant to Harry Browning, public relations head of M. & P. Theatres, has also assumed the post of assistant manager of the Esquire Theatre here and now performs all the duties of both jobs.

National Board Review to Hold Me

Motion Pictures in wartime wil discussed by speakers at the 20th nual Conference of the National Bo of Review to be held Thursday, 28th, at the Hotel Pennsylvania. will be a one day conference. Spe ers will include S. H. Fabian; Sigmund Spaeth; Mrs. Irene Boa National Film Board of Canada; Y. Lo, film section of the politi department, Military Affairs Comm tee of China; Mrs. Richard M. M Clure, founder of the Better Fil Council of Chicago; Lt. Earl F. A vine, U.S.N.; and Lt. (jg) John Bauernschmidt.

Several Navy films; the M-G short, "This Is Tomorrow," and unreleased Warner Brothers featu will be screened.

'In Old Oklahoma' Premiere for Fun

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oct. 24.—Wor premiere of Republic's "In Old Okl homa," based on Thomsen Burt story "War of the Wildcats," set f Nov. 3 here is being sponsored by t *Daily Oklahoman* in cooperation wi Oklahoma state and civic organiz tions, with all receipts going to t Milk and Ice Fund.

About 150,000 visitors are expecte to be on hand to welcome John Wayn Martha Scott, and George "Gabby Hayes, principals of the picture, wh will be present.

Haddow President Of Para. Pep Clu

G. Knox Haddow, manager of th Paramount exchange service depart ment, was elected president of th Paramount Pep Club for 1943-44 a a meeting held in the home offic recreation room Friday.

Other officers elected were: George Weltner, vice-president; David Cassidy, treasurer; Harriet Miller, secretary; members of the board of governors, Arthur Israel, Jr., Herman Lorber, John McDermott, Irving Singer, Irene Scott, Sophie Weinberg.

U. A. Lands 'Santa', Mexican-Made Film

United Artists has acquired a full-length Mexican-made feature, "Santa," for distribution in Spain and all Latin-American countries except Mexico, it was announced by Walter Gould, U.A. foreign manager, on his return last Friday from a four-week trip to that country.

The deal is in line with U.A.'s "open door policy" offering native producers an international outlet for their quality product, Gould stated.

Mrs. Gertrude C. Lieber

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—Funeral services for Mrs. Gertrude Cook Lieber were held at Ainnetka, Ill, at the weekend. Mrs. Lieber, mother of Perry Lieber, RKO studio publicity head, died Wednesday at 75.

'Sahara' Columbia's Best

"Sahara," on the basis of box-office figures available to date, promises to be the top grossing film in Columbia's history, according to an announcement made by the company at the weekend.

onciliation Is uccess, Says MPTOA Head

(Continued from page 1)

vance committee was established he annual meeting of the organiza- s board of directors in New York May. It was authorized to work h state exhibitor organizations in eiving, properly directing and rseeing meritorious complaints ginating with exhibitors. Herman y, MPTOA general counsel, is irman of the committee, and Kuy- dall is an ex-officio member of it. The MPTOA president said that of the exhibitor complaints brought the attention of the committee ough the cooperating state exhibi- organizations, not one having ob- us merit has failed to be settled isfactorily. In most instances, ykendall said, the complaints were tled at the source, that is, directly ween the exhibitor and the distribu- n branch involved. In a few in- nces, the intercession of a state ganization was asked. There was case, involving apparent merit, he orted, which had to be referred to distribution home office for atten- n before a settlement was achieved.

Kuykendall Pays Tribute

Kuykendall paid tribute to distribu- n companies for their part in the position of the complaints handled ring the past five months. He also mmended exhibitors for apparent straint in not pressing unworthy mplaints.

"Very few cases lacking in basic rit were brought to the attention of e national committee or to state or- nizations," he said.

Kuykendall declared that an exten- on of this speedy, economical and fective conciliation method through- t the industry would reduce the iction between the exhibition and stribution branches and would mate- lly lessen the number of arbitration d court actions.

oronto Film Trade Offices on 5-Day Wk.

TORONTO, Oct. 24.—Film trade of- es here have adopted a policy ef- ctive immediately of operating a five- y week with Saturday closing in a al conservation move and also to ve manpower under the increasing bor shortage.

Offices will remain open half an ur later five days of the week, and ill have a shipping employee on duty aturday morning for emergency calls.

Music Hall to Show 11 in All This Year

(Continued from page 1)

Hall, "Lassie Come Home," is the inth film at the house this year, with Claudia," which follows, to be the enth. Holdover time on these two eatures will determine whether 11 ictures will play the house in 1943.

A complete list of the number of ictures that have played there in ast years is: 1933—46; 1934—43; 935—40; 1936—32; 1937—30; 1938—1; 1939—28; 1940—26; 1941—26; 942—15.

Bioff Claims He Was the Real Boss of Hollywood

(Continued from page 1)

$400 a week and all you had to do was to ask Browne for it?"

"I'll go you one better," Bioff shot back, "and say that if I wanted $500 I didn't even have to ask Browne for it."

The admission by Bioff that he was the real boss of Hollywood was heralded by the defense as a distinct victory. Government prosecutors have contended that Bioff was the tool of the defendants, and turned the bulk of his ill-gotten gains over to them.

At one point in the cross-examination, Bioff, in a touch of bravado, opined that had he and the mob had five years more in the labor movement unmolested by the law, he could have moved Wall Street out of its dominant position in the motion picture industry.

Bioff, on re-direct examination by Assistant U. S. Attorney General Boris Kostelanetz, denied that he had ever attempted to "sell out the IATSE."

The cross-examination of defense attorneys, which ended toward the close of Friday's session, was aimed at producing the effect that Bioff was friendly to the motion picture industry's producers and ready at all times to "sell out the union."

"Weren't you really a thorn in the side of the producers?" asked Kostelanetz.

"Well," said Bioff, "from 1936 through 1939 the IATSE unions got a 10 per cent increase in wages every year, and every other union in the industry got increases through my efforts."

Bioff recited that at one time he forced the producers to discontinue the purchasing of non-union-made supplies when the labor council in Los Angeles called his attention to the matter.

"Browne and I had a dual purpose in the operation of the IATSE," said Bioff. "In order to maintain our position in the industry we made every effort to make the IATSE a strong union, both in membership and in the matter of high wages. The success of the first purpose made possible our second purpose, which was to shake down the producers for the benefit of our associates and ourselves. The second purpose was for our own selfish ends."

The purpose of Kostelanetz's re-direct examination was to bring home the fact that Bioff is positive of the fact that the moneys he obtained from company executives was extortion, as charged by the government, and not just bribery, as the defense contends.

The trial will be resumed today with Bioff still on the witness stand. He will be subjected to some more re-direct examination when the trial resumes, and possibly some re-cross, after which the government is expected to call either Browne or Nick Circella, of Chicago, as the second witness for the prosecution.

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—The impending departure of unionists L. C. Helm and Herbert Sorrell, for a New York appearance as defense witnesses in the Bioff case, necessitated the appointment of Joseph Tuohy and D. T. Wayne to replace them on the Labor Executive Committee of the industry War Chest campaign which starts Tuesday.

Goldwyn Hits at 'Propaganda' Films

(Continued from page 1)

postwar films will show no marked trend toward more realistic treatment than is now apparent. He pointed out that critics of the motion picture frequently forget or ignore the fact that a very large part of the screen's audience is juvenile. He said that a recent Gallup survey conducted for him showed that 60 per cent of the nation's film-goers are under 21 years of age. The same survey, he said, showed a majority of film patrons to be opposed to double feature programs. His own conclusions from the survey, he said, were, first, that films should be made strictly for entertainment and that too many pictures are being produced.

Goldwyn estimated film attendance at approximately 80,000,000 weekly at this time, which he believes represents a 20 per cent increase over recent years. It is up to Hollywood to make better pictures to retain this new audience, he said.

Ampa Benefit a Success

Ampa's Motion Picture Relief Fund midnight preview was successfully concluded Friday at the Paramount Theatre with the showing of Paramount's "Riding High" and a stage show, the committee has announced.

Ask New 48-Hour Week Exemptions

Petitions for exemption of film exchange employes at Oklahoma City, Dallas and Indianapolis from the 48-hour week schedule being invoked by the War Manpower Commission on Nov. 15 are in preparation by the home office officials, it was learned at the weekend.

The three exchange cities are among new areas in which manpower shortage were declared by the WMC late last week to exist, and in which the 48-hour week is to be established Nov. 15 as a result. The industry petitions for exemption of exchange workers from the longer week will follow the same pattern as those made previously in other critical manpower areas where exemptions were granted, such as Detroit, Washington, Buffalo and Cleveland. The petitions point out that the longer week in film exchanges can neither add to war production nor release manpower for other industries.

W. B. Christmas Checks

All former Warner Bros. employees now on active service will receive Christmas checks again this year. Amount of the gift has not yet been determined. The company and the Warner Club each will contribute part of the funds.

D. of J. Starts Decree Meets For Exhibitors

(Continued from page 1)

with the Department officials. Also, Abram F. Myers, board chairman and general counsel of Allied States, whose headquarters are in Washington, is expected to confer with Clark this week.

The conferences, it was reported, are designed to clarify a number of controversial or opposing recommendations for changes in the decree which have been received by the Department from exhibitor organizations throughout the country and, in addition, are designed to obtain exhibitor reaction to points at issue as a result of Clark's recent discussions of decree changes with heads of the consenting companies.

Next Decree Meeting Late This Week

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—A new date for the postponed consent-decree meeting with company officials is expected to be set within the next day or two by Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark, who returned to Washington during the weekend.

Last week's meeting, at which plans were to be made for submission by the companies of definite proposals for revision of the decree, was called off because of the death of Clark's brother, one of 10 victims of a plane crash.

While department officials had no word over the weekend as to the possible date of the meeting, it was expected it would not be before the last half of the week.

See $7,500,000 '43 W.B. Earnings

(Continued from page 1)

gust, the financial statement for 1942-43 will not show the benefits of the recent refinancing and redemption of all preferred stock, and retirement of another substantial amount of the funded debt, it is pointed out.

In the year covered by the statement to be released late in November, Warners released only 24 features as compared to the former annual rate of 48 pictures per year.

Set Emergency Meet In Film Truck Crisis

(Continued from page 1)

cuit; Fred Schwartz, of the Century circuit, representing exhibitors; Henderson Richey, assistant to William F. Rodgers at M-G-M, for the distributors; Ira Meinhardt and Lou Lane, on behalf of film carriers, and Louis Nizer and Ralph Pielow, representing the Film Board of Trade.

Mangham's Mono. Holdings to West

(Continued from page 1)

ing completion, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned today.

Mangham, who failed of reelection to the Monogram board of directors at the annual stockholders' meeting here last week, is expected to continue with the Bromberg-West organization in a sales capacity.

An Editorial Tribute

from

Martin Quigley

Publisher of Motion Picture Herald

to

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S

Greatest Production

THE NORTH STAR

DISTRIBUTED BY RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

VALOUR—WITHOUT POLITICS

BY MARTIN QUIGLEY

This is about a picture and a principle. The picture is "The North Star". The principle is the responsible freedom of the art of the motion picture as exemplified and demonstrated by that production.

The picture is about Russia and Russians. It has been made with skill, effort and abundant resources by Samuel Goldwyn. He has poured into it contributions of able dramatists and technicians. The result is a distillation of that striving alchemy and unrelenting pursuit of the utmost which characterizes all his creative efforts.

The product is the direct concern of the producer and his audiences, the expert and the ultimate authorities. The principle so ably demonstrated is both a precept and an asset of experience of our art and industry.

Mr. Goldwyn set out on a course and pattern so effectively simple that he possibly is only half aware of it himself. He surveyed the whole scene of opportunity before the showman's eye. He found Russia, that great enigmatic land which is neither Europe nor Asia, with its fecund, vital people, beglamoured with endless tradition, rich in folk-color, newly come into the interested consciousness of the screen public. There was background, a gorgeous tapestry against which to record a tale of great warriors in this, the greatest of wars.

Sam Goldwyn was looking, as usual, for the best material in the world for the making of a show that should reach into the emotions of the millions who find heart throbs and satisfying intensities in the magic of the theatre.

Maybe there was daring, or maybe only cold judgment, in Mr. Goldwyn's election of this great endeavour of Russia for the scene and the spirit of its people for a theme. There was the obvious fact that Russia and its politics, its social revolutions and evolutions, its anomalous, aloof and special position among the United Nations, presented issues and problems not yet clarified in the world view. But there remained, independent of that, the poignant dramatic fact: people, Russians, in all the fervour of their tradition, fighting, giving, dying for life and land. All this under the burning white light of today's attention.

It was just that which the producer saw and sought and set down in the crystallization of "The North Star".

He did not engage in attack upon or defense of Russian political design, at home or abroad. He offered no message of motive or pattern. He put on film an objective, vibrantly human and immediate story of people—being sure the while that those people were in the limelight of interest.

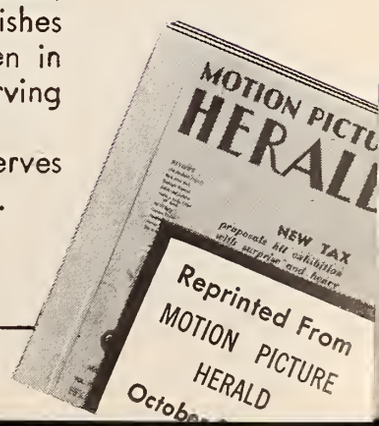
It is to be recorded that in "The North Star" Mr. Goldwyn has nothing to sell but a tremendous exploration of human experience, recorded in the events of life and strife of people who live and die with the grace of courage.

Here is demonstration of the competent and responsible freedom of the medium of the motion picture. Here was possibility and peril of controversial involvement. It was avoided by the startlingly simple process of a showman and dramatist tending with a remarkable precision to his own business.

The motion picture of the theatre is free to deal with anything whatever as material, given the warrant of a consciousness of its province—recognition that the screen is not pulpit, not rostrum, not classroom blackboard, not tract, not pamphlet; that it is a stage before the whole people, of all opinions and no opinion.

This today is important to the status of the motion picture in a world of crisis, criticism and acute analysis. It establishes the constructive position of the screen in a democracy, justifies a free screen serving a free people.

And so, in this, Mr. Goldwyn serves himself, his audience and his industry.



Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 24

FEDERAL Judge Paul McCormick has ordered Robert Cummings to appear in court tomorrow to show cause why he should not be barred from participating on the DeMille-Lux radio program scheduled for tomorrow night. Universal has filed suit charging Cummings under an exclusive contract with that studio, doesn't have permission for the broadcast.

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Paramount has announced that the studio and David Lewis, who just finished producing "Frenchman's Creek," have agreed to an immediate cancellation of his contract. Lewis also prepared the studio's "Tomorrow's Harvest," which starts next week with Frank Borzage directing.

•

Leon Fromkess, PRC vice-president in charge of production, has purchased "Rhapsody in Youth," an original by Pierre Gendron, for the company's second directly produced feature, a musical.

•

Rights to use Billy Rose's "Diamond Horseshoe" night club in New has agreed to an immediate cancella- for a Technicolor production have been acquired by 20th Century-Fox. William Perlberg will produce.

Safety Campaign In Boston Houses

BOSTON, Oct. 24.—Local theatres have inaugurated a safety campaign whereby the principle of absenteeism and its effect upon the war effort is being promoted through meetings at which safety experts address staff members of each house. Employees are cautioned to observe all safety rules and to see to it that patrons do likewise.

Accidents have been reduced by more than 50 per cent in recent weeks.

800 Attend Para. Pep Club Dance

More than 800 persons attended the annual dinner and dance of the Paramount Pep Club in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Astor Friday night.

Dedicated to former Paramount employees in the armed forces, the affair was presented as "A Salute to the Services," and was made colorful by the uniforms of service men, including former Paramounteers and other guests.

New Omaha Club Slate

OMAHA, Oct. 24.—A new slate of Omaha Warner Club officers has been elected. They are: Bill Wink, president; Elmer Huhnke, Frances Gabriel, Alice Neal, Doris Gross, vice-presidents; Adele Anderson, treasurer; Milton Swift, secretary, contributions and loans; board of governors, Paul Walsh, Marguerite Bragg and Frank Hannon.

Kranz, Wheeler Named

CHICAGO, Oct. 24.—Globe Film Co. announces the appointment of Charles Kranz as distribution representative for "Power of God" in New York State, and Sam Wheeler for the Washington, D. C., territory.

Off the Antenna

EUGENE L. GAREY, counsel for the House Select Committee investigating the Federal Communications Commission, branded the charges leveled against the committee as false at a luncheon session of the Radio Executives Club at the Hotel Shelton here late last week. Paul W. Kesten, CBS vice-president, will address the next meeting of the Radio Executives at the Shelton Nov. 4 on the subject of "Radio's Responsibilities." . . . A total of approximately 137 hours was devoted to the war effort by the Blue network in Sept. as compared to 86 hours in Sept. 1942, and 119 hours in Aug. 1943. . . . Associated Music Publishers, C. P. MacGregor, Standard Radio, and Lang-Worth Feature Programs have signed with the American Federation of Musicians to resume the manufacture of disks. RCA-Victor, Columbia Recording, and the transcription subsidiary of NBC are still at odds with the musician's union. . . . Samuel Goldwyn has purchased time on two of WABC programs for two weeks starting today to promote "North Star."

• • •

Purely Personal—*John Hundley has assumed the duties of William H. Fineshriber Jr., as CBS director of shortwave programs while Fineshriber substitutes for Davidson Taylor, network assistant director of broadcasts who has accompanied CBS president William S. Paley on a wartime mission abroad. . . . Shirley Elder will substitute for Jack Eigen on WMCA's "63 Club," Eigen going into the Armed Forces. . . . Melvin P. Wamboldt has been appointed to the newly-created position of commercial program supervisor of the Blue web, assuming part of the duties now performed by C. P. "Pete" Jaeger, who becomes network sales manager on Nov. 1.*

• • •

Program Notes—Lana Turner and Victor Mature will co-star in the CBS "Lux Radio Theatre" presentation of "Slightly Dangerous" tonight. . . . Bugs Bunny, star of Leon Schlesinger's animated cartoons, will be a weekly feature on the NBC Abbott and Costello program which returns to the air Nov. 4. . . . Arturo Toscanini returns Oct. 31 to conduct the NBC Symphony orchestra in a 12-week winter series. . . . CBS Screen Guild Players program will feature a radio version of Warner's "Edge of Darkness" tonight. . . . Conceived with the purpose of creating a series of "Academy Awards" for the first time in radio, new Philco "Radio Hall of Fame" Blue web hour weekly show will get underway Dec. 5. . . . General Electric has arranged with the Albany Times-Union to put on a television show Nov. 5 portraying how "Television Covers the News." . . . General Mills has renewed John Gunther for another 26 weeks on the Blue, effective Nov. 5.

St. Louis Curfew Bill Presented This Week

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 24.—A curfew ordinance for 'teen-agers will be introduced at a Board of Aldermen session here this week. Alderman Jake Sellers, who will present the bill, has announced it will prohibit children under 16 from being on the streets after 10 p.m., unless accompanied by an older person. A feature of the bill will be the provision that Police Court tickets must be issued to the parents of the children violating the ordinance, requiring the parents to appear in Police Court.

The St. Louis Juvenile Commission has recommended the adoption of a curfew ordinance to curb juvenile delinquency, and it is believed the proposed bill has a good chance of being passed.

Raise $1,700 for Kiddies

BOSTON, Oct. 24.—Awards of $2,000 in war bonds were made at a meeting of the Boston Variety Club last night, concluding a campaign to raise funds for a crippled children's and milk funds. Local Variety Club through its chief barker, Martin J. Mullin, reported that a profit of more than $1,700 was realized on the drive.

Mrs. T. W. Kenefick of the local RKO offices won first prize of a $1,000 bond and Ethel Jacobs of Interstate won a $500 bond; John Nunes of M. and P Theatres won $250; Edward Callahan, New England head of 20th Century-Fox, won a $100 bond

Alberta Evenson Dies

Alberta Evenson, contract clerk at M-G-M's Albany exchange, died last week following an illness of one year.

Toronto Cops Quit Policing Theatres

TORONTO, Oct. 24.—Toronto exhibitors have been notified by the board of police commissioners here that the policing of theatre line-ups will hereafter be the responsibility of managers who, under a new order, will be required to provide a uniformed guard to control lines and prevent blocking of traffic. Heretofore policemen were assigned to this duty.

Meeting of theatre owners is to be held to discuss the unexpected development and the complaint has already been registered that apart from the labor stringency, theatres cannot hire extra help under Selective Service regulations with entertainment employment classed as non-essential for the duration.

Barger Reports 25% Drop for Drive-Ins

CHICAGO, Oct. 24.—N. S. (Jack) Barger, head of the Drive-In Corp. of Illinois, reveals that general drive-in business was 25 per cent less this season than last year. Operations, nevertheless, have been profitable, he said. Following a slow start, business had a good recovery during the summer, but another slump occurred when gas rations were again reduced.

South Jersey Meet

The Fall meeting of the South Jersey unit of Allied T. O. of New Jersey will be held tomorrow at the Walt Whitman Hotel, Camden. Among those who will be present are Harry Lowenstein, Lee Newbury and Thornton Kelley.

Transcription Fight Is Voted by NAB

The National Association of Broadcasters, with Mutual cooperating, on Friday condemned the American Federation of Musicians' proposal for direct payments to the union for recorded music and said it was prepared for a "fight to the finish" on the issue.

The N.A.B. reportedly will seek the services of Mrs. Anna M. Rosenberg, New York regional director of the War Manpower Commission, for its exclusive labor consultant. Mrs. Rosenberg declined to comment.

Noble to Meet Heads Of Blue Affiliates

Edward J. Noble, new owner of Blue Network, will meet managements of the network's 169 affiliated stations in Chicago's Palmer House on Nov. 16. Members of the stations' advisory and planning committee will also meet at the Palmer House, on Nov. 15.

In addition to Noble, Blue network executives from New York who will attend the two meetings are Mark Woods, president; Edgar Kobak, executive vice-president; Keith Higgins, vice-president in charge of stations; Phillips Carlin, vice-president in charge of programs, and C. P. Jaeger, who will become network sales manager on Nov. 1.

Chicago Club Elects

CHICAGO, Oct. 24.—Warner Club of Chicago elected the following officers for the coming year at a meeting held in the Warner club rooms recently: Ted Levy, president; Harry Mandel, vice-president; Ann Blumenfeld, secretary, and Frank Williams, treasurer. Co-chairmen in charge of welfare are: J. E. Coston and I. H. Barron. Elected to the board of governors were: Coston, Harry Seed, A. J. Shumow, Barron and Charles Ryan.

Branscome, Army Booker

CHARLOTTE, Oct. 24 — Leonard Branscome has reported at the U. S. Army M. P. Service branch here where he will serve as booking assistant to George Helms, office manager. Branscome formerly was an exhibitor in Hillsville, Va. The USAMPS office serves Army camp theatres in the two Carolinas.

Hubbell With Life

Richard Hubbell, television expert with N. W. Ayer & Son and formerly with CBS television and March of Time as a film director, has been engaged by *Life* magazine as special television consultant and writer.

Dennis Joining WHN

Walt Dennis, news bureau chief of the National Association of Broadcasters, will leave NAB Nov. 1 to become public relations director of station WHN, according to Herbert L. Pettey, director of WHN.

hantom' Montreal ader at $12,000

ONTREAL, Oct. 24.—"The Phantom e Opera," in its second week at 's is expected to lead the way with an estimated $12,000. Bob 's "Let Face It" at the Palace xpected to be runner-up with 00.

timated receipts for the week end- October 21:

e Door Canteen" (U.A.)
PHEUM—(1,100) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, week. Gross: $2,500. (Average,).

Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
EW'S—(2,900) (35c-53c-67c) 7 days, 2nd . Gross: $12,000. (Average, $9,000).

aan" (M-G-M)
er a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
PITOL—(2,700) (30c-40c-52c) 7 days. s: $8,000. (Average, $6,500).

Desperadoes" (Col.)
Head from Manhattan" (Col.)
INCESS—(2,000) (30c-40c-52c) 7 days. s: $6,500. (Average, $4,300).

's Face It" (Para.)
LACE—(2,700) (30c-45c-62c) 7 days. s: $11,000. (Average, $8,500).

PTME Files for Brandt RWLB Vote

otion Picture Theatre Managers Employees Guild refiled a petition the Regional War Labor Board he week-end asking for an elec- on its claim that it represents a ority of the managers and assist- in 21 theatres owned by Harry ndt in Manhattan and the Bronx. union also refiled for an election ring all employees of the Laff- ie Theatre in Manhattan.

arren H. Mayell has replaced din, Cohn and Glickstein as TME attorney.

WAC Designs New Newsreel to Hold Interest of Troops in Combat Areas

Arrangements have been completed by the War Activities Committee's Newsreel Division, giving servicemen in combat areas a newsreel specially designed to be of maximum interest, Walton Ament, division chairman, announced over the weekend. This new reel, on 16 mm. along with a current feature, one or more short subjects, make up the programs given by the industry to the War Department for free showing to men in uniform abroad.

Supplanting the United Newsreel, the new arrangements call for a reel that combines the most suitable features in both of the two issues of a newsreel company for a single week. The five newsreel companies rotate each week in supplying 38 prints on 16 mm. each week to the Army's Special Service Division.

"In this manner," Ament stated, "we are able to supply our fighting men with a reel more to their liking. In addition to a desire to see the significant news stories of the day, reports show that the men in uniform have a great interest in sporting events, humorous items and an occasional bathing beauty."

20th to Handle 'Battle'

Twentieth Century-Fox has volunteered to handle the distribution and exploitation of the War Department feature-length picture, "Battle of Russia," for the War Activities Committee. The offer was made on Friday at a meeting of distribution executives of all the companies, held at the WAC offices.

Fitzsimmons to M-G-M

The assignment of Floyd G. Fitzsimmons, as exploiteer in the Albany territory, has been announced by W. R. Ferguson, head of exploitation for M-G-M. Fitzsimmons has been associated with Warner Bros., and the Century and Rogoff and Becker circuits as theatre manager and publicist.

M-G-M Lists Promotions

Alan F. Cummings, branch operations head for M-G-M, announced last week the following promotions at the M-G-M New Orleans exchange: Elona Murray from second booker to head booker, Mary Louise Harper from third booker to second booker and Augusta Woolverton, formerly secretary to branch manager C. J. Briant, has been appointed third booker.

Clement Joins Artkino

Charles Clement, free lance film editor, has joined the staff of Artkino Pictures. In his new post, Clement will have charge of the technical preparation of Artkino releases for the American market.

'Rosie' Sweet Gross In Milwaukee Week

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 24.—Top ranking picture in town was "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" in its second week at the Wisconsin, coupled with "Good Luck, Mr. Yates." "Holy Matrimony" at the Palace also did well with $10,640.

Estimated receipts for week ending October 23:

"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $10,640. (Average, $7,600).

"Hi-Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (44c-50c-75c) 7 days, plus Ina Ray Hutton and her all-male orchestra on stage. Gross: $16,100. (Average, $14,000).

"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"The Youngest Profession" (M-G-M)
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $3,120. (Average, $2,400).

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (W.B.)
"Murder on the Waterfront" (W.B.)
WARNER—(2,400) (44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,480. (Average, $10,400).

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Good Luck, Mr. Yates" (Col.)
WISCONSIN — (3,200) (40c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,780. (Average, $10,600).

"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,800. (Average, $8,000).

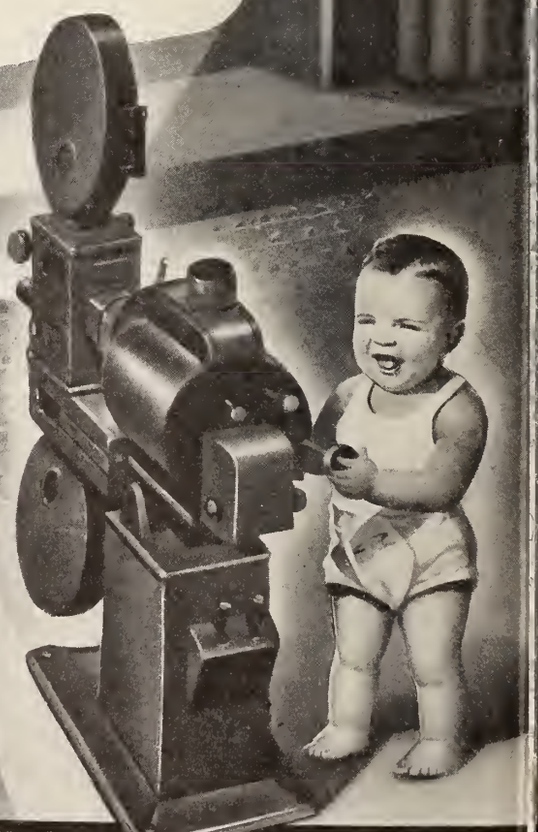
Yolen to O.W.I.

Will Yolen, head of special events and promotion division of the publicity department under Mort Blumenstock at Warners, has been granted leave of absence by the company to go on overseas assignment for the OWI. He joined Warners in 1940.

TRAILERS *don't* TRAIL!

Dr. Leo Handel, Market Researcher, made a survey of Advertising for M.G.M. and found that...

"TRAILERS INFLUENCE MORE PATRONAGE THAN ANY OTHER FORM OF ADVERTISING"



Let every American GIVE to the National War Fund may LIVE!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

irst
ilm and
adio News
rief,
ccurate
nd
npartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert,
Intelligent
and
Indispensable
to the Motion
Picture
Industry

. 54. NO. 81 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1943 | TEN CENTS

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ecree Talks esume Today Washington

eph Hazen Is Slated To Meet Clark

ASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Consent ee negotiations will be resumed orrow afternoon when Joseph Hazen, vice-president and gen- ounsel of Warner Brothers, meets Assistant Attorney General Tom lark.

partment officials declined to say the subject of the conference d be, but it is expected it will r around the definite proposals revision which the distributors prepared at Clark's request.

ith less than four weeks remain- before the decree expires Nov. egotiations are expected to speed nd it is understood that represen- es of several exhibitor organiza- will seek meetings with Clark week to express their views on

(Continued on page 6)

MC Rules on L.A. xchanges Appeals

os ANGELES, Oct. 25.—The war k-week division of the War Man- er Commission is mailing today sions on appeals of film exchanges n a mandatory 48-hour war work k ordered here.

ffice and clerical workers are per- ed to work a 44-hour week while n mechanical jobs must operate on 8-hour week. Tom Ormiston of WMC says the decision provides about half of the employees to k 44 hours and for half to work hours.

o Hays-Ploeser Confab Scheduled

ASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Walter C. eser, of Missouri, is scheduled to rn here tomorrow from a two- k trip to St. Louis, but members his staff said no further meeting been scheduled with Will Hays arding the Congressman's cam- gn against film propaganda.

loeser introduced a resolution call- for an investigation of alleged paganda in newsreels, before he the city, but announced he would er action to enable Hays to attempt

(Continued on page 6)

IA's Emblem Placed On Films at Bioff's Order, He Testifies

Inclusion of the IATSE emblem on title frames of Hollywood product was done at the insistence of Willie Bioff, convicted extortioner, the former IATSE official testified yesterday.

Bioff, who on Friday described himself as "the real boss of Hollywood," said that he had ordered the union labels placed on films shown in the United States and Canada.

"That was the first time it was done," Bioff said. "I told them no motion picture could be shown unless it bore the emblem."

Bioff was questioned concerning his

(Continued on page 6)

Libson, Theatre Oldtimer, Is Dead

CINCINNATI, Oct. 25.—Isaac Libson, who came out of virtual retirement in 1933 to operate as divisional manager for RKO Theatres the houses he himself built and sold to that company, died unexpectedly over the last weekend of a heart attack. He was 67.

Isaac Libson

Libson had complete operating control of RKO theatres in that circuit's Midwest division, including the Albee, Palmer, Shubert, Paramount, Grand, Capitol, Lyric and

(Continued on page 6)

Rank Eyes Theatres On the Continent

London, Oct. 25.—J. Arthur Rank told a meeting of Odeon Theatres here last week that he is exploring the possibility of acquiring interests in theatres on the Continent as soon as possible after Allied invasion forces have freed occupied Europe.

Rank also told the meeting that he believes the American film industry will cooperate with the British industry to the extent that there will be a fairly representative exchange of films between the two with a resultant increase in mutual understanding.

'Rosie' Is Terrific At N.Y. Roxy on Gross of $126,000

"Hottest" picture to hit the Roxy in 15 years is the description being given the current bill of "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" on the screen and Danny Kaye, Beatrice Kay and Tommy Tucker and his band on the stage which in its first week ending tonight is headed for the tremendous gross of $126,000. The show did $15,000 on its opening day last Wednesday, $16,000 on Thursday and $25,000 on Saturday, all claimed to be new day records.

"Lassie Come Home" and the stage show is proving strong at the Music Hall where a third week's take of $103,000 is expected. The bill holds for a fourth. "Phantom of the Opera" and a stage show featuring Lena Horne, Duke Ellington and his band,

(Continued on page 6)

O.D.T. Orders Curtailment of Truck Routes

Film Carriers Forbidden To Extend Operations

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Motor truck operators were prohibited by the Office of Defense Transportation from extending present routes or delivery areas without first obtaining official authorization. All types of carriers, including film delivery services, are covered by the order which forbids them to increase their mileage by extending their operations.

Private and contract carriers, however, will not be required to secure approval for a change in routes within a delivery area, providing it consists of a consolidation of existing routes, or the substitution of a new route for an existing one without increase of mileage.

State Dept. Probes Trade in Europe

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Prospects of full occupation of Italy, to be followed by the redemption of other European countries under the heel of the Axis has influenced studies by State Department officials of the international trade problems that will come before them for solution.

Always the agency through which American business men have sought to remedy adverse conditions imposed upon them by the laws or regulations of foreign countries, the Department, it was learned today, is maintaining an open door for business interests whose properties or trade may be freed by Allied victories, although at the moment there is little it can do.

It was pointed out that there are few international trade problems now because of the fact that such world trade as remains open is strictly supervised by governmental agencies. But the return of peace will raise many questions which must be dealt with before normal relations can be resumed.

Manning Sells His Circuit of 9 Houses

ETOWAH, Tenn., Oct. 25. — Hugh Manning, local business man, has sold his circuit of nine film theatres to R. E. Martin, of Atlanta. Of these theatres, the Strand and Athens are located in Athens and the Gem in Etowah.

Congress May Settle Fate of Admission Tax This Week

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Fate of the Treasury's proposal to treble the admission tax may be decided this week. Having called two strikes on the Treasury by rejecting its recommendations for increased individual taxes and estate and gift levies, the House Ways and Means Committee prepared today to consider the $2,000,000,000 excise-tax program which with an increase in corporation rates, are the only sources of tax money recommended by the department.

Members of the committee are rep-

(Continued on page 6)

Harmon to Coast On OWI Program

Francis S. Harmon, War Activities Committee executive, has left New York for meetings in Cleveland, Milwaukee, Denver and Hollywood, where he will confer with Stanton Griffis, head of the OWI film bureau, and members of the WAC Hollywood division on a film program for future OWI-WAC short subjects.

Harmon spent the weekend in Cleveland, attending the national

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

NED E. DEPINET, CHARLES KOERNER, EDWARD L. ALPERSON, ROBERT MOCHRIE, NAT LEVY, WALTER BRANSON AL DAWSON, HAROLD HENDEE, SOL SCHWARTZ, S. BARRET MCCORMICK and HARRY MANDEL will return today from Boston.

•

DR. J. B. FISHMAN, general manager of the Fishman circuit, New Haven, will visit the Edgewood Arsenal this week for the Department of Pharmacology at Yale, where he is an assistant professor.

•

TONY SUDEKUM, president of Crescent Amusement Co., Nashville, was named a Knight Commander of the Masonic Court of Honor, at a recent session in Washington.

•

CAPT. EDWARD FITZGERALD, former Paramount booker, New Haven, has recovered from an attack of malaria which he suffered while on combat duty in the South Pacific.

•

PVT. JOE DILORENZO, former partner in the Daly circuit, Hartford, visited that city recently while on furlough from Fort Dix.

•

SGT. ROBERT CAMPBELL, son of ROBERT CAMPBELL of the Central Theatre, West Hartford, is home on a 30-day leave from overseas.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount Western division manager, has returned from a two-week trip through the Midwest.

•

BEN RUBIN, assistant manager at Warners' Hippodrome, Cleveland, has been inducted into the Army.

•

NICHOLAS NAPOLI, president of Artkino Pictures, returned yesterday from a Midwest trip.

•

WALTER BRANSON, RKO Western division sales manager, will leave for the Coast today.

•

ISADOR M. RAPPAPORT, operator of the Hippodrome, Baltimore, has returned to that city from the Coast.

•

RODNEY BUSH and JIMMY DUNN of 20th Century-Fox are back in New York after a week in Oklahoma City.

•

EDWARD A. GOLDEN, independent producer who arrived yesterday from the Coast, will remain East four weeks.

•

WILLIAM J. KUPPER, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, is en route to Los Angeles.

•

NORMAN W. ELSON, vice-president of Trans-Lux, is in Washington.

•

HARRY BRANDT will leave for Washington today.

•

HANK LINET of Universal left for Cincinnati last night.

•

LEO SPITZ is scheduled to arrive Friday, from the Coast.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 25

UPON the appearance of attorneys for Robert Cummings informing the court that the actor would not appear on the DeMille-Lux radio show tonight, Federal Judge Pierson Hall continued an order to show cause why he should not be barred from the show because of Universal's contract. The case comes up Nov. 5 before Federal Judge Hollzer.

•

M-G-M today gave Everett Riskin a new contract. Now in New York, Riskin will follow "Kismet" with "Action in the Living Room." The studio will make "National Velvet" in Technicolor.

•

O. Henry Briggs, PRC president, and Nat Lefton, PRC Midwest district manager, arrived here today for studio conferences. PRC announced the purchase of "Natal," an original.

•

Harry Cohn, Columbia president, will leave here by train Friday for New York to testify in the Bioff trial and attend to some Columbia business.

•

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of sales, will arrive here tomorrow from New York.

'B' Rating for 'The Mad Ghoul'

Legion of Decency objects to Universal's "The Mad Ghoul" on the grounds of "excessive gruesomeness" and has given that picture a Class B rating. Current Legion list also includes Class A-1 ratings, for general patronage, to "Arizona Trail," Universal; "Chance of a Lifetime," Columbia, and the following PRC productions: "Harvest Melody," "Return of the Rangers" and "The Underdog."

Class A-11 ratings go to Republic's "In Old Oklahoma" and Warners' "Princess O'Rourke," both of which are cited as unobjectionable for adults.

SAG and AGVA Join Merger Meetings

Florence Marston representing the Screen Actors Guild, and David Fox of the American Guild of Variety Artists, have joined in the Actors Equity-American Federation of Radio Artists-American Guild of Musical Artists' meetings in New York to consider a possible amalgamation of all actors' unions.

Substantial progress has been made in negotiations to bring one big actors' union to realization, but all plans discussed for a centralized treasury and means of permitting individual unions to retain autonomy are still tentative. Representatives of the various unions will meeet again on Thursday.

Five More Theatres In Allied Pool

CHICAGO, Oct. 25.—Five more theatres have joined the Allied booking and buying circuit here. They are the Main, Cornell, Banner, Pauline, and Royal.

Warners Will Hold 3-Day Chicago Meet

A three-day sales conference will be held by Warner Bros. at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, presiding.

In addition to home office sales executives and all district managers, the sessions will be attended by Joseph Bernhard, vice-president; Charles Einfeld, director of advertising and publicity and Mort Blumenstock, in charge of advertising and publicity in the East.

The home office delegation also will include Arthur Sachson, assistant general sales manager; Roy Haines, Western and Southern division sales manager; Jules Lapidus, Eastern division sales manager;, Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager, and A. W. Schwalberg. District managers who will attend include: Norman Ayers, Eastern; Robert Smeltzer, Mid-Atlantic; Charles Rich, Central; Harry A. Seed, Midwest; Hall Walsh, Prairie; R. L. McCoy, Southern; Henry Herbel, West Coast; Wolfe Cohen, Canadian and Clarence Eiseman, Metropolitan Branch.

ITPA's Annual Meet Set for Nov. 18-19

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 25.—Tenth annual convention of the Independent Theatres Protective Association of Wisconsin & Upper Michigan will be held here at the Schroeder hotel on Nov. 18-19. Contrary to custom, the banquet will be held on the first night, Thursday, instead of the second, because on Friday night the conventioneers and the Goodfellows' Club will have a dance at the hotel.

A committee, headed by Charles Trampe, Monogram, and including Eddie Johnson, Roosevelt Theatre; William Pierce, Savoy; Gene Arenstein, Hollywood, and Harry H. Perlewitz, business manager of the association, is planning the event, with William Ainsworth, Fond du Lac, president, as general overseer. To date the following speakers have been invited: Sid Samuelson, Allied Theatres, and M. A. Rosenberg of Western Pennsylvania, president of National Allied.

Sears Denies Any Spitz-Goetz Talks

United Artists and the Leo Spitz-William Goetz International Pictures combination "have had no negotiations or conversations pointing toward a possible deal" for U. A. distribution of International product, Gradwell Sears, United Artists executive, stated here yesterday.

M. P. Associates to Honor Joseph Lee

Joseph Lee, former president of Motion Picture Associates, will be honored by that organization at a luncheon-meeting at the Hotel Astor on Friday, Jack Ellis, president, announced yesterday. Lee is leaving this territory.

Managers Made into Guards in Canada

Toronto, Oct. 25.—Comment has been aroused in Canadian film circles over the transfer of theatre men to the position of guards under the compulsory labor draft rules of Canada and with theatre employment being classed as non-essential. One such involved is Larry Ryan, assistant manager of the Elgin Theatre, Ottawa, until he was called by the War Labor Board and directed to the job of guard at the entrance to a Dominion Government building in Ottawa and not, as expected, to a place in a war plant.

A doorman at a Toronto theatre was called up under the measure and assigned as a switchman in a railway yard here.

NEW YORK THEATRE

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
ERIC KNIGHT'S beloved novel
"LASSIE COME HOME"
with RODDY McDOWALL—DONALD CRISP
An M-G-M Picture in Technicolor
Gala Stage Revue Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-460

RADIO CITY MUSIC HA
PORTUGAL- EUROPE'S CROSSROADS
20th CENTURY-FOX RELEASE
Another First From The MARCH OF TIM

Mary Franchot Dick Victor
MARTIN . TONE . POWELL . MOORE
"TRUE TO LIFE"
IN PERSON
THE INK SPOTS
TONY PASTOR and His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
THE JAPS ARE WORSE THAN KILLERS
'BEHIND THE RISING SUN'

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
JAMES CAGNEY
GRACE GEORGE
'JOHNNY COME LATELY'
IN PERSON
ANN CORIO
HERB MILLER & ORCH.

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RKO
RADIO
SHOWMANSHIP
AT WORK...
again..

ANOTHER SENSATIONAL 50-CITY WORLD PREMIERE

The Kind that's making Box-Office History!

Boston, New Haven and all the rest of New England set for the mighty launching beginning October 25th! . . . The 21 stations of the Yankee Network beamed for mass air coverage; billboards, newspapers, tieups, promotions of all kinds now functioning to focus the attention of the millions of the territory on the picture that all the nation will want to see!

The amazing life story of Frank Cavanaugh — tough, lovable, fighting American . . . maker of heroes on gridiron and battlefield.

PAT O'BRIEN

the Iron Major

WITH

RUTH WARRICK · ROBERT RYAN

LEON AMES · RUSSELL WADE · BRUCE EDWARDS · RICHARD MARTIN

Produced by ROBERT FELLOWS · *Directed by* RAY ENRIGHT

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Decree Talks Resume Today In Washington

(Continued from page 1)

the desirability of changes in sales provisions.

It is believed here that Hazen may have only an "interim report" ready for submission to Clark inasmuch as recent word from New York was to the effect that, despite almost full-day labors for the past 10 days, attorneys for the five decree companies have not yet fully completed the draft outlining the limits to which the companies are prepared to go with respect to revisions of the decree. The draft is being prepared as a result of a request made by Clark two weeks ago.

In addition to conferring with Clark on progress on the draft to date, Hazen also is expected to seek clarification of a number of points on which companies and the Department of Justice have not fully exchanged views; such clarification being designed to speed the work of completing the draft.

Libson, Theatre Oldtimer, Is Dead

(Continued from page 1)

Family, all in downtown Cincinnati, and Keith's, Colonial and State in Dayton. He also operated several smaller independent theatres in this city.

Funeral services for the well-known theatre executive will be held at 11 a.m. tomorrow from Weil Bros. Funeral Home here. He is survived by a daughter and a sister.

Home Office Officials To Attend Libson Rites

Leslie Thompson and Harry Michalson, of RKO; Charles Reagan, of Paramount; Roy Haines of Warner Bros.; Jack Flynn and J. J. Maloney, of M-G-M; Louis Weinberg of Columbia; F. J. A. McCarthy, John J. O'Connor and Hank Linet, of Universal, and several other home office officials left last night for Cincinnati to attend funeral services there today for Isaac Libson, RKO Theatres executive. Many officials who planned to attend, however, could not get train or plane reservations and had to cancel the trip.

All film companies with exchanges in Cincinnati will be represented by officials of the companies who are stationed in that city, it was learned.

Bernie Services

Funeral services for Ben Bernie will be held at 11 A.M. Thursday in the Temple Rodeph Sholom, 7 W. 83rd Street. Remains are expected to arrive here from California tomorrow and will lie in state at the Riverside Chapel, 76th Street and Amsterdam Ave., after 8 P.M.

Frank Walsh Dies

HIGHLAND, N. Y., Oct. 25.—Frank V. Walsh, for eight years manager of the Highland Theatre here, and former manager of the Park in Newburgh, died at his home in Lloyd Township. He was 52.

Bioff Says He Ordered IATSE Emblem on Films

(Continued from page 1)

relations with Sidney Korshak, Chicago lawyer and former assistant corporation counsel there, whom Bioff retained as his attorney in 1939.

Completing his tenth and last day on the witness stand, Bioff said that Korshak conferred with him (Bioff) in the Bridewell, a Chicago prison, in 1940 and suggested the strategy of blaming Schenck for the shady deals which at that time were beginning to compound Bioff's difficulties with the law.

Under re-direct examination yesterday by Assistant United States Attorney General Boris Kostelanetz, Bioff said that he had first met attorney Korshak in 1939, when Bioff was being extradited from California to Chicago to serve out an old sentence for pandering. Bioff said he had never paid Korshak a fee.

Gov't Calls Jacocks

At the completion of Bioff's testimony, the Government called as a witness Donald Jacocks, zone manager in Northern New Jersey for Warner Brothers. Jacocks, under examination by Amedeo L. Lauritano, told of payments totaling $17,500 made to Kaufman under fear that Warner Theatres would be shut down. The first payment of $15,000 was made, Jacocks said, when the theatres were negotiating a wage contract in 1936.

Kaufman told him, Jacocks said, that he had to take the money "across the river" and give it to Willie Bioff. Jacocks said Warners' fear was based on the fact that "the Chicago gang had taken over the IATSE." This reference to the gang was stricken out by Judge Bright, but the evidence of the theatre chain's fear was allowed to stand.

When the contract negotiations were again opened in 1939, Jacocks said, Kaufman demanded $10,000, but settled for $5,000. Jacocks told of the payment to Kaufman of one installment of $2,500 on this demand in December, 1939. In 1937, Jacocks said, Kaufman also received a payment of $500, and in August, 1940, another $2,500 was paid to Kaufman, making the total payments by Warners to Kaufman $20,000.

George H. Morgenroth, labor relations representative for Warners in Northern New Jersey, corroborated Jacocks' testimony regarding the payments to Kaufman. In June, 1943, after he had testified before the Federal grand jury in New York, testified Morgenroth, he met Kaufman in Newark and was asked what he (Morgenroth) had testified about before the grand jury.

"I just told them the truth," the witness said he told Kaufman.

"I've had to keep my mouth shut a long time," Morgenroth testified Kaufman said. "I'm going over there and tell the truth, too. I've just been a messenger boy in this thing."

The next witness, John A. Flaherty, former office manager for Warners in Newark, told the same story of the payments to Kaufman, stating that he actually paid the various amounts to the IATSE business agent. Flaherty was questioned as to whether he knew "Longie" Zwillman, the North Jersey political leader designated by the Chicago mob to "take care of New Jersey" at the 1934 election of Browne to the IATSE presidency, and replied that he met Zwillman on one occasion at a dinner in Newark given by the IATSE local there.

"I was introduced to Zwillman by Kaufman," he said. Flaherty no longer is associated with Warners, he said, but is employed by Universal Pictures, Inc.

McDonald Testifies

W. Stuart McDonald, assistant treasurer of Warners, testified that he handled the New York end of the transactions involving payments to Kaufman, cashing checks and giving the proceeds in cash to Flaherty.

The Government is expected to call as today's witnesses Browne or Nick Circella, Chicago gangster now serving eight years after pleading guilty to participation in the extortion scheme.

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 25.—Some studio executives subpoenaed in the Bioff trial won't make a court appearance before Nov. 15, the original Oct. 30 date having been set back. A general Eastern exodus is therefore being delayed.

May Settle Fate of Admission Tax Soon

(Continued from page 1)

resented as feeling that corporation as well as individual income taxes now are at their maximum. If their contentions are adopted by the committee, the new tax bill may not call for more than a fifth of the $10,500,000,000 sought by the Treasury, covered mostly by increases in luxury taxes and a slight shift in individual income revenues by the consolidation of the victory and normal taxes at a 10 per cent rate.

M-G-M Promotions

Enola Murray has been promoted to head booker at M-G-M's New Orleans exchange. Mary Louise Harper, formerly third booker, succeeds Mrs. Murray as second booker, and Augusta Woolverton steps up to third booker from secretary to branch manager James Briant. Briant's new secretary is Mary Becker.

No Hays-Ploeser Confab Scheduled

(Continued from page 1)

to secure an industry agreement to keep propaganda off the screen.

Will H. Hays, it is expected, will communicate the industry's strong disinclination to impose any formal regulations whatever on producers in the field of alleged propaganda, leaving further action up to Rep. Ploeser. The industry is reliably represented as feeling what one person or group may regard is "propaganda" in films is not so regarded by others; that it would be both foolish and futile to attempt to please all critics of the motion picture.

Heft in Exhibition

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 25.—Ralph J. Heft, active in film circles as salesman, branch manager at St. Louis and Kansas City, has bought an interest in the Central theatre, Kansas City, Mo., and will be active manager.

'Rosie' Is Terrific At N.Y. Roxy on Gross of $126,000

(Continued from page 1)

is holding up well in its second week at the Capitol with a terrific gross of $80,000 in sight. This bill stays for a third week. "True to Life" and Tony Pastor and his band plus the Inkspots on the stage garnered an estimated $57,000 in the second week and holds at the Paramount.

"Corvette K-225" following a strongly-exploited premiere at the Criterion is expected to gross $38,000 in its first week, which is very big. The Strand with the fourth week of "Thank Your Lucky Stars" and Sammy Kaye and his band on the stage is moving along toward a $37,000 take and holds for one more week.

"Behind the Rising Sun" in its second week at the RKO Palace will gross about $28,000 and holds a third. The Hollywood where "This Is the Army" is in its 13th week should wind up with about $21,000, with one more week to go. "Thousands Cheer" in its sixth week at the Astor wound up with about $15,500 and holds for a seventh. "Paris After Dark" stays a second week at the Rialto, following a first week's expected take of $10,000. "Hostages" is heading for an estimated $9,000 third week gross at the Globe, with "The Iron Major" set to open at this house next Saturday.

Orders Date Set for Byrens Examination

Federal Judge Simon H. Rifkind yesterday ordered Berny Byrens, Los Angeles insurance broker, to fix the date when his deposition can be taken by attorneys for Adolph Zukor, with respect to Byrens' suit against Zukor to recover $69,930 for services allegedly rendered as financial advisor.

The court directed Byrens to give Zukor's attorneys 10 days notice of the actual date for the taking of the deposition, but ordered that the examination is to be held not later than one week before trial of the action in Federal Court.

Ethel Levey Suit vs. W.B. Goes to Trial

Trial of the $500,000 damage action instituted by Ethel Levey, actress and former wife of the late George M. Cohan, against Warner Brothers is set for tomorrow before Federal Judge William Bondy, without a jury.

The action is based upon the contention of Miss Levey that Warners' film, "Yankee Doodle Dandy," portraying her without her consent, constitutes an invasion of her right of privacy.

Harmon to Coast On OWI Program

(Continued from page 1)

council of the YMCA and spoke yesterday at a meeting of the Milwaukee WAC exchange area.

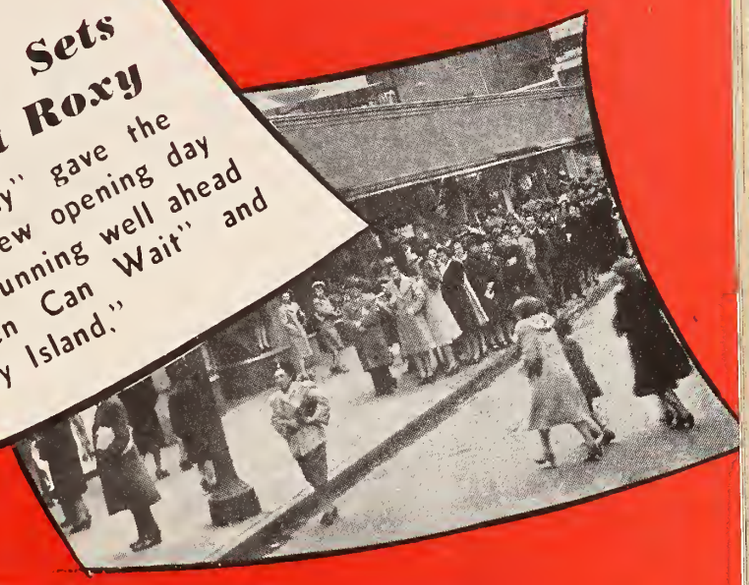
From Milwaukee, Harmon is proceeding to Denver, where he will open the National War Fund Drive in that state tomorrow with a mass meeting in Denver arranged by Rick Ricketson, Colorado NWF chairman.

He will return to New York on Nov. 8.

THE Film DAILY

"Rosie O'Grady" Sets New Record at Roxy

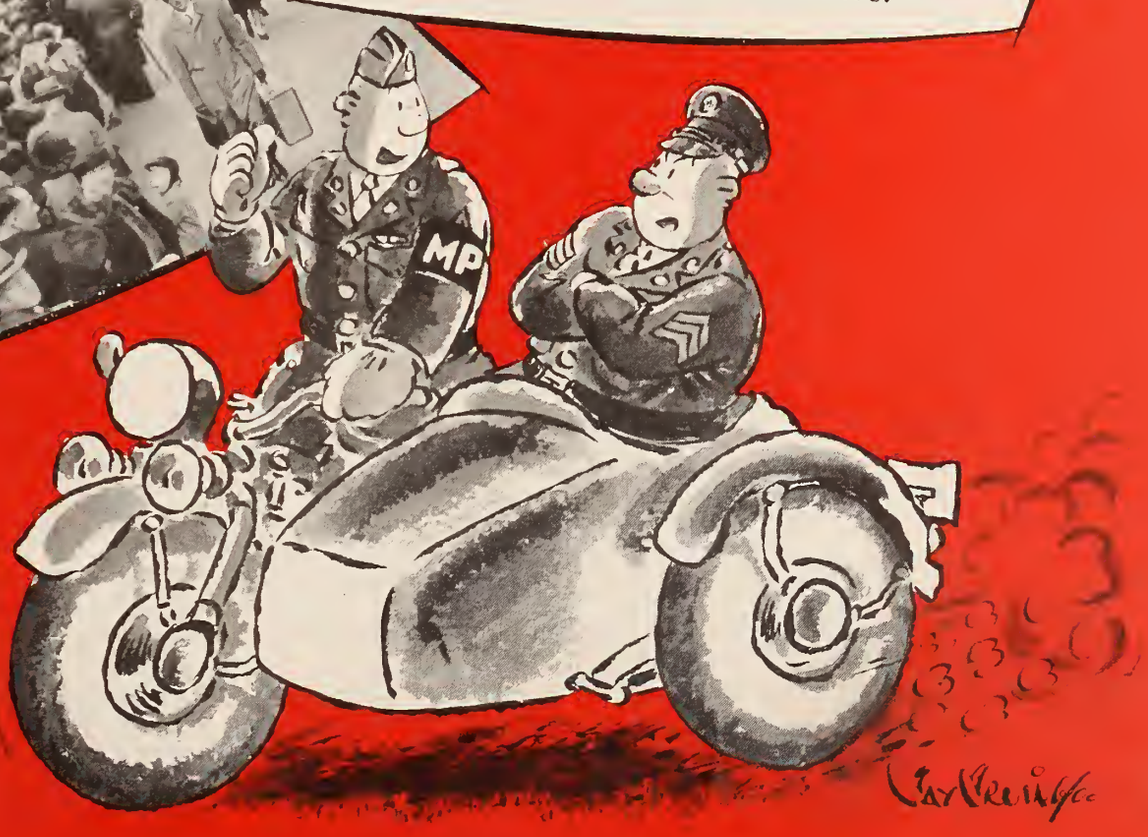
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" gave the New York Roxy a new opening day record yesterday, running well ahead of both "Heaven Can Wait" and "Coney Island."



MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Sets Roxy Record

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" set a new opening day's record at the Roxy yesterday with a gross ahead of both "Heaven Can Wait" and "Coney Island," the two previous record holders.



"Don't look now... but your pin-up is showing!"

Crescent Order Is Due in December

NASHVILLE, Oct. 25.—Judge Elmer D. Davies has set mid-December as the new time for his order transferring records and documents in the Crescent Theatres anti-trust case on which an appeal is being taken to the Supreme Court at Washington, according to S. E. Watson, chief deputy of the U. S. District Court. Order originally was due today. Since the request comes from counsel for the Department of Justice credence is given to information that the Government plans to seek the appeal on points other than the question of supervision by the U. S. District Court over acquisition by the defendants of additional theatres in competitive situations.

No information has been received in Nashville about the preparation of an order confirming the decree already entered which would originate with Robert L. Wright and his D. of J. associates and it is believed that such an order will not be forthcoming until the Supreme Court acts on whatever appeal petitions have been made. All petitions and motions filed by Crescent attorneys were denied by Judge Davies on Aug. 28 and it is not known whether any further action will be taken by defense counsel.

File for Approval Of WMCA Purchase

Nathan Straus, who recently purchased station WMCA for $1,255,000 from Edward J. Noble, new owner of the Blue Network, is expected to file formal application for Federal Communications Commission approval of the deal by tomorrow.

Straus has announced that incorporation papers had been filed at Albany to set up Cosmopolitan Broadcasting Corp., which he will head, with a substantial block of the corporation's $675,000 authorized capital stock being held by Davega-City Radio, Inc. H. M. Stein, president of Davega, will be treasurer of the new corporation and a member of the board. Abram Davega also will be a board member. Charles Stark, vice-president and general sales manager of WMCA, will continue in that capacity while serving as a director.

FCC Amendment Hearing on Nov. 3

WASHINGTON, Oct. 25.—Hearing will open Nov. 3 before the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee on the White-Wheeler bill amending the communications act, it was announced today by Chairman Burton K. Wheeler of Montana.

The bill would reorganize the Federal Communications Commission, setting up two divisions of private and public communications, and circumscribe the Commission's authority to regulate the business of licensees, flatly prohibiting any control of programs or business of licensees and flatly prohibiting any control of programs, business management or policies of a station.

Schreiber at ATOI Meet

Ed Schreiber, War Activities Committee publicity director, will address a meeting of Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana at Indianapolis today on WAC war effort activities.

36,000 Tickets Given Weekly

Chicago, Oct. 25.—In two years Service Men's Centers here have given over 2,000,000 free tickets to Chicago film theatres. The program has been stepped up to the point where a weekly total of 36,000 tickets for amusements are being given away.

Although tickets for other events are also available, the preference is for motion pictures as evidenced by the fact that over 80 per cent of the requests are for film tickets.

Interest in Stars Drops, Say Fans

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 25.—Fan interest in the screen, once focused on stars to the extent of 90 per cent, has shifted strongly to production in the past 10 years, with the result that interest in stars now stands at 60 per cent, while production comment and queries have risen to 40 per cent, it was revealed in a Warner Bros. studio fan mail survey.

"For the first time in a decade, nearly half the correspondence received showed a sound critical outlook on films and an intelligent concern with problems in production in general," it was said.

The survey offered evidence that the public is not averse to war effort films. Only eight per cent of those commenting gave expression in favor of pure escapist entertainment.

Fan age group, which fell roughly into the 12-18 year bracket before the war, has shifted to a larger percentag of mail from older filmgoers. Mail from soldiers and sailors is particularly heavy, and, according to Warners, 67 per cent of the servicemen were as much interested in productions as in "cheesecake" art.

Another First Run For Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 25.—Minnesota Amusement Co. will lease and reopen the Minnesota Theatre, 4,000-seater dark for several years since that company dropped its lease.

Andrus estate, part owner of the building, has acquired interests of others. Minnesota Amusement meanwhile has offered settlement of a suit by trustees of the Minneapolis Theatre Co., which charged Minnesota Amusement and major film companies with preventing the theatre from getting suitable product.

Settlement has been accepted subject to court approval. With court approval a new lease will be signed at a rental figure much lower than that previously paid when the theatre was a Northwest show place.

M-G-M Tradeshows

Trade showings of four M-G-M pictures will take place here within the next two weeks. "Lost Angels" will be screened Friday, Oct. 29; "Cry Havoc," Monday, Nov. 1; "Right About Face," Friday, Nov. 5, and "The Cross of Lorraine," Monday, Nov. 8.

Charles E. Sullivan, Ex-RKO Official

QUINCY, Mass., Oct. 25.—Charles E. Sullivan, 54, retired RKO vice-president and a former associate of Joseph P. Kennedy, died late last week at his home here after a long illness.

A one-time shipyard general manager, Sullivan, in 1926, became associated with Kennedy in the film industry, holding the post of assistant treasurer and later becoming manager of exchange operations of FBO Pictures. In 1927, he was sent by FBO to manage studio operations on the Coast, becoming a vice-president and served in a similar capacity for RKO, which succeeded FBO, until his retirement.

Harrison Carter, 'U' Writer, Dies at 52

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 25.—Harrison (Nick) Carter, for the past 20 years a motion picture writer, died here Saturday, following a heart attack at the age of 52. When taken ill, he was working on a story for Universal which he had sold to the company just a week ago.

Carter, during his stay here, worked for many of the major companies. In 1939, he sold Republic the idea from which the feature "Calling All Marines" was made. In 1940, he collaborated on the screenplay of "Midnight Limited," which Monogram released.

Chris. Dunphy's Wife Dies in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 25.—Mrs. Rebecca T. Dunphy, wife of Christopher Dunphy, who resigned last summer from the post of chief of the amusement section of the War Production Board and before that was a well-known film executive, died late last week at the Park Lane Hospital following a long illness. She was buried today from the estate of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Thomson in nearby Rosemont.

Hold Services for Kaufman of B. & K.

CHICAGO, Oct. 25.—Funeral services were held today for Abraham J. Kaufman, booker and buyer for Balaban and Katz for the last 25 years, and previously with the old Lubliner and Trinz circuit, who died at the weekend at the age of 59.

Kaufman leaves a widow, Gertrude; son, Joseph; daughter, Phylis Rosenberg, two sisters and two brothers.

Russell J. Hoffman, Sr.

LYONS, N. J., Oct. 25.—Russell J. Hoffman, Sr., an auditor for RCA for 20 years, died here at the weekend in U. S. Veterans Hospital. He was 49. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Martha Low; a son, Petty Officer Russell Hoffman, Jr., of the Navy; two daughters, Audrey and Elizabeth Ann Hoffman, and his mother, Mrs. Annie Hoffman.

Sam Marcus Passes

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 25.—Sam Marcus, father of Ben Marcus, general manager of the Marcus and Swirnoff circuit, died here following a short illness.

Short Subject Review

"Youth in Crisis"

(March of Time)

Another treatment of the proble of rising juvenile delinquency and th measures being advocated for correc ing the situation is March of Time basis for its latest release, "Yout in Crisis." Appalling number of ju venile crimes is attributed to a lac of wholesome home atmosphere, whic results from a nation geared to al out war effort. Complete in it handling of the subject, the film bring out the details of the juvenile crim wave in all its stark realism and show steps being taken to curb the upwar trend of delinquency. There is muc moving drama in the release, whic provides plenty of food for though Excellent direction and fine photogra phy make for a very good shor Running time, 18 mins. Release dat Nov. 5.

'Iron Major' Gets Boston Sendof

BOSTON, Oct. 25.—RKO-Radio' "The Iron Major" had its world pre miere here last night, culminating heavy campaign.

Advance promotion included a spe cial memorial football game yester day between Boston College and U. S. Army team, and the honorin of Pat O'Brien, who portrays the lat Frank Cavanaugh in the film. Rut Warrick arrived from Hollywoo with Charles W. Koerner, RKO vice president in charge of production, an Mrs. Koerner, for the opening, an was guest today with O'Brien at buffet dinner given by Ned E. Depi net.

Wheeler Gets D. C. Classics Franchis

New Wheeler Film Corp. of Wash ington, an exchange, has acquired th Washington franchise of Filr Classics, according to Irvin Shapir general manager of Film Classics, an Sam Wheeler, head of Wheeler Filn

Product includes seven Whitney Selznick pictures, three Hal Roac re-issues starring Laurel & Hardy and "Hara Kiri."

Para. Sets Second Block Trade Show

Paramount's second block of fou features will be tradeshown on Nov 4 and 5, according to Neil Agnew general sales manager.

With a few exceptions, screening will be held at Paramount exchanges with "Riding High" and "Henr Aldrich Haunts a House" being show Nov. 4, and "Miracle of Morgan' Creek" and "Minesweeper" bein screened Nov. 5.

Sam Clark Back at W.B

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 25.—Sam Clark recently loaned to the Jack Benn unit, returned yesterday to Warne Brothers as exploitation manager fo the West.

'U' Promotes Monsky

Mayer Monsky, salesman working out of the Universal exchange in Des Moines, has been appointed branc manager in Denver.

Johnny' $15,500 At Cincinnati Run

CINCINNATI, Oct. 25.—Despite the outdoor lure of Indian Summer weather, weekend business showed an improvement with "Johnny Come Lately," at the RKO Albee in the high bracket with an estimated $15,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 27-30:

"Johnny Come Lately" (U. A.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average, $15,800).

"Crazy House" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $12,600).

"Sahara" (Col.)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week moveover from Palace. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $5,000).

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average at 33c-40c-44c-55c, $6,200).

"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $5,000).

"Top Man" (Univ.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week moveover from Albee. Gross: $4,500. (Average, $3,900).

"Adventure in Iraq" (W.B.)
"Outlaws of Stampede Pass" (Mono.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 4 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average, $1,400).

"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
"The Good Fellows" (Para.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 days. Gross: $850. (Average, $800).

"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 2nd week. Gross: $5,300. (Average, $5,200).

Kranz Denies Deal

Charles Kranz, Film Classics representative, denies that he has been appointed Globe Film distribution representative for "Power of God" in New York State as reported from Chicago yesterday.

Review

"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith"

(*Universal*)

Hollywood, Oct. 25

THE studio gave Allan Jones the assistance of "The Kings Men" for the vocal chores which are the principal obligations of this presentation, plus Evelyn Ankers and Billie Burke to round out the billing, but it's a dip below norm for the company's minor-musical series notwithstanding these arrangements. Lack of humor in the screenplay by Lawrence Riley, Ben Barzman and Louis Lantz, who based it on a story by Oscar Brodney, is perhaps mainly accountable for the sag.

Film is about an heiress who must marry by midnight to conform with terms of a will and who marries a soldier she meets on a train, delayed en transit, with intent to annul the ceremony subsequently. Some 64 minutes and eight musical numbers later she decides to stay married to him. The eight songs are familiars and the handling does little for them.

Felix E. Keist, directing for associate producer Edward Lilley, turned in a routine job. Other plays in the film are David Bruce, Patsy O'Connor, Stanley Clements, Luis Alberni, Francis Pierlot, Harry Hayden and Mantan Moreland.

Running time, 64½ minutes. "G."* WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Music Mountain' in St. Louis Opening

Republic's "Man From Music Mountain" will have a St. Louis opening at the Fox Nov. 4, attended by a heavy advertising and publicity campaign. More than 60 theatres in that territory will play Rogers productions in connection with the campaign.

Radio spot announcements will be made over St. Louis stations, boosting the first-run showing and calling attention to the other Rogers film vehicles playing in the area.

400 to Hear Coe

MONTREAL, Oct. 25. — Charles Francis Coe, vice-president and general counsel for the M. P. Producers and Distributors of America, will be here on Wednesday as the guest of the Advertising and Sales Executives Club.

Coe will also confer with film executives and will speak before the club's Wednesday luncheon at the Mount Royal Hotel, on "A New World Challenges the Screen." Four hundred are expected to attend, 200 from the Montreal film industry.

'Lady' with a Show Tops at $19,000

BALTIMORE, Oct. 25—Weekend business slumped slightly giving total box office receipts a setback. Three major holdovers, besides bigtime football and horse racing are thought to have interfered with attendance at theatres. "A Lady Takes a Chance" and a stage show top the list with $19,000 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 28:

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average, $15,000).

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (75c and $1.10), 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average, at regular prices, $11,900).

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (15c-28c-35c-55c) 8 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $9,300).

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (W.B.)
STANLEY — (3,280) (15c-28c-39c-44c-55c and 60c weekends), 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $15,100).

"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
HIPPODROME — (2,205) (15c-28c-39c-44c-55c-66c), 7 days. Stage show: Jan Murray, Caryl Gould, The Imaginators, Carr Bros., Roll & Verna Pickert. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $16,500).

"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (20c-40c), 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $6,100).

$118,000 for Army

CHICAGO, Oct. 25.—Army Emergency Relief will receive $118,000 from the four-week run of "This Is the Army," which ended at the Chicago Theatre last week. The picture will return to the Loop for a moveover engagement at either the Apollo or Garrick Theatres following "Wintertime."

Men were wildcatters and fought like wildcats.

'Sparrow' Swell At $27,500 in San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 25.—Strong attractions kept business high all around the downtown area, with the Golden Gate's $27,500 tops on "Fallen Sparrow" and D'Artega's all-girl orchestra on stage. "Wintertime," paired with "Hoosier Holiday," rang up $26,400 at the Fox, with "Phantom of the Opera" off to a fast $19,000 at the Orpheum.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 19-20:

"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $22,500. (Average, $18,600)
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
ALCAZAR—(1,149) (25c-55c-75c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $10,000)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (85c-$1.65) 7 days. 7th week. Gross: $23,500. (Average, $15,700)
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
"Boy From Stalingrad" (Col.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (20c-35c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,700. (Average, $10,100)
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $12,700)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"Hoosier Holiday" (Rep.)
FOX—(5,000) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $26,400. (Average, $21,100)
"Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (35c-44c-75c) 7 days. Stage: Vaudeville. Gross: $27,500. (Average, $24,500)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
"A Scream in the Dark" (Rep.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week (moveover from Fox). Gross: $12,000. (Average, $9,800)

Fox Theatre Sold

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 25.—The 16-story Fox Theatre and building, Warner-operated first-run house in the center city, has been sold by Girard Trust Co., trustee for the estate of Israel Morris, to a Fox-Pennsylvania corporation for $1,300,000. Dan Michalove is president of the purchasing corporation. The house will continue to be operated by Warners.

Freed Heads Union

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 25. — Harold Freed, United Artists shipper, was elected president of Local B-41, exchange employes at its annual election meeting here. Robert Hoffman, 20th-Fox shipper, was reelected business agent, and Marie Smith, Vitagraph, was elected vice-president; Peter Pius, M-G-M, treasurer; Frances Lee, Vitagraph, secretary, and Stanley Criscuolo, National Screen, sergeant-at-arms.

N.J. Allied Dinner Nov. 4

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will hold a Fall dinner at the Ritz Restaurant, Passaic, N. J., Thursday evening, Nov. 4, at 7 o'clock, Harry Lowenstein, president of the organization has announced. All branches of the industry will be invited.

Weingarden Selling

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 25.—Leon Weingarden, former United Artists' salesman, is back in the northern Wisconsin territory for Columbia to fill in while Tom MacAvoy is on a leave of absence

Theatre Changes

First Woman Manager

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Oct. 25.—Cleta Bowman, former assistant manager of the Grand here, has been promoted to manager, succeeding the late H. E. Schiller. She becomes the first woman manager in the city. Wallace Kemp, manager of the Capitol, replaces Schiller as city manager for Tri-States Theatres.

Buys Two Houses

ISHPEMING, Mich., Oct. 25.—J. J. Rythkonen, owner of theatres in nearby Negaunee, has purchased the Butler and Ishpeming, here, which have been in the hands of receivers for a year. Both houses are being booked through M. P. Theatre Service Co., Milwaukee.

Crane Manages Capitol

SIOUX CITY, Oct. 25.—Ira Crane, former Princess manager, succeeds Donald Shane, transferred to Omaha, as manager of the Capitol. New Princess manager is William Egan, former assistant at the Capitol.

Warners Reopen Cadet

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 25. — Warner circuit has re-opened the Cadet, neighborhood house, for week-ends only. The theatre had been closed all summer.

Penn Square Reopens

CLEVELAND, Oct. 25.—E. Stutz, manager of the Circle Theatre, reopened the Penn Square Theatre with its former foreign picture policy.

Orpheum Becomes Independent

GREEN BAY, Wis., Oct. 25.—The Orpheum, formerly a Fox house, is now being independently operated by the Minahan Trust estate. Russ Eddy has been retained as manager.

Manager Enters Service

CLEVELAND, Tenn., Oct. 25.—Charles R. McGehee, assistant manager of the Princess here for three years, succeeds E. G. Hembree, who has entered the armed forces.

Rialto Reopened

DES MOINES, Oct. 25.—Tri-States Theatres has re-opened the Rialto, closed for a year, and closed the Strand which needed repairs and equipment not procurable at this time.

New Theatre Opens in Iowa

DUNLAP, Ia., Oct. 25.—Carl Worl has opened a new theatre, the Royal, here.

Philadelphia Changes

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 25. — Several managerial changes in circuit and independent houses have been made here. In the Warner circuit, Earl Schaeffer, former manager of the Richmond, succeeds Dave Seaman at the Midway. Jack Keefer, assistant at the Aldine, was transferred to the Earle, succeeding Phil Wexler, now in the Army. Helen Pelechowiz, Lyric cashier, Camden, was promoted to assistant manager at the Grand, in Camden. She succeeds Samuel Gamburg. In independent circuits, Joe Sapsis, formerly of the Hetelson operations, has joined the Sam Stiefel organization. Irving Phillips is the new manager of the Cedar and Morris Phillips will manage the 56th Street, both Lewen Pizor houses.

Annisman Promoted

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 25. — Martin Annisman, manager of Warners' Cross-Keys Theatre, has been named manager of the circuit's State. Frank Costell, former manager of Henry Friedman's Lansdowne, succeeds Annisman at Cross-Keys, while Fred Boas, formerly of the Avon, is the new Lansdowne manager.

Church Buys Theatre

WALNUT BEACH, Conn., Oct. 25.—The 350-seat Tower Theatre, operated for the past eight years as a summer theatre, has been sold by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Smith to St. Gabriel's Church as a social and school building. The Smiths continue to operate the Colonial.

Patch to Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Oct. 25.—William Patch, former assistant at the Roger Sherman, New Haven, is the new manager of the Arch Theatre, redecorated and re-furnished. The theatre opened with "This Is the Army."

Warners Gets Another

SHEBOYGAN, Wis., Oct. 25. — The Van der Vaart, formerly operated by Nick Johnson, has been taken over by the Warner circuit.

New Sound Equipment

LOGAN, Ia., Oct. 25.—L. H. Ireland has installed new sound equipment at the Logan Theatre here.

Fulton Rialto Sold

FULTON, Ill., Oct. 25.—Blaire Sturgeon has sold the Rialto here to W. Langworthy.

Du Pont Gets 'E'

PARLIN, N. J., Oct. 25.—The Army-Navy "E" will be presented to employes of the photo products department, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., at ceremonies to be held here at the local plant on Nov. 5, the company announced. Du Pont photo products have been supplying the armed forces with increasing amounts of photographic film of many types.

Fuel Quandary in Conn.

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 25.—Exhibitors who converted from oil to coal are concerned about the present low supplies of coal in this area and the denial of petitions to reconvert to oil. Complicating the problem is also the difficulty of obtaining janitor service for theatres.

Epidemic in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Oct. 25.—Spinal meningitis has assumed epidemic proportions in Cleveland, Health Commissioner Harold J. Knapp warns. There have been 106 cases reported since Jan. 1, whereas the average number of cases for the past five years has been 12 a year. Knapp advises against overcrowded places.

John Wein Resigns

CLEVELAND, Oct. 25.—John C. Wein, for 28 years in RKO's and Pathe's shipping departments, has resigned to devote all of his time to Locals B-5 and F-5 here. Wein organized B-5 six years ago and has been president of the local four terms and business manager for three.

'Hail' High at $60,000 in Chicago Loop

CHICAGO, Oct. 25.—New pictures are setting a terrific pace in the Loop this week. "So Proudly We Hail" with a B. & K. "Pan-American Revue" on the stage will draw about $60,000 at the Chicago Theatre. "Phantom of the Opera" and "You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" opened to record crowds at the Palace.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 28:

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox) 7 days
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox) 4 days
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: $11,000. (Average, $10,000)
"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: B. & K. Pan-American Revue. Gross: $60,000. (Average, $43,000)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox) 7 days
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox) 4 days
GARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: $14,000. (Average, $8,500)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO) 1 day, 4th week in Loop
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO) 1 day, 4th week in Loop
"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO) 6 days, 2nd week in Loop
"Petticoat Larceny" (RKO) 6 days, 2nd week in Loop
GRAND—(1,150) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $8,000)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days. Stage: Eddy Howard and his orchestra. Gross: $27,000. (Average, $22,000)
"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO) 1 day
"Petticoat Larceny" (RKO) 1 day
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.) 6 days
"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.) 6 days
PALACE — (2,500) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c). Gross: $29,000. (Average, $19,000)
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB) 5 days, 5th week
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M) 2 days
ROOSEVELT—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $17,000)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.) 6 days, 8th week
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox) 1 day
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-75c-85c-$1.10). Gross: $28,000. (Average, $23,000)
"Heaven Can Wait" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $18,000)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
"Murder at the Waterfront" (WB)
WOODS—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $7,500)

Mexican Industry Expects Wage Rise

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 25. — General wage increase has been ordered by President Camacho for all Mexican workers whose daily earnings do not exceed $2. The increase is scaled from 50 per cent down to five per cent, depending upon the individual's earning power.

Employees of the eight major American film companies operating in Mexico received a sharp increase two years ago and it is understood that they will receive another upon the expiration of their contract.

Theatre Ads Cut 50%

LANCASTER, O., Oct. 25.—Theatre advertising will be reduced 50 per cent here when the *Eagle-Gazette*, evening daily, freezes its subscription list as of Nov. 1.

Mrs. J. Kaufman, Booker

CLEVELAND, Oct. 25. — Mrs. Joe Kaufman, widow of the former local Universal branch manager, has been appointed short subject booker here for the Universal exchange.

AVOID TAX HEADACHES

The 1943 Internal Revenue Act makes it more necessary than ever for everybody in business to keep complete and accurate records.

The new Tax Withholding is an added accounting responsibility.

No matter how large or how small the business is the U. S. Treasury requires complete records of Defense Tax collections, of payroll expenditures, of Income Tax deductions, and regular reports on income, expenditures and profits.

Theatre Management Record and Tax Register provides a practical and simple accounting system, requires no bookkeeping expense, eliminates tax headaches and avoids ultimate complications.

Theatre Management Record and Tax Register is a proven accounting system for motion picture theatres and it is sold with a money back guarantee.

We are prepared to supply a limited number of orders without delay.

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SEND YOUR CHECK TODAY TO

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MY COMPLIMENTS to NEW YORK MOTION PICTURE CRITICS...

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New York Post

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THANKS SO MUCH... for those wonderful reviews!

HOWARD HAWKS'
MIGHTY PRODUCTION
"CORVETTE K-225"
starring RANDOLPH SCOTT with
James BROWN • Noah BEERY, Jr. • Barry FITZGERALD
Andy DEVINE • Fuzzy KNIGHT • David BRUCE
Thomas GOMEZ • Richard LANE and Ella RAINES
Directed by RICHARD ROSSON • Produced by HOWARD HAWKS
Original Screen Play, John Rhodes Sturdy, Lieut. R. C. N. V. R.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

.. 54. NO. 82 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1943 | TEN CENTS

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rst Company ecree Draft oes to U. S.

Re-offered Tomorrow After Revision

ASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—The written proposals for changes he consent decree to be made the five consenting companies, gh incomplete, were brought to Department of Justice here today heads of the companies or their esentatives.

the group which came here from York for today's meeting with stant U. S. Attorney Generals C. Clark and Robert L. Wright, : Nicholas M. Schenck, Spyros uras, N. Peter Rathvon, Joseph en, Austin C. Keough, represent- Barney Balaban, who is in Hol- pod, and John F. Caskey, attorney 20th Century-Fox.

he group brought with them some the proposals which Clark had d them to prepare but apparently nged their mind with regard to two ions and asked that they be given to rewrite them. The Depart-

(*Continued on page* 11)

hich State Dep't rief? MPPDA Asks

We are presenting suggestions to State Department all the time," l E. Milliken, head of the MPPDA eign department, said yesterday, en asked for comment on a pub- ed story that a brief pertaining to relation of the motion picture to nation's postwar economic struc- e had been filed by the MPPDA h the State Department.

The nature of foreign trade at this

(*Continued on page* 11)

0th-Fox Bond Sale Hit $59,461,525

Twentieth Century-Fox, headed by yros P. Skouras, and its subsidi- es including National Theatres, ded by Charles P. Skouras, sold 9,461,525 in war bonds during the ent Third War Loan campaign, company reported yesterday in a al tabulation.

Corporate purchases were $10,100,- 0; purchase by the public through sale of bonds and stamps at the- es of National and its subsidiaries, re $48,150,000, and purchases by em- yees amounted to $1,211,525.

Gruen Retires As Treasurer of NSS

Toby Gruen, treasurer of National Screen Service, who has been ill over the past six months has, upon advice of physicians, relinquished his post as treasurer, effective Nov. 1. He will, however, continue as NSS vice-president and director.

Gruen was one of the founders of National Screen and has been active in its management since its inception in 1920. His financial interest in the organization will remain unchanged.

Jack G. Leo, NSS executive, will succeed him as treasurer.

Browne Tells How Chicago 'Racket' Became National

George E. Browne, former president of the IATSE, who rose to the highest councils of the American Federation of Labor by placing the direction of his career in the hands of the Capone mob in Chicago, took the witness stand yesterday in the extortion trial of seven members of the mob and a Newark labor leader.

To the obvious discomfiture of the defendants, Browne launched into a corroboration of the story which was two weeks in telling by William Bioff, who declared that he and Browne shook down the motion picture industry for $1,000,000, acting as stooges for the Capone gang. Browne related incidents of his early life, from Western Union messenger boy to business

(*Continued on page* 11)

HOUSE BODY VOTES HIGHER TICKET TAX

Canada Drops Extra Shows To Save Fuel

TORONTO, Oct. 26.—Canadian exhibitors today agreed to eliminate all "extra" shows for the duration to save fuel.

Recently Sunday night midnight shows were abandoned, but the new action means the dropping also of all war charity, film and other performances, benefits, concerts, film shows on Sunday or any other time for auxiliary organizations or clubs, and shows for or under the auspices of any government branch.

Member exhibitors of the M. P. Theatres Association, representing both independent theatres and circuit houses, joined in the move as part of

(*Continued on page* 11)

RKO-FWC Deal for 3-House Tieup Set

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 26.—Legal angles involving the leasing of the Carthay Circle by RKO Theatres are understood to have been ironed out here today. The deal reputedly was delayed while Fox-West Coast Theatres acquired the property in order to lease the house to RKO.

Operation of the Carthay Circle will

(*Continued on page* 11)

Approves Increase from 10 to 30 Per Cent On Admissions

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—House Ways and Means Committee voted today to increase the tax on admissions from one cent to three cents on each ten cents, one of the few instances so far in which the committee has accepted the recommendation of the Treasury Department.

In voting to treble the tax on admissions, the committee turned down a proposal by its own experts to tax admissions at the rate of two cents on each 15 cents.

Treasury estimates submitted Oct. 4 placed the additional revenue to be derived from the proposed three cent ticket tax rate at $327,000,000 annually, but exhibitor representatives who appeared before the committee Oct. 13 warned that the trebling of the tax would not result in trebling the revenue, and expressed fears that the higher rate would cause them to lose an appreciable part of their business.

Ed Kuykendall, president of the

(*Continued on page* 11)

Myers Says Salary Lists Inopportune

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26. — The "strange coincidence" of the Treasury Department's reports of motion picture salaries being released to newspapers at times when industry representatives are engaged in Congressional hearings is remarked upon by Abram F. Myers, Allied States board chairman and general counsel, in an organizational bulletin made public today.

"Whether by accident or design,"

(*Continued on page* 11)

Buzzell Quits After Long Labor Fight

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 26.—J. W. (Ed) Buzzell, secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles Central Labor Council (AFL) for the past 19 years, resigned last night after a fight of more than a year by leading studio unions to remove him from the council. Screen Actors Guild, musicians, studio drivers, screen set designers and painters, withdrew from the CLC when Buzzell refused to step out.

SAG had left after he allegedly ex-

(*Continued on page* 13)

Films Comprise 80% of Troops Entertainment

Committee of 23 to Aid Nat'l War Fund

Presidents of the film companies, circuits and other industry organizations have pledged cooperation to Sam Rinzler, New York chairman for the M. P. industry's participation in the National War Fund, and have named company executives to assist in the drive.

Those named to date are: at 20th Century-Fox, J. Harold Lang and Ray Moon; Warner Bros., Ralph Budd, Clarence Eisman; Loew's,

(*Continued on page* 11)

Motion pictures comprise 80 per cent of the entertainment enjoyed by combat area troops in the European war zone, Adolphe Menjou, who just returned from a five-month U.S.O. tour in that area, reported yesterday. Some of the newer pictures which our fighting men are seeing are: "Heaven Can Wait," "This Is the Army," "Roxie Hart," and "You Were Never Lovelier."

"The troops are hungry for entertainment," Menjou stated during an interview at U.S.O. headquarters here, "and they want the newest pictures in

(*Continued on page* 13)

Personal Mention

DAVID BERNSTEIN, vice president and treasurer of M-G-M, and JOSEPH R. VOGEL, Loew Theatres' vice president in charge of out-of-town theatre operations, were recent visitors in Springfield, Mass., Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury, accompanied by HARRY F. SHAW, Loew division manager.

•

ARTHUR GREENBLATT, PRC vice president in charge of sales, will leave tomorrow on a tour of exchanges, returning Dec. 11.

•

FRANK BOUCHER, general manager of the K-B Amusement Co., Washington, and MRS. BOUCHER, are here on their honeymoon.

•

FRANK H. SMITH, Paramount branch manager in Salt Lake City, is in a hospital there for a minor operation.

•

JACK SCHWARTZ, operator of the West End, Bridgeport, is a New York visitor.

•

ED HINCHY, head of the Warner playdate department, will leave for Chicago today.

•

ROBERT LIPPERT, owner of the Lippert Theatres, San Francisco, left here yesterday for the Coast.

•

MARJORIE MORROW, of the Warner talent department, will be in Philadelphia today and tomorrow.

•

F. A. VAN HUSEN, owner of the Western Theatre Supply Co., Omaha, is on an Eastern trip.

•

AARON ROTTMAN, assistant manager of the Community, Fairfield, Conn., reports to the Army Nov. 10.

•

IRVING BERLIN has arrived in London.

•

LOU LUSTY, of Universal, left for Cincinnati yesterday.

•

JACK MYERS has returned to Boston from New York.

Hold Isaac Libson Rites in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Oct. 26.—Funeral services for Isaac Libson, Midwest divisional manager for RKO, were held here today at Weil Bros. Funeral Home.

Among those attending were J. J. O'Connor, Frank McCarthy and Hank Linet of Universal; Major L. E. Thompson, E. L. Alperson and H. J. Michalson of RKO, all of New York; David Miller, Universal; Charles Rich, Warners, Charles Boasberg, RKO, and William Sirball, all of Cleveland; John Maloney, M-G-M, and John Harris, both Pittsburgh; Harris P. Wolfberg St. Louis, and Jack Flynn, Chicago.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Oct. 26

THE persistence with which angles on "Wilson" and "One World" have been making this column boils down to the widespread interest both of these projects have created in Hollywood and elsewhere. Not only are these about-to-be-attractions in the pattern of controversial films by Darryl F. Zanuck's own statement. They reach beyond and by an easy haul roll into the rapidly-growing classification of super-budgeteers.

The first flash on "Wilson" at $3,000,000, which appeared in this space last Wednesday, opened a number of eyes here. Even in Hollywood, where the lavish hand is anything but stilled, an impression was created. Corny maybe, but cryptic surely, was the consolidated reaction, "That's an awful lot of dough."

■

"Wilson" for the Democrats ties to "One World" for the Republicans in several ways, partly by accident. No. 1 to go will be the former which, according to Zanuck, will be in less than three weeks now. "One World" takes second place for reasons.

It would not be the first occasion by many that a topline producer had two top pictures in work at the same time. There is nothing to indicate, furthermore, that Zanuck would not if he were able to manage it. He cannot manage it, however, for good and substantial causes.

■

The script for "One World" will not be ready before March, roughly. Zanuck says so. By that time, "Wilson" will be practically off the stages and the screen play compounded from the Willkie book ready to go on. Calendar-wise and by present calculations, always subject to change in Hollywood, the end of "Wilson," therefore, will mark the approximate beginning of "One World."

Shooting schedule on the latter, once more according to Zanuck, will run from March through April certainly and into May, probably. Editing and scoring will run an easy month, minimum, beyond the final shot. At its earliest, "One World" cannot reach the market before June 15.

■

There is purpose behind this program of detail. It has been reported Willkie's recent stay here brought into the clearing very definite views about the treatment of his book. He wanted a soft pedal applied insofar as he plays a part in it. He insisted he was not to be glorified as an individual prognosticating cure-alls for all this troubled world's difficulties. He preferred to have scenes handled so that they illustrated his beliefs, but with the answers left in the hands of audiences to formulate. Thought-provoking and conclusion-reaching by suggestion, in a manner of speaking.

Much of this is true, and about these various approaches considerable discussion was indulged. Zanuck, for one matter, pointed out the film could not be "One World" unless it reflected its original, meaning by this that it had to be heavily Willkie; otherwise, there was no point in starting. The understanding is Willkie was convinced slowly, but finally was convinced.

■

Published was a report Willkie insisted there could be no release of the finished job until after the Republicans had determined upon their Presidential nominee. On this score, there is substantial reason to believe the insistence was essentially academic. The key rests in that program of detail outlined with diligence earlier: The picture won't be ready.

The natural question flowing from this is, "Would 'One World' be released before, or during, nomination time if Zanuck could possibly complete it by then?"

For an answer, read what another Fox executive says:

"What good will the picture be in any other year but next?"

■

Sideline note: Willkie will not appear in the film, nor will he be heard in it. A professional actor will play the part.

■ ■

Metro will go ahead with the remake of "If Winter Comes," the A. S. M. Hutchinson novel of the First World War, but no one will perch on any limb about the season of release. Pandro Berman has the production assignment and Robert Donat the starring role. The picture will be made in England where production is a dubious equation in war times.

■ ■

New York *Times* headline: "WEST COAST GETS BACK NIGHT SPORTS."

When did it give them up?

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 26

WITH the arrival here of O. Henry Briggs, PRC president, Leon Fromkess, PRC production head, will delay his New York trip to December.

•

Betty Grable will star in 20th-Fox's "Diamond Horseshoe" after she gives birth to her expected child, the company announced today. William Perlberg will produce. William Bacher has been assigned to produce "Tower of Steel" for 20th.

•

Warners today announced the purchase of "Night Action," a play by Capt. Norman Krasna. Jerry Wald will produce and Helmut Dantine will be starred.

•

Henry Grover, formerly with the Monogram exchange in Atlanta, has received a medical discharge from the Army and will return to the distributor in charge of Southern exchanges.

•

John Houseman today was assigned to produce "Victoria Grandolet" at Paramount. Talbot Jennings is scripting.

•

Charles P. Skouras, Fox West Coast head, was today reelected Los Angeles Variety Club barker.

•

Dinah Shore today was signed for the lead in "Belle of the Yukon," International's first.

•

Leo Spitz will leave here on Friday for the East.

•

Elia Kazan, stage director, has arrived in Hollywood from the East.

350 to Entertain at 'Night of Stars'

About 350 persons will entertain during the "Night of Stars" show for the United Jewish Appeal for refugees, overseas needs and Palestine at Madison Square Garden Nov. 16, Robert M. Weitman, chairman of the producing committee, announced yesterday. Nathan Straus is chairman of the event. Honorary chairmen include Mayor LaGuardia, Albert Einstein, Dr. Stephen B. Wise and Grover Whelan.

Among those scheduled to appear are: Joan Blondell, John Boles, Billie Burke, Danny Kaye, Paul Robeson, Frank Sinatra, Bea Wain, Fred Waring and the Gae Foster Roxyettes.

Memorial on Nov. 5 For George M. Cohan

Memorial Mass will be sung at 10:30 A.M., Friday, Nov. 5, for George M. Cohan, at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, on West 71st St. The services will also be read in memory of "George M.'s" mother, Helen, his father, Jerry, and his sister, Josephine.

Friends of George Cohan from stage and screen and from many walks of public and private life will attend.

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MARQUEE TALK!

"Congratulations! I hear you've booked M-G-M's 'I DOOD IT,' the first M-G-M film you ever had!"

"Sure! I've been noticing what these M-G-M pictures do at your house!"

"You mean 'LASSIE COME HOME' for instance. First 2-weeks top 'Mrs. Miniver' and going strong in its 3rd technicolorful week!"

"Wait till our patrons get an eyeful of 'I DOOD IT,' M-G-M dood it again!"

Let's listen to Leo!"

"He holds the long run record in my house!"

"Gents, it takes BIG pictures to play in your great theatres. I'm proud to roar on your screens. I'm making more BIG shows than ever before. 'SALUTE TO THE MARINES' is setting hold-over records; 'BEST FOOT FORWARD' is terrific; and next 'GIRL CRAZY'; then watch for 'THOUSANDS CHEER'—that's just a few of many!"

love a 'LASSIE'!"

"I love 'I DOOD IT'!"

"It's FUN to be FRIENDLY!"

"The name Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer means more in the motion picture business than any other single name."
Quotation from LIFE Magazine

Let's All Give!
ional War Fund—
ich Gives To All!

Agnew Lists 40 More '43-44 Circuit Deals

Paramount's first block of features for 1943-44 has been bought by an additional number of independent circuits, Neil Agnew, general sales manager of the company, announced yesterday. Films include: "Let's Face It," "True to Life," "Hostages," "The Good Fellows" and "Tornado."

Following additional circuit deals were announced: New York metropolitan area circuits, including Associated Theatres of New Jersey, Brandt Theatres, J. J. Theatres, Randforce (Frisch and Rinzler), Skouras, Century, Fabian, Prudential (Joseph Seider), Cocalis, Harry Harris, Leo Brecher, Cinema Circuit (Max A. Cohen), Consolidated Theatres of New Jersey.

Additional independent circuits in the Western division which have bought the first block are: Sterling, Seattle; William Forman, Portland; Simons, Salt Lake; E. E. Griffith, Dallas; Central States, Des Moines and Omaha; Ben Marcus, Milwaukee; Ralph Talbot, Oklahoma City; Hall Circuit, Dallas; Louis Long Circuit, Dallas; DeMordaunt-Drennan Circuit, Salt Lake; Harris-Voeller Circuit, Salt Lake; Huish Circuit, Salt Lake; George Hunt Circuit, Portland.

Additional independent circuit deals in the Midwest and Eastern Divisions include: Co-operative, Cleveland; Miles, Cleveland; Sidney Lust, Washington; Hicks Theatres, Baltimore; Allison, Pittsburgh; Alpine Theatres, West Virginia; Manos, Pittsburgh; William Goldman, Philadelphia; Affiliated Circuit, Philadelphia; Hunt's Theatres, New Jersey; Atlantic Theatres, Philadelphia; Martin Ellis, Philadelphia; Ashmun, Detroit; Fourth Avenue Amusements (Fred Dolle), Louisville, and Indianapolis; Legendre, Charlotte.

Honor Pat O'Brien

Pat O'Brien will be honored at a dinner tonight by the city of Worcester, Mass., as a prelude to the premiere there of RKO Radio's "The Iron Major" at Warner's theatre, the company announced here yesterday. More than 500 prominent Worcesterites will attend the dinner, including the Mayor, dean and faculty of Holy Cross College and Mrs. Frank Cavanaugh. O'Brien is scheduled to leave tomorrow for personal appearances in New Haven and Bridgeport.

Gifts for Para. Men

All of the 405 former Paramount home office and exchange employes in the armed forces will receive a Christmas gift package from the company. Seventy packages have been shipped overseas in time to reach Army men at the holiday.

Packages were prepared by the home office servicemen's committee, of which Harold Lagar is chairman, and a corps of girl volunteers.

Party at Canteen

Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington and the "Four Ink Spots" will head entertainment at the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild Silver Screen Canteen at the Fraternal Clubhouse in New York tonight, with music furnished by the U. S. Signal Corps Photographic Center band.

Review

"Guadalcanal Diary"

(20th Century-Fox)

Hollywood, Oct. 26

A HARD-HITTING, hard-bitten, realistic film about the war in the South Pacific is this production drawn from Richard Tregaskis' reportorial best-seller of the first landing force on Guadalcanal one year ago August. "Guadalcanal Diary" covers the approximate two months of the initial assault terminating with the original Marines moving out and the Army replacing.

War being war, the area covered matches the ground of earlier films with the same outline and reminds strongly of "Wake Island." On a merit basis, this rates substantial box-office success, and this reviewer so casts his vote. Whether its niche in the market will be seriously conditioned by predecessor attractions dealing with war, however, is a finality which time only can demonstrate.

Newspaper dispatches have told this glowing military saga in stern terms—of the rain, the vermin, the disease, the mud, the jungle-hidden enemy and his treacherous, anti-covenant fighting tactics. The film does a highly worthy job of translating all of this to life by a straightforward, narrative style in terms of a particularized group of fighting men, and also in terms of documentary values.

The characters are familiars. Preston Foster is the Catholic chaplain; Lloyd Nolan, the tough, but human, top sergeant. William Bendix is a former Brooklyn taxi driver; Anthony Quinn, an avenging fighting man, and Richard Jaeckel, the baby soldier of the troop. They land, find no Japs to fight, lull themselves into foolish security and later learn through hard experience of the mettle of their opponents. Pathos and comedy, as necessary relief, enter naturally, unmarked by forcing. Several individually heroic deeds are pointed up, yet not unduly.

The evident intent was to show what those first Marines passed through, not what individuals may have accomplished. This objective was nicely attained, for this is no account of one man winning either a campaign or a skirmish. In that sense, "Guadalcanal Diary" rings true. In a sense that it recognizes the military stamina of the Japs, the film makes a contribution to a wider understanding of the nature of the Pacific enemy.

The all-male cast does a very good job, the leadoff spots going to Bendix, Foster and Nolan. Jaeckel, a newcomer, impresses favorably with the unspoiled freshness of his work. Lewis Seiler's direction from an intelligent screenplay by Lamar Trotti is highly creditable. Bryan Foy produced, with Islin Auster as his associate.

Running time, 93 minutes. "G."* RED KANN

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Los Feliz Appeal Reversed by Board

Arbitration appeal board in a decision made public here yesterday reversed the award of James L. Patten, arbitrator at the Los Angeles tribunal, in the Los Feliz clearance complaint against Loew's, RKO and Warners.

The board held that, at a 35 cent admission price, clearance of the Los Feliz shall be limited to 35 days after Los Angeles first run closings. Further provision is made for special clearance of the Apollo over the Los Feliz in specific cases, and added, that the Apollo in no case shall have less than one day clearance over the Los Feliz.

In the original complaint, Los Feliz had sought a clearance moved from 49 days after Los Angeles' first run closing to either 35 or 21 days thereafter. The arbitrator dismissed the complaint after finding that substantial competition existed between the plaintiffs' theatre and the intervenor's Apollo and Loma theatres.

Canadian Slogan Contest

Canadian M. P. War Services Committee is offering three prizes to persons in the film industry for the best slogans on coal conservation.

Myers Unaware of Allied Producing

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—Reports that National Allied was considering a new experiment in film production were received here today by Abram F. Myers, general counsel, with surprise.

Myers said flatly that he knew nothing about the proposal, and could offer no explanation other than that some member of the association might have developed the suggestion with the idea of bringing it before the Allied board at its meeting in Milwaukee on Nov. 17-18. Under present conditions, with raw stock strictly allocated, it would be practically impossible for a newcomer to enter the field of first-class production, Myers said.

While Allied States has never engaged in actual production, it did have a cooperative tieup many years ago with the old Tiffany Pictures, and which was short-lived.

Drive-In Closes

CHICAGO, Oct. 26.—Drive-In Theatre here closed for the season this week after operating three weeks longer than last year to an average of five persons per car as compared to less than four last year.

Managerial Change At 20 RKO Theatre

RKO personnel changes have be made by the company at 20 house including Raymond Hodgon, manag of the Bushwick, to be manager the Madison; Harry Pavda, manag at the Shore Road, to manage t Bushwick; Joseph Quinn, assista manager at the Tilyou, promoted manage the Shore Road; Arth Plafke, assistant manager at t Prospect, to a similar post at the Ti you; John Thomas, relief assistant, assistant manager at the Prospe All of the foregoing houses are Brooklyn.

Paul Wineland was named manag of the State, Dayton, O., with Ed M. Ritchie as his assistant. Mort Lachs, assistant manager at the C lumbia, Far Rockaway, has been tran ferred to a similar post at the Stra in that town, replacing Harry Brigg who moves over to the Columbia. E ward McGolne, honorably discharg from the armed forces, returns RKO as manager of the Strand, F Rockaway, replacing Louis Grossma who goes into the Army.

Rodney White Named

Rodney White, manager of Pro tor's 125th St., has been named ma ager of the Jefferson, Brookly Phillip Nemirow, assistant manag of the 86th St., promoted to manag the 125th St. George Binghman, a sistant manager of the Royal, is no assistant at the 86th St. Carolin Clevenger, relief assistant for Ma hattan and lower Bronx, is now a sistant manager at the Royal.

Joseph Steiner, formerly reli manager for the Westchester, upp Bronx and New Jersey division, h been named manager of the Capit Union City, N. J., replacing Jero Baker, who has been inducted. N than Hern, student assistant manag at the Chester, Bronx, is now assis ant manager at the Capitol, replacin Harry Jacoby, resigned.

'Bell' in London Nov. 9

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" i scheduled to open a two-a-day engage ment at the Carlton Theatre, Lon don, on Nov. 9, according to a cabl received here yesterday by John W Hicks, Paramount's foreign hea from David Rose, Paramount's Brit ish manager. Paramount stated tha this was the first showing of "Bel Tolls" outside of the United States.

NY Circuits Book 'Army'

Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army," now in its 14th and final week at th Broadway Hollywood, opens Nov. 3 over the RKO Circuit in Manhattan followed by the circuit's Brooklyn houses on Dec. 7. Following th RKO openings in Manhattan, "Army" will also open over the Skouras an Century circuits.

Dutch Honor Pal Today

George Pal, producer of Paramount's "Puppetoons," will be honored today by the government of Holland for his efforts in behalf of the Dutch cause. He will receive a parchment scroll from Dr. Adrian Hartog, consul for the Netherlands, at the Los Angeles area War Chest headquarters, company said here yesterday.

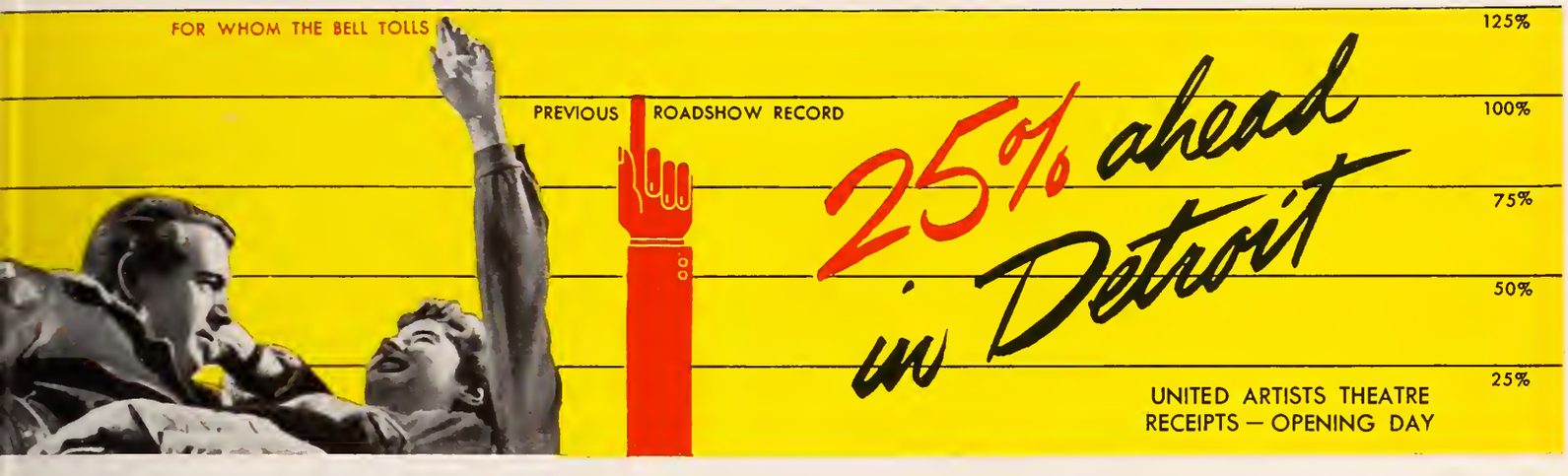
In the 49½-Year History of Picture Exhibition

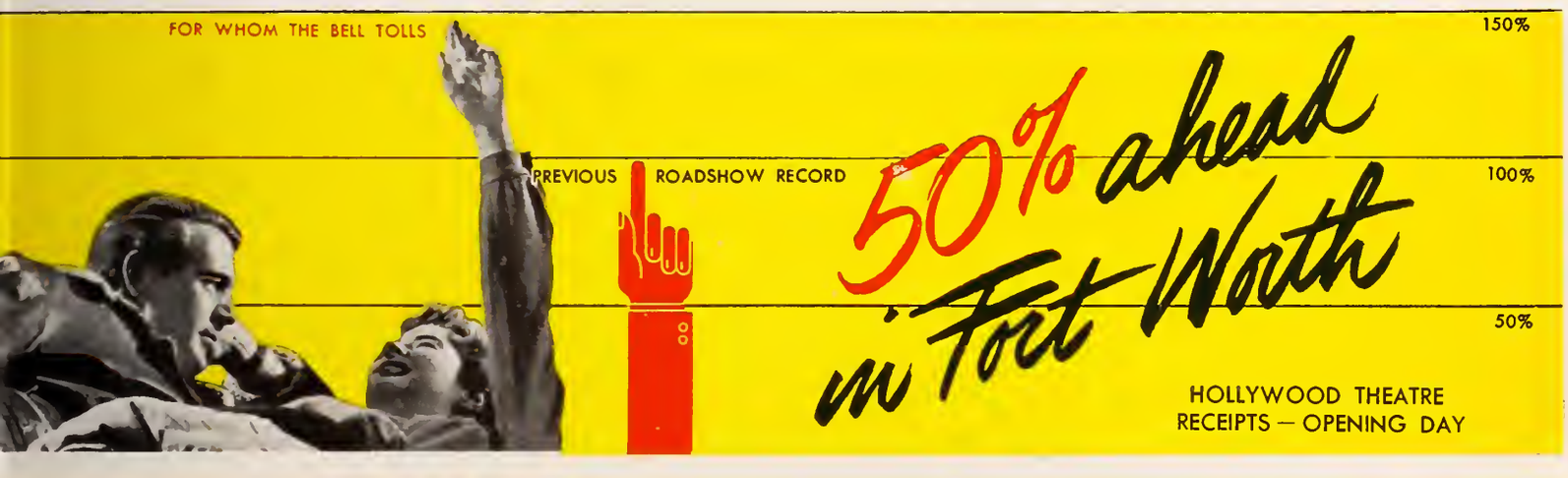
Is one of the 2 Top Road-Show Attractions!....

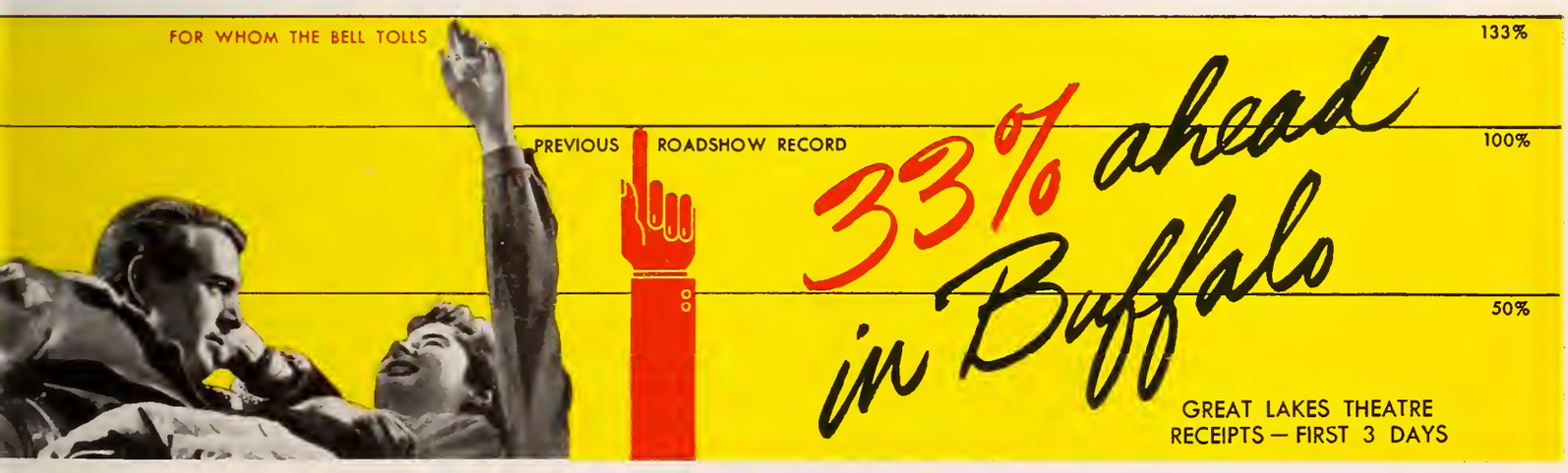
As we go to press the opening receipts of even the most sensational roadshow successes of the past are being exceeded in the first nation-wide advanced-price engagements of

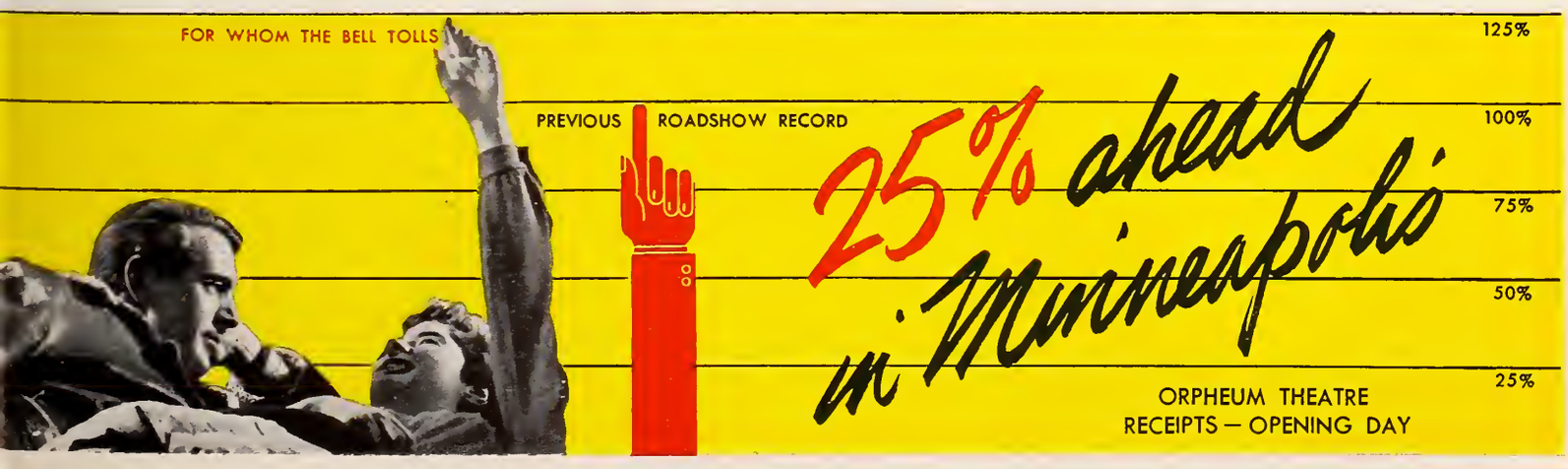
Paramount's

Study These Graphic Comparisons With Previous Roadshow Record-Holders

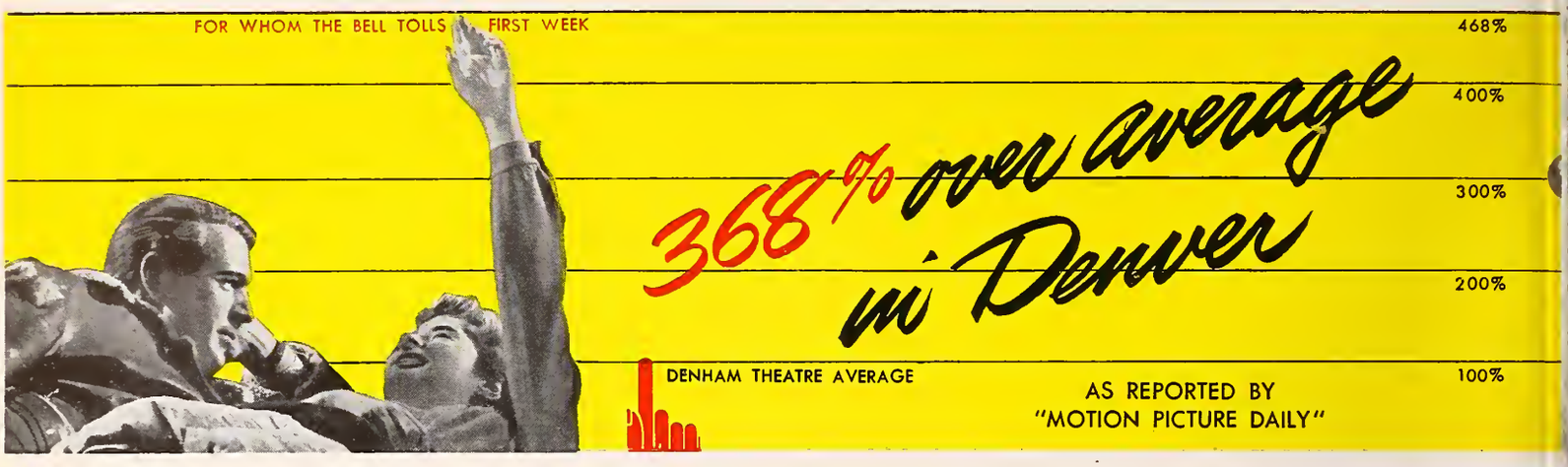


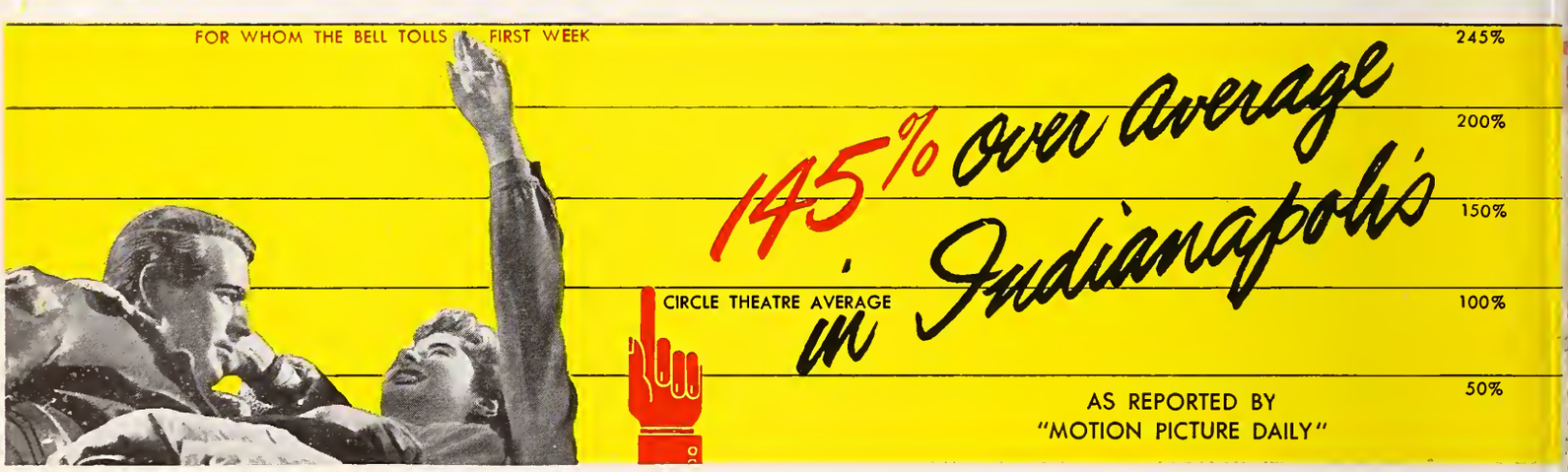


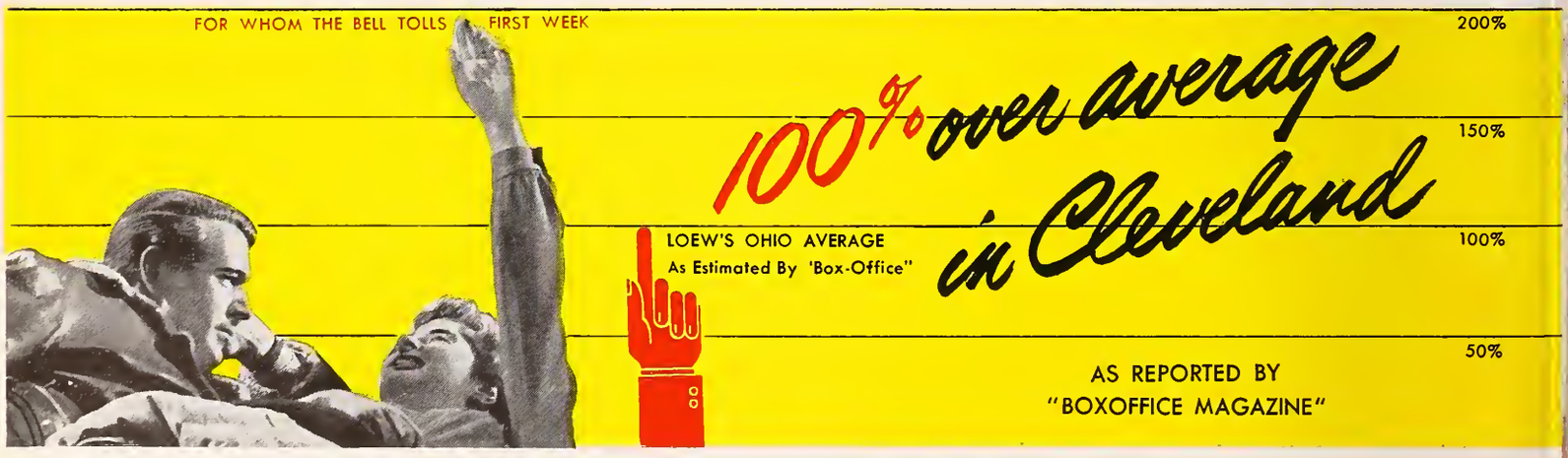


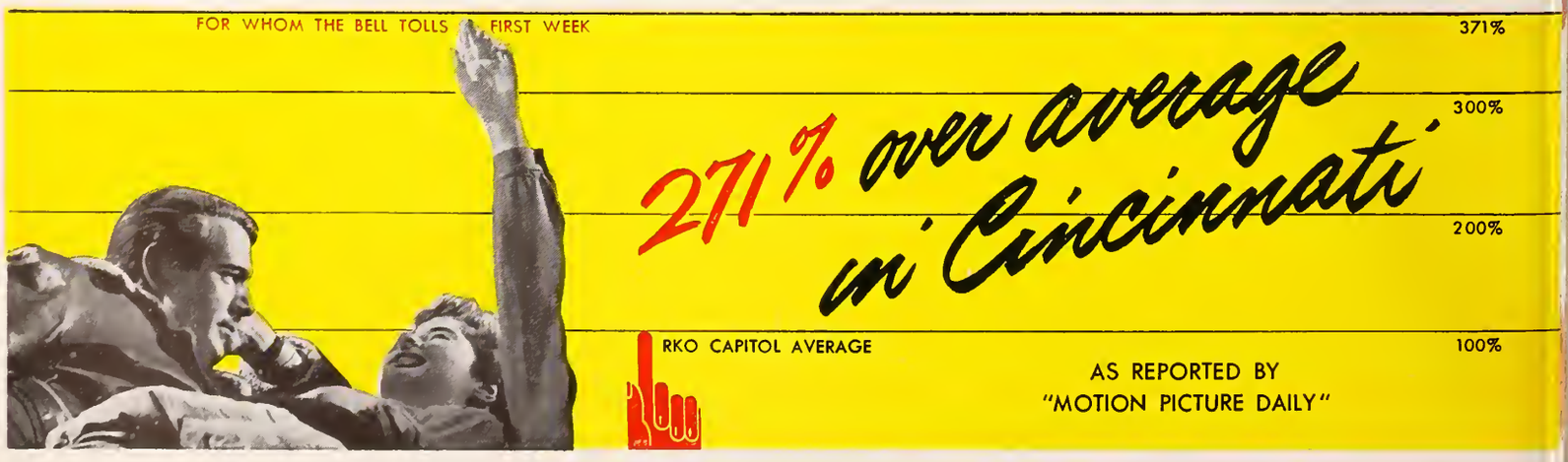


And These Charts Show Amazing Margins Over House Averages Where Roadshow Comparisons Are Not Available









...ud from Mid-Summer to Mid-October

"THE BELL" RINGS ON AND ON!

...nce this historic world premiere ...e night of July 14th, every one ...f these great key engagements ...f "FOR WHOM THE BELL ...OLLS" is still going strong and ...eading for long-run records!...

9th Week in San Francisco

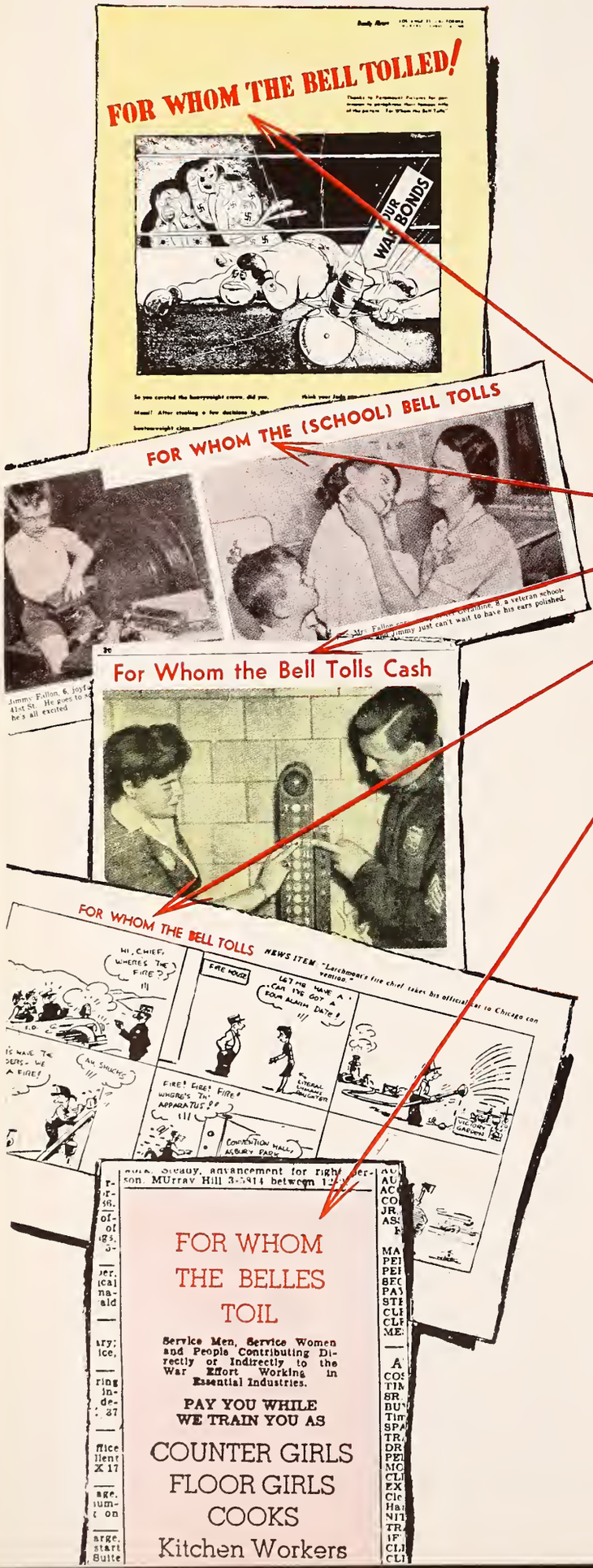
16th Week in New York

11th Week in Los Angeles

8th Week in Chicago

7th Week in Washington

Everybody's Tolling It!



The Most Famous Title in America

Paramount's

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS

IN TECHNICOLOR

Starring

GARY COOPER
INGRID BERGMAN

Produced and Directed by

SAM WOOD

with

AKIM TAMIROFF • ARTURO DeCORDOV
JOSEPH CALLEIA and KATINA PAXINO

Executive Producer B. G. DeSylva • From the Celebrated No
by Ernest Hemingway • Screen Play by Dudley Nicho

Browne Tells How Chicago 'Racket' Became National

(Continued from page 1)

agent of Local No. 2, IATSE, and told how, with the aid of the Capone boys and a carload of cannons he was elevated to the presidency of the IATSE at the 1934 convention in Louisville. That position gave him enough power to commend him to the hierarchy of the A.F. of L., who welcomed him into the executive council or supreme court of that organization and kept reelecting him until the Government jailed Browne for extortion two years ago, for a period of eight years.

Browne and Bioff were collecting $150 weekly from Jack Barger, Chicago burlesque man, for keeping competition away, Browne said, when the Capone mob got wind of the shakedown and decided to go after bigger things. Bioff, he said, had a sneaking acquaintance with several members of the ring and it was Bioff who pointed the way from the limited field of petit larceny to the wide open spaces of grand larceny.

Browne Tells of Meetings

Browne told of the meetings in the Riverside, Ill., house maintained by Harry Hockstein at which the Capone mob, aided by Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, New York industrial racketeer, planned the 1934 election of Browne, much of which was a repetition of Bioff's earlier testimony. That was the beginning, Browne indicated, of the "moving-in" process of the Chicago gang on what Browne and Bioff theretofore had considered their own personal and local racket of "muscling in" on Chicago theatres. Thereafter, the racket became national in scope, Browne revealed.

The Chicago mob moved in fast, said Browne, first demanding one-half of the money collected by himself and Bioff under strike threats, and later boosting their share to two-thirds. He and Bioff to get the other third. Nitti and Frank Rio warned him in 1934, Browne said, that Circella was to be consulted before Browne and Bioff made any move or took any action with respect to the IATSE. The warning came, Browne said, after he and Bioff decided to move the IATSE office from New York to Washington to escape possible attachment of the union's funds in court litigation.

Browne will continue on the stand when the trial resumes today.

Mayer on Post-War Films at Board Meet

The screen as a factor in dealing with post-war readjustments will be discussed by Arthur L. Mayer of the War Activities Committee at the 20th annual conference of the National Board of Review, to be held here tomorrow at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

In discussing new film trends caused by the war, Mayer will point out that just as the screen is playing an important part in keeping the public informed on the progress of the war, it will also be used to keep pace with post-war developments.

Actor Soler to Direct

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 26.—Domingo Soler, Mexican actor, will make his debut as a director in "Segundo Turno" ("Second Shift").

House Body Increases Ticket Taxes from 10 to 30 Per Cent

(Continued from page 1)

Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America; Abram F. Myers, of National Allied, and William Crockett of Virginia MPTO, appeared before the House group Oct. 13 and warned that hundreds of theatres throughout the nation may have to close if the 30 per cent proposed tax on admissions is passed.

They emphasized the slim margin on which the average exhibitor now operates, the manner in which many had been forced to scale down admissions when the present tax was adopted so as to avoid dealing in pennies, and the all-out participation of theatres in the Government's war effort.

Myers supported a general sales tax as preferable to the proposed high rate on the industry, explaining that present admissions have become established and the habits of patrons fixed.

On Oct. 18, J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal Pictures, appearing as a representative of the National Association of Manufacturers, told the committee that there is no need for a new tax bill, but that if one is enacted it should provide for a sales tax in lieu of increased rates on individuals, corporations and selected commodities and serviced as proposed by the Administration.

The committee decision today is the first of several which must be made before the tax bill goes to President Roosevelt for signature and the admission tax hike may be knocked down anywhere along the line.

Which State Dep't Brief? MPPDA Asks

(Continued from page 1)

time is such that we are required to be on the doorstep of the State Department most of the time," Milliken said. "I am at a loss to know what provoked interest at the time in a process that is no different for this business than for any other one having foreign trade. The State Department is the proper agency for every industry to go to with foreign problems. I do not know what brief is referred to in the story. We are in touch with the Department frequently."

WASHINGTON, Oct. 26.—A State Department spokesman said today that current and postwar film markets have been the subject of conferences over a considerable period of time with industry representatives.

Aid for Families of Bookers in Service

M. P. Bookers Club of New York has set up a dependency allotment fund for the families of its members in the armed services. The fund was made possible through a recent drive in the industry by the bookers and was created to relieve any hardships at home. Spokesmen for the club yesterday thanked the industry for its cooperation.

It is planned to keep the fund alive for the duration.

Myers Says Salary Lists Inopportune

(Continued from page 1)

Myers observed, "it almost always happens that when Congressional hearings are being held the Treasury Department releases for publication the salaries and other compensation paid by the motion picture producers to executives and stars."

Myers points out that the most recent instance of the kind occurred in connection with the hearings before the House Ways and Means Committee on the Treasury's proposal to boost the Federal admission tax from the present 10 per cent to 30 per cent. The motion picture salary reports of those receiving in excess of $75,000 annually were released the day following the appearance of exhibitor representatives in opposition to the admission tax increase.

"It is not known why $75,000 was fixed by the Treasury as the maximum that one may receive without getting his name in the papers," Myers writes, "unless the purpose was to show how many are receiving compensation in excess of that paid the President of the United States."

Myers states that of 922 names so publicized, 222, or almost 25 per cent, were in the motion picture business. The total compensation paid them, he say, was $31,386,962, or an average of $142,000. The bulletin charges that misleading impressions of industry-wide prosperity stem from this source "and may expose the innocent exhibitors and theatre-goers to unfair and unreasonable taxation, unless a sharp line can be drawn between the producer-distributors and the independent exhibitors."

Canada Dropping Its Extra Shows

(Continued from page 1)

a pledge to reduce fuel consumption 30 per cent in voluntary cooperation with the Government.

Special screenings of forthcoming product will not be held in theatres under any sponsorship, official or otherwise, and previews for invited officials will have to be held elsewhere under the new policy. Since the main object is to curtail heating fuel, it is understood that donation of theatres for use on other than weekday nights has also now been dropped.

RKO-FWC Deal for 3-House Tieup Set

(Continued from page 1)

give RKO three first-run outlets in the Los Angeles area, the other two being the Pantages, Hollywood and the Hillstreet, Los Angeles. If the new lease is cleared in time, the three-ply first run setup will go into effect on Nov. 4 with "Lady Takes a Chance."

'Oklahoma' in 27 Keys

Republic's "In Old Oklahoma" prerelease engagements in 27 key cities have been set for November, following the world premiere at the Criterion in Oklahoma City, on Nov. 3.

First Company Decree Draft Goes to U. S.

(Continued from page 1)

ment officials agreed to this, and at the same time Clark asked that they incorporate everything into the one document and show the changes between the new draft and the decree as it now stands.

The meeting lasted only about half an hour and there was only general discussion, it was said. The new draft is to be mailed to Clark or brought to Washington by Hazen on Thursday.

After the completed proposals have been received and studied, Clark said, he will discuss them with exhibitor representatives who have asked an opportunity to submit their views on the distributors' program before any action is taken by the Department.

While nothing definite has been settled, it is possible that there may be no more conferences between Department officials and the distributors until after the exhibitors have had their opportunity to make counter-suggestions on provisions which they feel require further amendment. It is believed likely that this will be done promptly, inasmuch as Clark has made arrangements for immediate conferences with a number of exhibitor organization representatives. He conferred on Monday with Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president; will confer today with representatives of the Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York, and is scheduled to confer soon with Abram F. Myers of Allied States and Robert Poole of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners.

Committee of 23 Aid Nat'l War Fund

(Continued from page 1)

Charles Moskowitz, Jack Bowen; RKO, Leon J. Bamberger, Robert Wolf; Columbia, Abe Schneider, Nat Cohen; Paramount, Neil Agnew, Charles Reagan, Milton Kussel; United Artists, Harry Buckley, Sam Lefkowitz; Republic, Herbert Yates, Morris Epstein; National Screen, George Dembow; Monogram, W. Ray Johnston, Joseph Felder; Ross Federal Service, Harry Ross, and PRC Pictures, O. Henry Briggs, Sidney Kulick.

Dover Here for New USO Show Programs

William B. Dover, executive administrator of USO Camp-Shows ETO (European theatre of operations) arrived in New York yesterday from London for several weeks of conferences with USO officials and others of stage and screen both in New York and Hollywood in connection with new programs for U. S. and Allied servicemen at the front and behind the fighting lines.

Frances Hart Dies

NEW CANAAN, Conn., Oct. 26.—Mrs. Frances Noyes Hart, writer and playwright, died this week in a private hospital. She was 53. One of her best known works, "The Bellamy Trial," was filmed in 1929 by M-G-M.

52 Filming, 60 Preparing, 62 Editing

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 26. — Production took a slight spurt over the previous week with 11 new pictures set before the cameras compared with nine starting the week before. This brought to 52 the number in work as compared to 48 in the previous week; seven finished work, 62 were editing and 60 preparing. The previous week saw seven finished, 72 editing and 57 preparing. The production scene:

Columbia

Started: "The Racket Man," with Tom Neal, Jeanne Bates, Larry Parks, Shelly Winter, Clarence Muse. "Beautiful but Broke," with Joan Davis, Jane Frazee, John Hubbard, Bob Haymes, Judy Clark.

Shooting: "Curly," "Cover Girl," "None Shall Escape."

Finished: "Ten Percent Woman."

W. R. Frank (Independent)

Shooting: "Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels, His Life and Loves."

M-G-M

Started: "Dragon Seed," with Katharine Hepburn, Walter Huston, Aline MacMahon, Turhan Bey, Akim Tamiroff, Henry Travers, Agnes Moorehead.

Shooting: "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed," "The Canterville Ghost," "Gaslight."

Monogram

Started: "The Voodoo Man," with Bela Lugosi, John Carradine, George Zucco, Michael Ames, Claire James. "Arizona Whirlwind," with Hoot Gibson, Ken Maynard, Bob Steele, Ian Keith, Myrna Dell.

Shooting: "Where Are My Children?"

Finished: "Return of the Ape Man."

Paramount

Shooting: "When I Come Back," "Rainbow Island," "Going My Way," "The Man in Half-Moon Street," "Double Indemnity."

Finished: "Frenchman's Creek," "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay."

P. R. C.

Started: "Gunsmoke Mesa," with Dave O'Brien, Jim Newill, Guy Wilkerson. "Manhattan Rhythm," with Frances Langford, Craig Wood, Edward Norris, Linda Brent.

Finished: "The Drifter," tentative title for "Buster Crabbe No. 3."

RKO-Radio

Shooting: "The Falcon in Texas," "Tender Comrade," "Days of Glory."

Republic

Started: "The Monster and the Lady," with Richard Arlen, Verba Rhuba Ralston, Erich von Stroheim, Helen Vinson, Sidney Blackmer, Mary Nash. "Rhythm Revelry," with Jane Withers, Jimmy Lydon, Frank Craven, Franklin Pangborn.

Shooting: "The Fighting Seabees," "Casanova in Burlesque."

20th-Fox

Started: "Four Jills and a Jeep," with Kay Francis, Carole Landis, Martha Raye, Mitzi Mayfair, John Harvey, Dick Haymes, Phil Silvers, Jimmy Dorsey and band.

Shooting: "The Purple Heart," "The Sullivans," "Eve of St. Mark," "Home in Indiana," "Lifeboat."

Off the Antenna

GILBERT Seldes, CBS director of television programs, will address the Radio Council of Greater Cleveland on "How to Listen to Radio" tomorrow, and the Kiwanis Club of Dayton Nov. 30 on "What the Future Holds for Radio." . . . As part of General Electric's post-war planning, the company is sending a questionnaire to its 227,000 stockholders asking what type of radio receiver they might like to buy after the war. . . . William S. Paley, CBS president, and Edmund A. Chester, CBS director of Latin-American relations have received the Order of Christobal Colon, highest civilian decoration of the Dominican Republic in recognition of their contributions toward better understanding among the Americas through the creation of the "Network of the Americas." . . . Board of directors of the National Association of Broadcasters will meet in Washington Nov. 17-18. . . . Broadcast Music Inc. reports a net profit of $41,443 for the year ending July 31, as compared to a net loss of $22,522 the year before. . . . M-G-M will sponsor Fulton Oursler's "People's Reporter" program on the Mutual web five nights a week starting Nov. 8.

• • •

Purely Personal—*Anthony J. Koelker, manager of the Blue's Central division publicity department, has been commissioned a Lieutenant (j.g.) in the U. S. Naval Reserve and will report for active duty Thursday. Eli Henry, publicity director of WLS for the past year, succeeds Koelker. . . . Anne Kelly has been appointed assistant to Ray Knight, Blue production manager. . . . Corp. Edgar Hubert Kobak of the U. S. Army, son of Edgar Kobak, Blue executive vice-president, has married Joyce Hayward, dramatic actress and writer. . . . George V. Denny, Jr., founder and moderator of "America's Town Meeting," who has been in the British Isles for the past two months on special invitation of the British Ministry of Information, returns to his Blue web spot tomorrow. . . . Howard R. Chamberlain has been named program director of the Crosley Cincinnati station.*

• • •

Program Notes—Adelaide Hawley moves to NBC Nov. 1 to continue programs for women. . . . Paramount's "So Proudly We Hail" will serve as the CBS "Lux Radio Theatre" script Nov. 1 with Claudette Colbert, Paulette Goddard, and Veronica Lake. . . . Ernie Pyle's foxhole saga "Here Is Your War," recently purchased by Lester Cowan to be filmed for U.A. release, will be dramatized on NBC's "Words at War" program Nov. 2. . . . "The Coronet Story Teller," now WOR-Mutual dramatic series, makes its debut Nov. 7 under the sponsorship of the magazine. . . . George Brent has a featured role in NBC's "Cavalcade of America's" dramatization of "Burma Surgeon" on Nov. 1. . . . Vice-President Henry A. Wallace will discuss food problems in a Blue web address today. . . . "Full Speed Ahead," a new war-effort program, becomes a WOR-Mutual weekly feature Nov. 3.

Exhibitors Buy Ball Club

OAKLAND, Cal., Oct. 26. — Joseph Blumenfeld and Clarence "Brick" Laws, operators of the Roxie, T. & D. and Esquire Theatres here, have purchased the Oakland baseball club of the Pacific Coast League from a syndicate headed by Victor Divencenzi. They will remain in the film exhibiting business also. Blumenfeld also operates several San Francisco houses, including the United Artists, Orpheum and Esquire.

United Artists (Arnold Productions)

Shooting: "It Happened Tomorrow."

(Benedict Bogeaus)

Shooting: "The Bridge of San Luis Rey."

(P. C. A.)

Shooting: "Knickerbocker Holiday."

(Vanguard Films)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

Universal

Started: "Calling Dr. Death," with Lon Chaney, Patricia Morison, J. Carroll Naish, Ramsay Ames.

Shooting: "Gypsy Wildcat," "Patrick the Great," "Her Primitive Man," "Phantom Lady," "When Ladies Fly," "The Impostor," "Gung Ho!" "Three Cheers for the Boys."

Warners

Shooting: "Mr. Skeffington, "One More Tomorrow," formerly "Animal Kingdom," "Uncertain Glory," "Passage to Marseille," "Outward Bound."

Finished: "Rhapsody in Blue."

'Nymph' Is Constant For a $15,200 Take

TORONTO, Oct. 26. — "The Constant Nymph" was drawing the women for an expected $15,200 at Shea's; "Corvette K-225" was attracting more of the males for an anticipated gross of $12,300 at the Uptown and soldiers and gals were trooping to "This Is the Army" in its second week at the Imperial for a probable $12,800.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 28:

"The Heart of a Nation" (Alliance)
"Gals, Inc."
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $4,300).
"This Is the Army" (WB)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $12,300).
"Best Foot Forward" M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $11,400).
"The Constant Nymph" (WB)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $12,200).
"Hers to Hold" (Univ.) (Trsfrd.)
"Adventures in Iraq" (Para.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days, on a moveover. Gross: $4,100. (Average: $4,600).
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $9,800).

Making Theatre Seats

CHICAGO, Oct. 26. — The Chicago Used Chair Mart has started to manufacture a new Victory Chair for army camps and civilian theatres which are able to obtain priorities.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Oct. 2

COLOR prints and kodachrom transparencies will have consid erable space in this year's "Still Pho tography Show" sponsored by th Academy, according to Walter Wan ger, president.

The show, scheduled at the CB studios on Nov. 26-28, will includ more than 300 enlargements of bes stills taken by studio cameramen dur ing the past 18 months. Previous ex hibits which toured 35 American citie and several foreign countries hav gained international recognition fo the shows. Citations in ten classifi cations and a gold medal for the "bes of the show" will be awarded.

•

Darryl F. Zanuck has put Dudle Nichols to work on the screenplay o Wendell Willkie's "One World" i collaboration with Lamar Trott Both men are also producers wh have returned to writing for this par ticular picture. . . . Alfred Zeigle director of W. R. Frank's "Dr. Pau Joseph Goebbels, His Life and Loves, will also play the role of Hitler, re placing Bobby Watson who is in Par amount's "Hitler's Gang" . . . Fran Melford has signed Rowland Brow to do the screenplay of "The Tanak Plan" from James R. Young's stor "I Worked For Hirohito." . . . Fran chot Tone makes a quick transitio from a romantic lead with Deann Durbin in "His Butler's Sister" to psychopathic killer in Joan Harrison' production "Phantom Lady" at Uni versal.

•

Arnold Pressburger has put Hel ene Fraenkel, New York playwright on the script of "Tomorrow Neve Comes." . . . Busy supervising Charles Boyer as a murderer an Ingrid Bergman as a beautiful her oine in "Gaslight," producer Arthu Hornblow is also preparing "Qu Vadis?".

Fox Midwest Makes Eight Staff Changes

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 26.—The Apollo Fox Midwest Theatre here, will soo be reopened with Gus Rose as man ager. He has been manager for th Fox Midwest City District. Joh O'Connor succeeds Rose as manage of the Rockhill. He was manager o the Lincoln, where Sam Naster i again in charge, after several weeks absence recovering his health.

Departure of B. M. Montee an Roger Ruddick to the Army, result in promotion of Miss Barbara Clark who has been assistant manager at th Plaza, to manager of the Warwick; Mrs. Marjorie Ruddick replaces he husband as manager of the Brook side, and Harold Eyestone, hous manager of the Tower, takes over a the Isis—all Fox Midwest theatres.

Fined for Law Violation

Areco Lombroso, owner of the New Delancey Theatre in New York, wa fined $250 as a violator of the city' fire-protection laws in Municipa Term Court recently by Magistrate Peter A. Abeles for having three emergency doors locked. It was one of the stiffest penalties to be levied.

Empire's Answers in Merger Fight Stand

Judge Joseph Fennelly in Kings County Supreme Court has signed an order denying the motion sought by three Empire State Union projectionists to dismiss answers entered by Empire attorneys upholding Empire's action in merging with IATSE Local 306, projectionists. The Empire members were recently granted an injunction preventing the officers of Empire from carrying out the merger provisions.

At the same time, Judge Fennelly limited pre-trial examination to one person and the examination of three items, on the motion of the suing Empire members to examine 10 people and to examine 20 items.

Empire attorneys are pressing for an immediate trial, since according to a Local 306 spokesman, Local 306 is not a party to the dispute and the granting of the injunction was contingent upon an early trial of the issues involved. Neither a pending legal action filed by the Century Circuit, nor that of the suing Empire members, both of which groups now hold injunctions to prevent Empire-306 merger, question the validity of membership of Empire projectionists in Local 306, according to the Local 306 spokesman.

Kettering Quits RKO

CHICAGO, Oct. 26.—Tom Kettering has resigned as RKO publicity representative in Buffalo to become Chicago manager of Frederick Bros. Agency.

Films Comprise 80% of Troops Entertainment

(*Continued from page* 1)

greater quantities than at present. News is scarce at the front, and these men are in great need of newsreels, newspapers and radio reports concerning what is happening on the home front."

Many soldiers see a picture three and four times. There is great demand for escapist pictures: i.e., musical comedies and the like. Trading of prints between infantry and air force units is common in order to alleviate the shortage of product, said Menjou who lost twenty-two pounds on his trip and wore out three suits of clothes.

Escapist Films Popular

He toured bases in England, Algiers, Morocco, Tunis, Bizerte and flew back to this country from Sicily. He left for the Coast last night to make a picture for Paramount. Menjou's act consisted of some comedy and included short sketches of the lives of many Hollywood stars.

He pointed out that Lana Turner, Betty Grable, Dorothy Lamour, Janet Blair, Jane Russell, Clark Gable, Humphrey Bogart, Spencer Tracy, Mickey Rooney, John Garfield, Edward G. Robinson, George Raft, Errol Flynn and Rita Hayworth are the most popular stars with the men in service.

Menjou came back to this country with a plea to those in this country that "this war is a long way from over. The main fight is still ahead."

Four Conn. Cities Put On a 48-Hour Week

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 26.—State War Manpower Commission has decided that Hartford, Bridgeport, Bristol and Meriden are included in the 30 new labor shortage areas now ordered to operate on a 48-hour basis.

New Haven, East Haven, West Haven, Hamden, North Haven, Woodbridge, Orange, Bethany, Branford, North Branford, Guilford and Madison will remain on a 40-hour basis.

Buzzell Quits After Long Labor Fight

(*Continued from page* 1)

erted influence on the Chicago Central Labor Council asking aid of that body in Willie Bioff's fight against extradition to Chicago on pandering charges. Prior to Buzzell's resignation, Harry Sherman (not the producer) was forced out of the CLC presidency by Paul Smith, assigned by William Green to take over the council to effect unity.

Bogart Overseas

Humphrey Bogart, Warner star who completes work in "Passage to Marseilles" next week, is due in New York from the Coast early in November with Mayo Methot (Mrs. Bogart) on his way overseas for a tour of Army camps.

Little Effect on East by ODT Order

Film trucking routes have been stabilized in the East for so long that film trucking spokesmen here see little or no effect on film trucking in the new Office of Defense Transportation ruling prohibiting the creation of out-and-out new truck lines.

However, there was some speculation yesterday as to what might happen in those areas where exhibition activities are being extended because of war workers' infiltrations.

Meanwhile, Cleveland distribution officials and carriers who are protesting the action taken by the regional ODT at the weekend in ordering all local film exchanges and film carriers in that area to eliminate Sunday deliveries, expect to see the ODT regional board chairman before the end of the week in an effort to discuss altering the order, home office executives reported here yesterday.

Film deliveries continued as usual, however, in the Cleveland area last Sunday. Action by the regional ODT office was taken in a general move to further reduce consumption of gasoline and tires there and to conserve on trucking facilities.

'U' in Arbitration

Universal was inadvertently omitted by the Screen Publicists Guild-distributors' original joint release last Friday relative to an agreement by distributors to use arbitration in present wage negotiations, an SPG statement said yesterday.

Wine, women and wildcatters . . . they fought like fury for what they wanted!

Par Is $9,500, but 'Bell' Rings $29,000

PROVIDENCE, Oct. 26.—"For Whom the Bell Tolls" rolled up a terrific gross in its first week at the Strand, hitting $29,000. It will probably be held at least three weeks, possibly longer.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 28:

"Spitfire" (RKO)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,800).
"For Whom The Bell Tolls" (Para.)
STRAND—(2,200) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross (at advanced prices): $29,000. (Average: $9,500).
"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,400).
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
"Woman at War" (WB)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,700).
"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Chance of a Lifetime" (C.I.)
CARLTON—(1,526) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. (Moveover from Loew's State.) Gross: $4,100. (Average: $4,100).
"The Rains Came" (20th-Fox)
FAY'S—(1,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. On stage: LaVere & Handman, Edward Rickard, Wilfred Dubois, Haynes & Perry, Johnny Cahill, Martin & Martin. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,400).
"Campus Rhythm" (Mono.)
METROPOLITAN — (3,050) (40c-65c) 3 days. On stage: Hi, Lo, Jack & The Dame, Cinda Glenn, Bob Coffey, Rigoletto Bros. & Aimee Sisters, Wallace's Puppets, Don Mario & orchestra. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,800).

85% of Mexican Owners Organize

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 26. — Improvement and defense of the industry is the object of the new National Association of Proprietors of Motion Picture Theatres organized here under the presidency of Emilio Azcarraga, circuit head.

The association represents 246 film companies, 85 per cent of those in Mexico. Other officers are Antonio C. Osio, treasurer, and Luis Castro, secretary.

The association is organizing a council to handle all problems confronting owners, including present and post war periods. One of the first problems is that of dealing with those municipal governments which seek to tax theatres exorbitantly. The association reported that relations between theatre owners and the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union have never been more cordial.

Cleveland Warner Club

CLEVELAND, Oct. 26.—The Warner Club initiated its 14th year here with the election of the following officers: Edna Charns, president; James Meisel, entertainment chairman; Evelyn Friedl, welfare chairman; "Jerry" Kepner, secretary; Marjorie McCord, membership chairman and treasurer; Lillian Fisher, loans and contribution chairman. Bert Stearn, Vitagraph branch manager, Arthur Engelbert, Vitagraph cashier, and Edward Miller, manager of Warners' Hippodrome, were elected to the board of governors.

Reverts to Stage Shows

CINCINNATI, Oct. 26.—RKO Shubert, playing straight films, will revert to its former stage and picture policy on Nov. 13, opening with Glen Gray and his orchestra. Deke Moffitt, who has been on the road with Bill Robinson, will conduct the Shubert orchestra again.

Montreal Has a Precedent: All 1st Runs Hold

MONTREAL, Oct. 26.—Not in 20 years in the first run bracket have programs been held over "en masse." It happened here this week with the Palace, Capitol, Princess, Orpheum and Loew's programs all held. Orpheum, playing "Stage Door Canteen" has established a new local record with 16 consecutive weeks, and Loew's with "Phantom of the Opera" in its 3rd week is doing standee business, with $10,000 expected.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 28:

"Stage Door Canteen" (UA)
ORPHEUM—(1,100) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 16th week. Gross: $2,300. (Average: $3,700).
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
LOEW'S—(2,900) (35c-53c-67c)—7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,000).
"Bataan" (M-G-M)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
CAPITOL—(2,700) (30c-40c-52c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,500).
"The Desperadoes" (Col.)
"Red Head from Manhattan" (Col.)
PRINCESS—(2,000) (30c-40c-52c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $4,300).
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PALACE—(2,700) (30c-45c-62c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,500).

'Maisie' Swings in Tulsa for $9,000

TULSA, Okla., Oct. 26.—This week nearly all local film houses showed highly satisfactory grosses, with the Ritz running "Swing Shift Maisie" grossing a very good $9,000 while "Behind the Rising Sun" at the Orpheum pulled $8,750. Weather was cool and rainy.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 28:

"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
MAJESTIC — (570) (25c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $3,750. (Average: $2,500)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,400) (20c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,750. (Average: $7,500)
"Alaska Highway" (Para.)
"Girls in Chains" (PRC)
RIALTO—(1,250) (20c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,500)
"Assignment in Brittany" (M-G-M)
"Submarine Base" (PRC)
RIALTO—(1,250) (20c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,900. (Average: $1,900)
"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
RITZ—(2,000) (25-40c-55c) 7 days Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,750)

St. Louis Theatres Protest New Curfew

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 26.—Neighborhood theatres here have entered a protest to the Board of Aldermen regarding the proposed 10 P.M. curfew for children under 16. Theatre owners object on the grounds that the deadline will substantially reduce show attendance. They are suggesting an 11 P.M. curfew.

Hearings will be held before a vote.

No Mexican Film Taxes

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 26.—Taxes from the film industry in this country are expected to remain stationary, it was learned at the Ministry of Finance, despite reports to the contrary. Revenue from the industry is held to be satisfactory.

Sally Blane in Latin Film

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 26. — Sally Blane, American actress, has been set for a lead in the Mexican film, "La Dilgencia," ("The Stagecoach") that will soon go into production here.

'Bell's' $10,000 Is Good for 2nd Week

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oct. 26.—"For Whom the Bell Tolls" went into its second week and stacked up $10,000 at the Midwest; while under the first week's figures this still is a top-notcher. "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" at the Criterion took $7,500 and "Behind the Rising Sun" pulled $8,000. Weather cold and rainy; no competition.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 28:

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
CRITERION—(1,500) (25c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,000).
"Song of Texas" (Rep.)
"A Stranger in Town" (M-G-M)
LIBERTY—(1,200) (20c-25c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,250).
"For Whom The Bell Tolls" (Para.)
MIDWEST—(1,500) (45c-75c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average at 50c top: $5,600).
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
STATE — (1,100) (25c-45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $4,500).
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
TOWER—(1,000) (20c-25c-40c) 7 days, moveover from Criterion. Gross: $2,250. (Average: $2,500).

'Canteen's' $13,600 Is Tops in Omaha

OMAHA, Oct. 26. — "Stage Door Canteen's" $13,600 was outstanding this week at the Paramount. "Victory Through Air Power" dualled with Shep Field's band on the stage at the Orpheum hit $15,100, $3,000 better than "Canteen," but at higher admission prices. Weather was mixed, the first half rainy, the last sunny.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 27-28:

"Sahara" (Col.)
"Chatterbox" (Rep.)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (30c-35c-44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,500)
"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"Rhythm of the Islands" (Univ.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (30c-35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $8,300)
"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (40c-50c-65c) 7 days. Stage: Shep Fields and revue. Gross: $15,100. (Average: $14,900)
"Stage Door Canteen" (UA)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (30c-35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $13,100. (Average: $6,900)

F-P C Buys Food Film

TORONTO, Oct. 26.—Famous-Players Canadian Corp., under instructions of president J. J. Fitzgibbons, has borne the cost of a Technicolor two-reel subject, "Training Table" and for 14 prints, for release to theatres in Canada without rental, the film being available through Paramount branches. Film deals with food values and diet and was originally produced for the Royal Canadian Air Force by Associated Screen News.

W.B. Takes Vaudeville

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 26. — George Ingham has joined the Warner circuit to become manager of the Allegheny, first circuit neighborhood house to play vaudeville. The new policy, for Thursday, Friday and Saturday vaudeville, was inaugurated on Oct. 21. If successful, vaudeville will be extended to a full week.

Abbott Play on Films

George Abbott, Broadway stage producer, has placed his production of Pvt. William Saroyan's play "Get Away, Old Man" in rehearsal. It is said to be suggested by Saroyan's experiences in Hollywood while making "The Human Comedy" for M-G-M.

Short Subject Reviews

"Flicker Flashbacks"

(RKO)

Richard O. Fleischer's "Flicker Flashbacks No. 3" features Blanche Sweet in a "soul-searing saga" of a female telegraph operator who, with the aid of her trainman fiance, saves the day for the Lonedale gold shipment. Also included in the current Flashbacks are "The Age of Innocence" and "Pathe News of 1910." "Flicker Flashbacks 1 and 2" were good—No. 3 in this novel series is excellent. Directed by D. W. Griffith, produced by Frederic Ullman Jr., music by Herman Fuchs. Running time, 9 mins. Release date, Oct 29.

"Joe Kirkwood"

(RKO)

The science behind the game of golf is demonstrated by Joe Kirkwood, expert on the game. Trick shots are presented and analyzed, following which Kirkwood accompanies an amateur foursome around the course as "doctor," enlightening fare for the followers of the game. Produced by Frederic Ullman, Jr. Release date Oct. 8. Running time, 9 mins.

"Screen Snapshots"

(Columbia . . . No. 3, Series 23)

Most of this reel is devoted to Kay Kyser and his College of Musical Knowledge, although other sequences include such personalities as Robert Cummings and Jinx Falkenburg. Kyser is at his best in this interesting and entertaining short. Release date, Oct. 15. Running time, 10 mins.

'Spitfire', Himber, Jones Get $29,000

CLEVELAND, Oct. 26. — "Spitfire" took the lead over the week-end, playing in combination with Dick Himber and his band and Allan Jones in person at the RKO Palace to an estimated $29,000. "I Dood It" came through at Loew's State with a big opening, looking to $19,500 for the run.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 27:

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
RKO ALLEN—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,300).
"Destroyer" (Col.)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,100).
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,100).
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. 5th week. Gross: $15,000.
"Spitfire" (RKO)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c and 85c Sat. & Sun.) 7 days. Stage: Dick Himber orchestra, Allan Jones and a Frank Sinatra singing contest. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $25,800).
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $16,800).
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,600).

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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J. S. O. Asks For More Film Stars Abroad

Tremendous Value to Morale' Cited

By FRED STENGEL

A plea to Hollywood personalities to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by USO-Camp Shows to entertain Allied fighting men all over the world was made yesterday by William B. Dover, executive administrator of the organization in the European theatre of operations.

"It is impossible to estimate the tremendous morale value of entertainment for our troops. The fact that a Hollywood personality will appear at the base proves a terrific draw that night and if the stars knew how these men feel about them, I am sure they will volunteer even more than at present," Dover declared.

He will be here 10 days before

(Continued on page 10)

Charges Refusal to Sell New or Old

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 27.—Four product problems appear to have been pegged for No. 1 position on the agenda of the National Allied Caravan Committee meeting to be held at the Hotel Schroeder in Milwaukee on Nov. 15-16.

Specifically, it is understood the Caravan will give principal attention not only to the distributors' alleged withholding of new releases, but will relate to that practice its charges that some companies also are refusing to

(Continued on page 4)

Harrold Reelected Indiana ATO Head

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 27.—Roy Harrold, of Rushville, was re-elected president of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana for the fifth consecutive time, at the annual meeting here today. Other officers reelected include H. Johnson, of Madison, vice-president; Marc Wolf, of Indianapolis, treasurer; Don Rossiter, executive secretary, and Christine Kirk, secretary.

Directors include Lisle Kreigh-

(Continued on page 10)

Canada's Films, in 12 Languages, Now Go to 64 Countries

Practically unrepresented, as a nation, in theatres three and one-half years ago, Canada now sends its films to 64 countries throughout the world and in a dozen languages. Thus will Irene Baird of the National Film Board of Canada explain, today, to delegates of the National Board of Review, at its annual conference here, the growth of Canadian film productions, as inspired by the requirements of war and sponsored by the Canadian Government.

National Board of Review's 20th yearly convention will open this morning at the Hotel Pennsylvania, running one day, cut from the three days of previous years because of the war. Speakers principally will discuss "Movies in a World at War" and "Movie Trends Produced by the War." S. H. Fabian, chairman of the theatres division of the War Activities Committee, will be among the speakers. So will Arthur Mayer, also of the

(Continued on page 10)

Warner Executives In Chicago Today

Home office delegation of Warner executives who left last night for the company's three-day sales conference at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago today, tomorrow and Saturday, included Ben Kalmenson, Mort Blumenstock, Harry M. Kalmine, Arthur Sachson, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Norman H. Moray, A. W. Schwalberg, Ed Hinchey and Clarence Eiseman.

Joseph Bernhard, vice-president, will leave for Chicago today.

Lukan to D. of J. At Clark's Request

Los Angeles, Oct. 27.—L. O. Lukan, of Seattle, representing the Pacific Coast Conference of Theatre Owners, will leave here early next week with the organization's exhibitor questionnaire consent decree findings, for presentation to the Department of Justice at the formal invitation of U. S. Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark.

Browne Tells of His Intervention In AAAA Affairs

Attempt of the Capone mob to take over the Associated Actors and Artistes of America, one of their boldest adventures, was described yesterday by George E. Browne, former president of the IATSE, at the Federal court trial of seven members of the mob who are accused of extorting more than $1,000,000 from the motion picture industry.

Browne testified that he himself was taken over by the mob in 1934, when the mob succeeded in elevating him to the presidency of IATSE with

(Continued on page 10)

5 Million for Army From 'Army' by Jan. 1

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 27. — Warner Bros. expect to turn over $5,000,000 to Army Emergency Relief from Irving

(Continued on page 10)

U. S. Says Only 3% of Filmites Were 'WPA'ers'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Only three per cent of the nearly 200,000 experienced workers in the motion picture and theatre industries were on public emergency work, with the WPA or other U. S. agencies in the months before Pearl Harbor and more than 80 per cent of that group were employed in their regular occupations, it was disclosed here today by the U. S. Census Bureau in a report showing the pre-war distribution of the nation's labor.

The report listed a total of 195,409 experienced persons in the film and theatre branches of amusements, of whom 168,129 were employed, 5,720 were on public emergency work, and

(Continued on page 4)

Film Leaders at Charity Meeting

Film leaders will meet with stage producers, music publishers and night club owners at luncheon tomorrow at the Astor Hotel, to launch the amusement industry's effort in the 1943 campaign of the New York and Brooklyn Federations of Jewish Charities. David Bernstein of Loew's is co-chairman with Major Albert Warner of the amusement division.

Bernstein states that Federation this year seeks special funds in order to safeguard the 116 affiliated charities against insecurities of the past. Ap-

(Continued on page 10)

Dim-Out Called Off in All Coastal Cities

Exhibitors Asked to Cut Unneeded Lighting

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Dim-out regulations which almost since the day of Pearl Harbor have kept the "Broadways" of Coastal communities in a state of semi-darkness will be lifted Nov. 1, it was announced here tonight.

A joint announcement by the War and Navy Departments, Office of Civilian Defense and War Production Board explained that the lifting of the dim-out restrictions which have applied in the coastal zones along the Atlantic and Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico have been made possible by the success achieved in driving enemy submarines away from our coastal waters.

It was emphasized, however, that

(Continued on page 4)

Object to 48-Hour Week in Five Keys

Petitions for exemptions of Dallas, Oklahoma City and Indianapolis film exchanges from the 48-hour week recently invoked in those areas by the War Manpower Commission were filed yesterday by distribution companies.

In addition, an appeal will be taken from the recent order of the Los Angeles regional WMC which established a 44-hour week for office and clerical workers in exchanges there

(Continued on page 10)

CEA Asks Individual Renters Meetings

LONDON, Oct. 27.—As a result of exhibitor indignation here over the refusal of the Kinematograph Renters Society to meet the Cinematograph Exhibitor Association's film grading proposal, the CEA today petitioned all renters for individual meetings with the exhibitor unit's rentals committee.

Exhibitors here lately have been expressing strong condemnation of film grading, charging this process

(Continued on page 10)

Personal Mention

HASKELL N. MASTERS, Odeon Theatres of Canada general manager, is a New York visitor.

•

JOHN B. NATHAN, Paramount manager in Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Chile, will leave here for the Coast Saturday. PAUL E. ACKERMAN, the company's foreign publicity and promotion manager, will accompany him.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal Eastern advertising and publicity director, plans to leave for the Coast Nov. 13. He will be accompanied by AL HOROWITZ.

•

DAVID BADER and ptomaine poison definitely do not agree. The 20th-Fox home office publicist is at home at the Mayflower.

•

LEONARD SHAPIN, son of SAM SHAPIN, Warner home office traveling representative, is now a sergeant with the Army in Sicily.

•

LOU SMITH, M-G-M Eastern publicity manager, returned yesterday after a four-week stay in Hollywood.

•

NORMAN W. ELSON, Trans-Lux vice-president, returned yesterday from Washington.

•

PERRY CHARLES, of the M-G-M home office publicity department, returned yesterday from the Coast.

•

SAUL KALASKY, traveling auditor for Columbia, has been inducted into the Army.

•

HANK LINET and LOU LUSTY, of Universal, will return here from Cincinnati on Tuesday.

•

JOSEPH KANNON, co-owner of the Ramsey, Ramsey, N. J., was inducted into the Marines recently.

•

IRWIN ZELTNER, of the Universal exploitation staff, left yesterday for Albany.

•

JOSEPH FELDMAN, Warner Theatres assistant zone manager in Pittsburgh, arrived here yesterday.

•

HARRY WEINER, Columbia's Philadelphia branch manager, is in town.

•

HARRY BRANDT returned yesterday from Washington.

•

HARRY ROGOVIN, Columbia's Boston branch manager, is in town.

•

BUDD ROGERS left yesterday for Cincinnati.

So. Jersey Meet Held

The Southern Jersey unit of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey held its first fall luncheon-meeting early this week at the Walt Whitman Hotel, Camden, N. J. Members attending reviewed and discussed exhibitor problems under the current decree.

Business in 'White Light' Area Up 25%

Broadway Association here reveals that the war has transformed Times Square into the busiest and most densely populated place in the world at night. According to Robert K. Christenberry, president of the association, motion picture and legitimate houses located in New York's theatre district are reporting the highest attendance figures in history. It is estimated that average weekly total attendance at the 83 theatres in the district is over 1,779,408, which is an increase of 25 per cent above any previous record.

The 44 film houses in the group with a combined seating capacity of 66,496 report an average weekly attendance of 1,529,408.

MPOE Is Filing For Warner Workers

Motion Picture Office Employees Union, Local 23169, AFL, will file with the War Labor Board here today a schedule of classifications covering employees of Music Publishers Holding Corp., Warner Bros. subsidiary, listing minimum and maximum salaries and wage ranges and a report covering length of service, merit, and promotion increases for two years.

Schedule is similar to that filed last week covering 624 white-collarites of the Warner home office, which has now been passed by the wages and hour division of the Department of Labor, and is awaiting WLB approval.

WLB Hearing on Guild's Brandt Claim

Regional War Labor Board has set a hearing for tomorrow here on the claim of M. P. Theatre Managers and Employees Guild that it represents a majority of the managers and assistants in the 21 theatres in New York owned by Harry Brandt.

RWLB has also set a hearing for tomorrow on MPTME's claim that it represents a majority of the employees of the Laffmovie Theatre, New York.

Seeks to Cut Out OWI Overseas Funds

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Representative Taber of New York, ranking minority member of the House Appropriations Committee, who curtailed domestic funds for the Office of War Information last summer, now is opposed to making any appropriation for the overseas branch of the OWI.

Administration leaders who have asked $5,000,000 extra for the OWI are said to be willing now to settle for $2,000,000 in addition to existing appropriations.

'Good Films Need Equality', Coe

MONTREAL, Oct. 27.—"Good pictures need only equality of opportunity to find their level in world markets. Merit is the only subsidy that artistry requires," declared Charles Francis Coe, vice-president and general counsel of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, before 500 civic, religious, educational and business leaders here today. Coe was guest at a luncheon tendered by the Montreal Advertising and Sales Executives Club, joined by The Canadian Club.

A free and untrammeled stream of world screen entertainment must be accomplished, if a good new world is to follow this war, he said.

Coe emphasized that the screen's duties must be in proportion to its opportunities. "Every responsible producer is wholly quickened to this fact," he said. "As the tide of Allied fighting now sweeps across the Axis lands, together go films of Allied production. I am glad to pay tribute to what Canada is supplying on both fronts."

Every true film creator, Coe declared, knows that nothing on earth would so quickly kill a motion picture as deliberate propaganda, although there are many definitions of the term. "If by propaganda," he said, "one means information, factual events, places, customs, manners of life, etc., why, I say to you that the screen reeks with 'propaganda' and the world may offer huzzas that this is so."

Hays Gives Medals to Joseph Grew, Others

Will H. Hays, MPPDA head and vice-president of the Roosevelt Memorial Association, substituting for James R. Garfield, association president, last night presented Founders' Medals for distinguished service to Mrs. August Belmont, J. N. Darling and former Ambassador Joseph N. Grew at Town Hall here.

Hays, in an address, stated that the group, incorporated by an act of Congress in May, 1920, was founded "especially to provide in some manner for the perpetuation of the ideals of Theodore Roosevelt for the benefit of the American people."

Spitz-Goetz Deal for C. Brown Collapses

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 27.—The Clarence Brown deal with the Leo Spitz-William Goetz organization has collapsed due to an inability to reach satisfactory financial arrangements, it is understood here.

Brown will remain at M-G-M where it is expected that he will sign a new deal soon.

Wolper, Golden Quit

BOSTON, Oct. 27.—Henry Wolper, office manager, and Harry Golden, chief checker at the local M-G-M offices, have resigned. Both have been employed by M-G-M here for 25 years.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 27

W. J. KUPPER, 20th-Fox executive assistant in domestic sales to Tom Connors, is in Los Angeles on a tour of Fox exchanges. He will head East in a few days, stopping off in a number of key cities en route. William C. Gehring, 20th Western sales manager, now in San Francisco, is working his way East.

•

Barney Balaban, Paramount president, and Neil Agnew, Paramount sales head, will leave here for San Francisco tomorrow. They may return East from there.

•

William Dozier, Paramount story editor, will leave here by train Friday for the East to interview writers and publishers.

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Lawrence Weingarten, M-G-M producer, is in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital awaiting an appendectomy.

Sauter in United War Fund Top Post

James E. Sauter, executive director of United Theatres War Activities Committee has accepted general chairmanship of the entertainment industry section in the War Fund's current fund-raising appeal. Adolph Zukor, assisted by Barney Balaban and Peter Rathvon, is national director in charge of the motion picture section. Samuel Rinzler, of Frisch and Rinzler, is chairman of motion pictures for the Metropolitan area. Ralph Colin, of Goldmark, Colin and Kaye, attorneys, is directing the radio section.

The local committee has set a goal of $17,000,000, which it will attempt to raise by Dec. 7 for the USO, War Prisoners' Aid, United Seamen's Service and other war relief agencies.

Flex, New RKO City Manager in Syracuse

SYRACUSE, Oct. 27.—J. J. Flex, manager of RKO Keith's, here, has been promoted to city manager, succeeding H. H. Unterfort. Richard Feldman succeeds Flex as manager at Keith's. Other local RKO changes include the promotion of Edward Kearney, assistant manager at Keith's, to manager at the Paramount; William Dewan has been named manager of the Palace, succeeding Herbert Gordon, and John Shelly is now assistant manager at the Empire.

Joseph Steele is PCA Publicity Head

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 27.—Joseph Steele today became publicity director of Producing Corp. of America, currently making "Knickerbocker Holiday" for United Artists release.

Turner Pinch-Hits

OMAHA, Oct. 27.—George Turner of the Minneapolis M-G-M sales staff is substituting for Fred Thortsen, M-G-M salesman here, during the latter's illness.

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"OLD ACQUAINTANCE"

THE NEXT

Warner Bros.

ACHIEVEMENT

WILL HAVE ITS FIRST

ENGAGEMENT

Tuesday

9:30 A. M. AT THE

Hollywood

THEATRE

B'WAY AT 51ST STREET

CONTINUOUS AT POPULAR PRICES

Dim-Out Called Off in All Coastal Cities

(Continued from page 1)

the regulations may be re-imposed in the event of a serious U-boat menace in the future.

At the same time, exhibitors and others in the released areas were urged to adopt a voluntary "brown out" to keep down the consumption of electricity by eliminating non-essential lighting. With shortages of coal and oil threatening a shortage of power, it was explained, any great increase in consumption may necessitate the invocation of mandatory restrictions which would not be confined to the coastal strip, but would be nationwide.

Trop Is Producing New Series of Shorts

Jack Trop, head of J. D. Trop Productions, has started work on the first of a series of six two reelers, in both 16 and 35 mm at Minoco Studios here, based on "Palestine at War." The first, titled "Two Battles," tells about Jewish participation in turning back Field Marshal Rommel's Army at El Alamein. Actual film shots in color, taken in Palestine, will be included in the series, Trop reports. Distribution has not been set.

40 Film Critics Will See 'Fantasy' Debut

CINCINNATI, Oct. 27.—More than 40 film critics representing papers in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky will be guests here Friday of Universal Pictures at the premiere of "Flesh and Fantasy" at the Albee Theatre. They will be welcomed by Mayor James O. Stewart and local film critics at a luncheon in the Variety Club and in the evening will be given a dinner at the Netherland Plaza Hotel.

General Precision Net $1,097,276 to Sept. 30

General Precision Equipment Corp. and subsidiaries report a net profit of $1,097,276 for the nine months up to Sept. 30, subject to renegotiation of war contracts and year-end adjustments. This compares with a net profit during the same period last year of $817,764.

Para. Pep Clubs Elect

Paramount Pep Club of Cleveland has elected Marie Wiegler president, Ruth Liephart, vice-president, and Viola Conklin, secretary-treasurer, the company announced here yesterday. In Minneapolis, Joseph Prill has been elected Pep Club president there, and Josephine Renner was named secretary-treasurer.

Joseph Standish Passes

CLEVELAND, Oct. 27. — Joseph W. Standish, Loew's Theatres relief manager in Cleveland and a veteran of the stage and motion picture fields, died here today. Standish leaves a widow, Mrs. Gertrude Bailey Standish; a son, Simon, and two daughters, Estelle and Barbara.

Review

"Dancing Masters"

(20th-Fox)

THE latest in the Laurel and Hardy series is in their well-known "knock-down-drag-out" style and the team's followers will find it good for better than an hour of hilarity, touched off with a nice little romance, the principals of which are attractive newcomer Trudy Marshall and handsome Robert Bailey.

A somewhat questionable plot concerns the "Arthur Hurry School of Dancing," operated by Laurel and Hardy. Miss Marshall, the one student who regularly pays her tuition, is in love with Bailey, a riveter in her father's factory. Allan Lane, scheming to become a partner in the factory, succeeds in getting Bailey fired. The rest of the story jumps from the love theme to a Bailey invention, Lane's attempts to steal it, and with Stan's and Ollie's endeavors at getting the device recognized. In the end Lane is outsmarted, the invention is successful and Trudy and Bob get together with everyone's blessings. Comic highlights include Laurel's execution of his original "Pelican" ballet, and Hardy's bus ride on a roller coaster.

Though the plot of "Dancing Masters" wanders, the film is fast moving and is certainly full of laughs. Mal St. Clair has directed capably from a screenplay by W. Scott Darling and succeeds in producing a good vehicle for Laurel and Hardy fans. Miss Marshall and Bailey contribute good performances in the romantic leads. Lee Marcus produced.

Running time, 68 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

U. S. Says Only 3% of Filmites Were 'WPA'ers'

(Continued from page 1)

21,560 were seeking employment in the last week of March, 1940.

Slightly more than 70 per cent (143,724) of the total were males of whom 123,304 were employed, 4,660 were on public work and 15,760 were seeking employment, while of 51,685 females, 44,825 were working, 1,060 were on public work and 5,800 were unemployed.

Analysis of the figures showed 6,931 of 11,611 actors employed, 520 were on public work and 4,160 were idle; 4,761 of 7,621 actresses were employed, 300 were on public work and 2,560 were idle.

A survey of 25,430 experienced theatre and film proprietors, managers and officials showed 23,750 were working, 220 on public work and 1,460 were seeking work, while of 1,411 such females, 1,391 were working, none were on public relief and only 20 were out of jobs; 22,099 of 23,619 male projectionists were working, 160 were on public work and 1,360 were idle, with 256 female projectionists all working in private industry.

FCC Hits at CBS Affiliate Deals

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Federal Communications Commission today demanded that Columbia Broadcasting explain contracts with four affiliated stations which the FCC charged "appear" to be in violation of its chain broadcasting regulations. FCC asserted that contracts with WPAD, Paducah, Ky.; WHOP, Hopkinsville, Ky.; KEYS, Corpus Christi, Tex., and KGBS, Harlingen, Tex. "and perhaps others" contained provisions which may be in contravention of the regulations dealing with air exclusivity.

At the same time, the FCC also noted that a letter sent by CBS to affiliates last June sets up a time schedule apparently not in compliance with the specification that a chain may not option more than three hours of a station's time in any one of the four segments of the broadcast day.

FCC Criticism Answered by CBS

Answering the criticism leveled by the FCC, CBS here yesterday wired its affiliated stations explaining the events leading up to the present situation, and revealed full intention to comply with all aspects of FCC regulations. CBS claims there was not intentional contravention of FCC regulations in supplying affiliates with more than three hours of time, since the action was taken with FCC consultation.

'Fantasy' Here Nov. 24

Universal's "Flesh and Fantasy" will open at the Criterion on Broadway Nov. 24.

Astor Buys 'Melody'

Robert M. Savini, president of Astor Pictures, reports that Astor has secured from Reliance Pictures the film, "The Melody Lingers On," formerly released by United Artists. Picture will be re-cut and released under the title of "The War Bride's Secret," and will be ready for distribution Dec. 1.

Hickey Replaces Demien

Edward Hickey of Fox Wisconsin Amusements, has been named to the public relations chairmanship of the Milwaukee exchange area for the War Activities Committee, the latter reported here yesterday. He succeeds Don Demien, now in the Army.

Clark Gable Still A Potent Magnet

Washington, Oct. 27.—Captain Clark Gable, home from the wars, today found himself still No. 1 film star to War Department secretaries and stenographers and even to practically every feminine reporter in town, descending upon him for a mass interview.

Gable tried to tell about war and training films, their uses and value, but the girls wanted to hear about Gable.

Charges Refusal to Sell New or Old

(Continued from page 1)

make repeat or reissue pictures available to independents, both actions further hering what is claimed to be an artificial shortage of pictures.

Increased demands of distributor for extending the number of percentage bookings and the withdrawal of certain 1942-43 pictures for release in 1943-44 are also to be taken up, in addition to a study of surveys of general territorial conditions. Allied has charged Columbia with holding over last season's pictures for release during this season.

Product matters disposed of by the Caravan, Allied's national board will then assemble for discussion and decision on the consent decree and other matters.

Caravan committee consists of M. A. Rosenberg, National Allied president and committee chairman; Sidney E. Samuelson, H. A. Cole, William L. Ainsworth and Rotus Harvey, with A. F. Myers, general counsel. Besides the Caravan members, Allied's board consists of Jack Kirsch, Ray Branch, Roy Harrold, George Erdmann, Pete Wood, Henry Lowenstein and Meyer Leventhal.

Meeting at the same time and place will be the Independent Theatres Protective Association of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, headed by Ainsworth.

RKO in Additional Management Changes

RKO has made the following additional personnel shifts in its theatres: D. Huber replaces Mrs. C. Clevenger as manager of the Royal, Huber moving over from the Regent and Mrs. Clevenger becoming relief assistant for houses in Manhattan and lower Bronx; Harry Lyons becomes manager at the Palace on Broadway while Ray Conners is recovering from illness; Joseph Josack, manager of the Capitol, Trenton, has resigned.

Loew's Books 'Stalingrad'

Paramount's "The City That Stopped Hitler—Heroic Stalingrad" which recently completed six weeks at the New Victoria Theatre on Broadway, has been booked over Loew's Metropolitan circuit starting Nov. 8. Deal was set by Milt Kusell, Paramount district manager, and Henry Randel, branch manager, and C. C. Moskowitz, Loew theatre executive.

CHRISTMAS SOCK OF 1943!

You can make it come true with showmanship!

War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, New York City

"SAHARA" still S

TOPPING "THE MORE TH

OLYMPIC THEATRE
UTICA, N. Y.

65% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

PALACE THEATRE
MILWAUKEE, WIS.

25% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

DENVER THEATRE
DENVER, COL.

12% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

LIBERTY THEATRE
SEATTLE, WASH.

12% BETTER TH THE MOR THE MERR

LOEW'S MIDLAND THEATRE
KANSAS CITY, MO.

8% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

COLUMBIA PICTURES

TING NEW RECORDS!

MERRIER" EVERYWHERE!

STATE THEATRE
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16% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

LOEW'S PALACE THEATRE
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15% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

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STAMFORD, CONN.

10% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

EMBASSY THEATRE
READING, PA.

4% BETTER THAN THE MORE THE MERRIER

HUMPHREY
BOGART
The Sensational star of 'Casablanca'
SAHARA
with
BRUCE BENNETT • J. CARROL NAISH
LLOYD BRIDGES • REX INGRAM
Screen Play by John Howard Lawson and Zoltan Korda • Directed by ZOLTAN KORDA
A COLUMBIA PICTURE

LET'S ALL GIVE TO THE NATIONAL WAR FUND! IT GIVES TO ALL!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Oct. 2	FOOTLIGHT GLAMOUR Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—68 mins. (4020)	(Fourth Block) HARRIGAN'S KID D—70 mins. (329) PRESENTING LILY MARS Judy Garland M—104 mins. (330)		(First Block) LET'S FACE IT Bob Hope Betty Hutton M—76 mins. (4301)	GIRL FROM MONTERREY Armida C 61 mins. (412)		Special Releases COASTAL COMMAND D—60 mins. SPITFIRE Leslie Howard David Niven D—90 mins.	SWEET ROSIE O'GRADY Betty Grable Robert Young (Technicolor) M—76 mins. (408)	BAR 20 William Boyd Andy Clyde O—54 mins.	CORVETTE K-225 Randolph Scott Andy Devine D A Howard Hawks Production	(Re-Issues) Song of the Saddle Prairie Thunder The Cherokee Strip Empty Holsters Guns of the Pecos Land Beyond the Law
Oct. 9	DOUGHBOYS IN IRELAND Kenny Baker Jeff Donnell M	THE YOUNGEST PROFESSION C—81 mins. (331) PILOT #5 Franchot Tone D—70 mins. (332)	BLAZING GUNS Hoot Gibson Ken Maynard 54 mins. O—(258)	TRUE TO LIFE Mary Martin Franchot Tone Dick Powell C—94 mins. (4303)	LONE RIDER IN RAIDERS OF RED GAP O—(368)		(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C			CRAZY HOUSE Olsen & Johnson Martha O'Driscoll Count Basie & Band M	ADVENTURE IN IRAQ John Loder Ruth Ford D—(304)
Oct. 16	SAHARA Humphrey Bogart Bruce Bennett J. Carroll Naish D—97 mins.—(5003)	DU BARRY WAS A LADY (Technicolor) Red Skelton M—101 mins. (333) HITLER'S MADMAN D—84 mins. (334)	OUTLAWS OF STAMPEDE PASS Johnny Mack Brown O—(255)	HOSTAGES Luise Rainer Arturo de Cordova Paul Lukas D—88 mins. (4305)		SCREAM IN THE DARK Marie McDonald (229) OLD BARN DANCE (Re-issue) Gene Autry—(2307)	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D	PARIS AFTER DARK George Sanders Brenda Marshall Philip Dorn 85 mins. (409)		HI-YA SAILOR Elyse Knox Donald Woods M	
Oct. 23	THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME Chester Morris George E. Stone Jeanne Bates (1943-'44) D—(5034)	RANDOM HARVEST Ronald Colman Greer Garson D—126 mins. (370) HUMAN COMEDY Mickey Rooney D—117 mins. (380)	THE UNKNOWN GUEST Victor Jory Pamela Blake D—(309)	THE GOOD FELLOWS Cecil Kellaway Helen Walker James Brown C—70 mins. (4302)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN THE RETURN OF THE RANGERS THE UNDERDOG Barton McLane (316)	MAN FROM THE RIO GRANDE John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O—55 mins. (363)	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C			YOU'RE A LUCKY FELLOW, MR. SMITH Allan Jones Evelyn Ankers M—(8033)	PRINCESS O'ROURKE Olivia DeHavilland Robert Cummings D—(305)
Oct. 30	IS EVERYBODY HAPPY? Ted Lewis and his Band M	(First Block) (1943-44) ABOVE SUSPICION D—90 mins. (402)	BULLETS AND SADDLES A Range Buster O—(268)	TORNADO Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—83 mins. (4304)		MAN FROM MUSIC MOUNTAIN Roy Rogers Ruth Terry O—(257)	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D	(Re-Issues) IN OLD CHICAGO D—94 mins. (406) BANJO ON MY KNEE M—95 mins. (407)	THE WOMAN OF THE TOWN Claire Trevor Albert Dekker D	FLESH AND FANTASY Edward Robinson Charles Boyer Barbara Stanwyck D—(8062)	
Nov. 6	SILVER CITY RAIDERS Russell Hayden Adele Mara O—(5202)	BEST FOOT FORWARD Lucille Ball M—94 mins. (405) DR. GILLESPIE'S CRIMINAL CASE Lionel Barrymore D—89 mins. (407)	MYSTERY OF THE 13th GUEST Dick Purcell D—(211)	(Special Release) THE CITY THAT STOPPED HITLER—HEROIC STALINGRAD 58 mins. (4331)	THE DEVIL RIDERS Buster Crabbe O—(460)	OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY "Wild Bill" Elliott Ann Jeffreys	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C	GUADALCANAL DIARY Wm. Bendix Lloyd Nolan D (412)		SON OF DRACULA Robert Paige Louise Allbritton—D THE MAD GHOUL Evelyn Ankers David Bruce—D	FIND THE BLACKMAILER Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson D—(306)
Nov. 13	RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE Nina Foch Bela Lugosi D	GIRL CRAZY Mickey Rooney Judy Garland C—99 mins. (409) LASSIE COME HOME (410) Roddy MacDowall D	NEARLY EIGHTEEN Gale Storm Bill Henry D—61 mins. (226)	(Second Block) THE MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK Eddie Bracken Betty Hutton C—99 mins. (4309)		HERE COMES ELMER Al Pearce Dale Evans C—(303)	(Second Block) THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)			COBRA WOMAN Maria Montez Jon Hall Sabu D (in Technicolor)	NORTHERN PURSUIT Errol Flynn Julie Bishop D—(307)
Nov. 20		SALUTE TO THE MARINES Wallace Beery Fay Bainter D—(401) SWING SHIFT MAISIE (404) Ann Sothern C—86 mins.	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43) M—(210)	RIDING HIGH (Technicolor) Dorothy Lamour Dick Powell Victor Moore M—89 mins. (4307)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN BOSS OF RAWHIDE O—(452) HARVEST MELODY M—(402)	MYSTERY BROADCAST Frank Albertson D—(304) DEERSLAYER Bruce Kellogg Jean Parker O—67 mins. (306)	GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)	DANCING MASTERS Laurel and Hardy C—63 mins. (413)		NEVER A DULL MOMENT The Ritz Brotherss Frances Langford Mary Beth Hughes C	
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal D	ADVENTURES OF TARTU (406) Robert Donat Valerie Hobson D—103 mins.	TEXAS KID Johnny Mack Brown O—(351)	HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith John Litel C—73 mins. (4306)		DRUMS OF FU MANCHU (Adapted from Serial) Henry Brandon D—(305)	GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)		GUNG HO Randolph Scott Alan Curtis (Walter Wanger Prod.) D	
Dec. 4		YOUNG IDEAS Susan Peters (408) Mary Astor D—77 mins. THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER D—103 mins. (411)	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer) O—(361)			CANYON CITY John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O	GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)				
Dec. 11		I DOOD IT D—102 mins. (403) WHISTLING IN BROOKLYN Red Skelton Ann Rutherford		MINESWEEPER Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—67 mins. (4308)		HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER Roy Rogers Ruth Terry Bob Nolan and Sons of the	THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D				

IT'S THE

MARCH OF TIME AGAIN!

With the first AUTHORITATIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE, and GRIPPING screen story of JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

"YOUTH IN CRISIS"

PRODUCED BY THE EDITORS OF TIME

The short feature 15,000 exhibitors are waiting for! The story all leading U. S. Social Agencies say should be told! The film **ONLY** March of Time could make!

RELEASED BY

20th CENTURY-FOX

Canada's Films, in 12 Languages, Now Go to 64 Countries

(Continued from page 1)

WAC, the latter estimating the position of the screen as a post-war factor in readjustments. There will be a dozen others.

Miss Baird will disclose that the Canadian Film Board's "World in Action" series is now shown in 750 theatres in the Dominion and in 6,000 in the United States and its possessions—with rentals charged. Besides English and French, the series is now released in Spanish and Portuguese aimed at the Central and South American markets.

There are now 60 rural film circuits in Canada, according to Miss Baird, servicing 20 farming communities monthly.

Harrold Reelected Indiana ATO Head

(Continued from page 1)

baum, Rochester; Alex Manta, East Chicago; Maurice Rubin, Michigan City; Tom Baker, Rensselaer; A. H. Borkenstein, Fort Wayne; Douglas Haney, Albion; R. Kalver, Decatur; Pete Mallers, Fort Wayne; Marc Wolf, Indianapolis; William Studebaker, Logansport; Jack Alexander, Lebanon; George Mallers, Tipton; Sam Neal, Kokomo; Leonard Sowar, Muncie; V. U. Young, Gary; F. Walters, Hartford City; Abe Kaufman, J. B. Stine and J. Von Borssum, Terre Haute; Mrs. S. Cooper, Brazil; Harrold, Trueman Rembusch, Franklin; Walter Easley, Greensburg; Paul Meloy, Shelbyville; Bruce Kixmiller, Bicknell; Oscar Fine, and Harry Kornblum, Evansville; Harry Switow, Washington; Harry Vonderschmitt, Bloomington; A. B. Thompson, North Vernon; William McCarrel, Bedford; Johnson and A. C. Zaring, Fred Dolle, Carl Niesse and Dudley Williston, Indianapolis.

The session closed with a banquet in the Indianapolis Athletic Club last night, with Eugene C. Pulliam, owner of radio station WIRE and head of the state war bond sales administration, as speaker.

Hanson Opens Office

OMAHA, Oct. 27.—Oscar Hanson, who books for a number of exhibitors in this area, has opened an office on Film Row. Prior to the opening he gave a dinner for local exhibitors.

SPECIALIST
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CO. EXECUTIVES
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FILM SALESMEN
FRANK McGRANN
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(Agency)
331 Madison Ave., New York, MU. 2-6494

Browne Testifies of His Intervention in Four A's

(Continued from page 1)

gangster help, and then he named William Bioff and Nick Circella to run the IATSE. In 1938 Browne was named a member of the executive council of the A. F. of L. and was kept in that position until his extortion conviction with Bioff in 1941.

In 1939, according to Browne, the mob cast its eyes on the glamorous labor organizations of the film and theatre artists themselves.

"Ralph Whitehead, who was in charge of the four A's, the Artists and Actors Association of America, came to me and said he was having trouble with the parent organization, the Actors Equity," said Browne. "Whitehead said they were trying to oust him," Browne continued, "and he wanted to know if the IATSE would issue a charter for him if the Equity threw him out. He said he thought he could bring his people over into the IATSE.

Said Green Liked Whitehead

"I talked to Judge Joseph Padway about this and he said that President William Green liked Whitehead very much and that anything I could do to assist Whitehead would be appreciated by Green. I received practically the same assurance from Green's secretary. Later I had a talk with Circella about the Four A's. Nick told me to issue the charter to Whitehead. He said 'My people would like to get hold of that union.' I phoned Bioff in Hollywood. Bioff was not in favor of issuing the charter. I said 'it looks too late to me. I've been told to do it.' Bioff later agreed and I issued the charter. There was a lot of commotion in the A. F. of L.

Demand Return of Charter

"An executive meeting of the A. F. of L. was held in Atlantic City and a lot of delegates demanded the return of the charter I had issued to Whitehead. I refused to revoke the charter and there was nothing the executive council could do so they adjourned."

The revolt of the actors in the A. F. of L. failed to subside and the "commotion," as it was called by Browne, continued.

"While Circella and I were together at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark," continued Browne, "I called Bioff. Circella was in back of me saying 'Don't do it.' Bioff was saying 'Do it.' I became so distressed I said to Circella, 'Here, you carry the argument.' Circella refused to talk to Bioff and I finally said, 'All right, I'll revoke the charter.'"

Nitti Calls Meeting

The confusion and the conflicting gang orders over the actors' union situation later was the subject of a meeting called by Frank Nitti, leader of the mob, in Chicago, Browne said. The meeting had been described by Bioff, while on the witness stand as "my trial."

"I didn't participate," Browne said, "I just listened."

Browne then told of his own conviction, and the imposition of a fine of $20,000, which he paid soon after being sentenced.

"Did you pay the $20,000 out of your own resources?" "No, I didn't," he replied.

Object to Browne's Statement

Browne's statement was stricken out on the objection of defense attorneys. Federal Judge John C. Knox, who sentenced and fined Browne and Bioff, stipulated that the fines were not to be paid with the funds of any union, particularly the IATSE.

Under cross-examination by defense attorneys Browne was asked if he had made any demands under threats to producers.

"It doesn't make any difference," he replied, then added:

"No, I don't want it understood that I made any demands of money under threats."

"Are we to understand that you didn't have any personal knowledge of money that Bioff got from Nicholas Schenck, Twentieth Century-Fox or the others except what Bioff told you?" Browne was asked.

"Yes, that's true," he replied. "I took Bioff's word for it."

CEA Asks Individual Renters Meetings

(Continued from page 1)

's a "deliberate and flagrant" breach of an understanding not to vary trading conditions during the war. They propose urging the British Board of Trade to act if negotiations with the renters fail.

The local branch of the CEA has requested the general organization to appeal to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to remove irregularities of the entertainment tax in the next British budget.

5 Million for Army From 'Army' by Jan. 1

(Continued from page 1)

Berlin's "This Is the Army" by January 1, according to Jack L. Warner.

Warners have already turned over $1,000,000 to the Army from earnings of the picture, and expect to turn over another $1,000,000 within 30 days.

Object to 48-Hour Week in Five Keys

(Continued from page 1)

and a 48-hour week for those in mechanical jobs.

Meanwhile, A. F. Hardy, acting WMC regional chairman at Seattle, has advised exchanges there to continue under the 40-hour week until further notice. The distributors' applications for exemption of exchanges from the 48-hour week still is pending there.

Film Leaders at Charity Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

proximately $150,000 was raised by the amusement division last year, Bernstein added, and in order to raise extra sums needed, a new plan of campaigning has been developed, which will be announced at tomorrow's luncheon. Heads of sub-committees for each field of the industry will also be selected.

U. S. O. Asks For More Film Stars Abroa

(Continued from page 1)

leaving for the Coast to line up a ditional shows.

"The exhausting routine that formers went through in entertaini men overseas is over. We are doi everything we can to lighten the bu den of these tours, and are succee ing. Units are now asked to do on two shows, six days a week, wi one week of rest every six weeks," said. "Artists are put up at the be hotels and have plenty of assistan to aid them."

USO Sets Schedules

The USO studies the problem each film star and works out a sche ule accordingly. Motion picture a tors and actresses, with contractu obligations, are not required to spe six months overseas, as the averag vaudeville artist is asked to do, b are asked to give only as much their time off from Hollywood pe mits, Dover pointed out.

"Bob Hope, who was in great d mand while in England, did 120 show in five weeks. Personalities who no go overseas do only two shows bases each night, plus a show in hospital sometimes."

The route in England now can played in 40 weeks, with an averag unit booked for six months. The are, at present, 12 units touring E gland. In September, 600 perform ances were given by these units, far cry from the 76 performances gi en by entertainers when Camp Show started in March of this year," sa Dover.

Each base receives one unit eve two weeks, but in certain situation such as point where the 8th A Force has its fields, or at embarka tion areas, the men are entertain more frequently.

"Those who have charge of moti picture distribution in the Europea theatre of operations are doing the best in a difficult situation," Dove said. "They are releasing the newe films as soon as possible, but we mu remember that war supplies con first. There is a genuine, all-out e fort to deliver new pictures to t bases."

Forsees Vaudeville Boom

Dover foresees a vaudeville boo in this country after the war. "W know from experience that these mi lions of men overseas will want t continuance of 'live' talent in theatr when they return," he said.

Before joining Camp Shows ni months ago, Dover was an executi with Feldman-Blum, Hollywood ta ent agency, and until 1938 was e ployed by 20th Century-Fox on t Coast.

5,400 Trailers Sold

National Tuberculosis Associati announced yesterday that the 19 trailer for Christmas Seal sales, sta ring Bing Crosby, has sold more th 5,400 prints to local associatio throughout the United States a Canada.

'Rourke' on Dual kes $22,000 to p in St. Louis

. Louis, Oct. 27.—The Shubert tre, re-opened by Fanchon and co, got off to a good start as a run house this week and is headed gross of $6,500 with "Spitfire." cess O'Rourke" at the Fox, how- is tops for the week with $22,- closely followed by "Sweet Rosie rady" at the Ambassador, which do $19,000.

stimated receipts for the week ng Oct. 27:

ncess O'Rourke" (WB)
stages" (Para.)
X—(5,038) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: 0. (Average: $15,800).

ng Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
ngerous Blondes" (Col.)
EW'S STATE—(3,162) (30c-40c-50c-55c) ys, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Aver- $16,900).

eet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
is After Dark" (20th-Fox)
BASSADOR—(3,154) (30c-40c-50c) 7 Gross: $19,000. (Average: $12,500).

's Face It" (Para.)
antom of the Opera" (Univ.)
ISSOURI—(3,514) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. ss: $10,000. (Average: $7,300).

itfire" (RKO)
ventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
HUBERT—(1,600) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. ss: $6,500.

rst Comes Courage" (Col.)
ime Doctor" (Col.)
OEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (30c-40c- 55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: 00).

intertime" (20th-Fox)
audia" (20th-Fox)
T. LOUIS—(4,000) (35c-40c) 7 days. ss: $5,500. (Average: $4,400).

'Lucky', 'Dr. I.Q.' Bring In $18,800

Buffalo, Oct. 27. — "Thank Your Lucky Stars" aided by a night of Dr. I. Q. on the stage is expected to lead here with $18,800 at the Buffalo, and "For Whom the Bell Tolls" is expected to hold to $16,800 at the Great Lakes in a third week.

Estimated receipts for the weekending Oct. 30:

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. (Dr. I. Q. on stage Monday night). Gross: $18,800. (Average, $16,500).

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,800. (Average, $16,400).

"Hostages" (Para.)
"The Good Fellows" (Para.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,200. (Average, $9,500).

"Princess O'Rourke" (W.B.)
"Murder on the Waterfront" (W.B.)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,600. (Average, $10,600).

"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
"Crime Doctor" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,400. (Average, $10,500).

WAC Releases Another

War Activities Committee will release "War Information Film" No. 80, titled "Family Feud," on Nov. 4. The film was produced by RKO and will be distributed by Columbia, free to all exhibitors.

Reissues for Swerdlove

Boston, Oct. 27.—Al Swerdlove has taken over some reissues and will open his own headquarters on Film Row in the near future.

Short Subject Reviews

"Hit Parade of the Gay '90's"

(Warner Bros.)

Famous vaudeville songs and acts of the "gay nineties" are recalled in this entertaining film, which features such old favorites as "Hello My Baby," "The Bowery," "When You Were Sweet Sixteen," plus the villain and the young innocent act with its "Take Back Your Gold." Ever-popular lyrics, melodies and scenes reminiscent of the "good old days" make this especially entertaining for the oldsters. Good direction by Jean Negulesco from a screenplay by James Bloodworth. Running time, 10 mins. Release date, Sept. 18.

"Sweetheart Serenade"

(Warner Bros.)

Built around the charming song, "When You Were A Smile On Your Mother's Lips and A Twinkle In Your Daddy's Eye," this clever Melody Masters number, employing the flash back technique, tells the heart-warming story of a courtship which began when the boy and girl (Warren Douglas and Joyce Reynolds) were youngsters. Music is provided by Rudolph Friml, Jr., and his band. Jean Negulesco directed this all-round good short. Running time, 10 mins. Release date, Oct. 23.

'Let's Face It' Dual Does $13,800

Indianapolis, Oct. 27.—Twin bill, "Let's Face It" and "The Good Fellows," at the Indiana is expected to do $13,800 to top grosses here this week. Another dual, "Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" and "Top Man," at the Circle, will do $12,100.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 26-28:

"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
"The Top Man" (Univ.)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $11,000).

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
"The Good Fellows" (Para.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $11,500).

"Sahara" (Col.)
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $9,900).

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
"Nobody's Darling" (Rep.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, moved from Circle. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $4,500).

Crosley $2,771,879 Nine Months' Net

Cincinnati, Oct. 27.—Net of Crosley Corp. and subsidiaries for nine months ending Sept. 30, totaled $2,771,879 subject to Government contract renegotiation, according to a report released here.

Profit, which is after deducting $6,495,057 for taxes, is equivalent to $5.08 a share and is in contrast to the $764,694 or $1.40 a share, earned in the corresponding three-quarters of 1942 when only $1,484,921 was required for taxes.

AL PEARCE
HERE COMES
ELMER
with
Dale EVANS • Frank ALBERTSON
GLORIA STUART • WALLY VERNON
featuring
RADIO'S POPULAR ENTERTAINE
ARTIE AUERBACH as "KITZEL" • ARLENE HARRI
WM. COMSTOCK • PINKY TOMLIN • WENDELL NILE
THE SPORTSMEN • THE KING COLE TRIO
and
JAN GARBER and HIS BAND
JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director
Original Screen Play by
Jack Townley and Stanley Davis
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

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Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

TION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

. 54. NO. 84 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1943 TEN CENTS

ederal Sales Tax Rejected By House Unit

ction Lessens Hope for Low Ticket Tax

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—The ouse Ways and Means Commit- e today rejected a proposal for a neral sales tax to raise additional venue sought by the Administration d, with all of the major items out the way, turned its attention to se odds and ends, and is expected xt week to begin the actual writing a bill estimated roughly to raise out one-fifth of the $10,500,000,000 ked by the Treasury.

Adoption of a sales tax had been regarded by industry observers here as one of the major possibilities by which the 30 per cent admission tax mght be avoided, on the theory that it would return sufficient revenue to make sharp increases in other tax brackets, among them admissions, unnecessary.

There still remain at least four ances for rejection or easing of

(Continued on page 5)

Browne Taken Ill At Extortion Trial

Trial of seven Capone gangsters nd a Newark labor leader on extor- on charges involving the industry as adjourned prematurely yesterday ntil this morning, when George E. Browne, former president of the ATSE, nearing the end of his third ay on the witness stand, collapsed in n anteroom of the Federal court dur- ng a recess.

Browne, Federal officials said, has een suffering from stomach ulcers nd other ailments and has been under

(Continued on page 6)

Mono. to Have 20 Ready by Jan. 15

Monogram plans to have 20 features f the 26 planned for 1943-44 com- leted by Jan. 15, Steve Broidy, vice- president and general sales manager f the company, here from the Coast, evealed yesterday. One of the two specials" starring Ann Corio, also romised, has already been finished as vell.

"Monogram is stepping up its vhole production schedule because we eel that the opportunity for this com-

(Continued on page 5)

Longer Preparation for Better Quality, RKO Aim

By FRED STENGEL

RKO Radio will adopt a "slower-but-surer" method of production for 1944-45. Because of a large and still growing backlog of pictures, the company will start 1944-45 production in January, months ahead of the usual schedule, with the idea of taking a longer time to prepare for filming in order to take pressure off its producers and, importantly, to improve picture quality, Charles Koerner, vice-president in charge of production, revealed here yesterday in an interview at the home office. He had just arrived from Boston where he attended the premiere of "The Iron Major."

Chas. Koerner

"Sister Kenny," starring Rosalind

(Continued on page 5)

Studios Seen Aided By Dim-Out Removal

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28.—Elimination of dim-out restrictions in Coastal communities on Nov. 1 is regarded by studios here as an emphatic aid in night outdoor shooting which has long been barred. Dependent as they are on outdoor requirements, studios also foresee economies effected under the relaxation of the dim-out ban.

Circuit operators will relight their

(Continued on page 5)

Warners Preparing For Market Changes Early Next Year

CHICAGO, Oct. 28.—Plans for bringing sales policies and merchandising procedure into line with any possible changes in market conditions in the early part of 1944, with respect to both feature and short product, was the main business activity of the first day of Warner Bros.' sales conference at the Blackstone Hotel here today.

Ben Kalmenson

Ben Kalmenson, who is presiding at the three-day meeting, huddled with Charles Einfeld, Mort Blumenstock,

(Continued on page 5)

United Detroit Adds First-Run House

DETROIT, Oct. 28.—United Detroit Theatres Corp. has arranged a term lease to make a first-run house of the 2,000-seat Wilson currently showing "For Whom the Bell Tolls." At the end of the showing of "Bell", an estimated several weeks hence, the Wil-

(Continued on page 5)

WAC Lists $1,909,889,196 Bond Sales; Cites Trade Press Aid

Grand total of $1,909,889,196 in war bonds were sold by the Hollywood star tours and 16,498 WAC theatre members during the Third War Loan drive, it was reported here yesterday by the War Activities Committee as it closed its books for the campaign. A 16-page brochure has been issued to show the scope of the industry effort.

The U. S. Treasury is quoted as saying that the industry's Hollywood Cavalcade was "the greatest single bond selling effort of the entire national campaign." There are three double-spreads in the brochure; one, giving a detailed report on the Cavalcade; another covers the activities of the War Veterans' Airmada, and the third accenting the war bond premieres by theatres. L. C. Griffith, C. B. Akers and Ray Beall, WAC leaders of the industry drive, say "thanks a billion" on one page, while still another is in recognition of the aid given the drive by the trade press; says the WAC: "the trade press was an integral part of the campaign."

Major Decree Changes Fail to Reach D. of J.

No Telling When They Will Be Submitted

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Revised proposals of the decree distributors for changes in the consent decree have failed to reach the Department of Justice today, with no indication when or how they would be submitted.

At a late hour today Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark had not been advised whether the draft would be sent in by mail or brought to Washington by Joseph Hazen, vice president of Warner Brothers. It is anticipated that if the companies feel an oral explanation should be made in addition to the showing of the changes they propose as compared with the present decree, Hazen will bring the document personally.

Meanwhile, exhibitor organization representatives are dropping in at the

(Continued on page 5)

Approves Raises For UD Personnel

DETROIT, Oct. 28.—The War Labor Board has approved a new contract between Local B-173, IATSE, and United Detroit Theatres for a three-year period beginning Oct. 25. The new pact raises the wage scales set in a previous three-year pact signed Oct. 25, 1941.

The agreement details raises for cashiers, ushers, usherettes, candy girls, doormen, chiefs of service. Downtown cashiers get raised $3 per week now and $2 Jan. 1. Second-run cashiers $2.50 now, $1.50 Jan. 1; others $2 now; Varsity Theatre $2

(Continued on page 5)

Scollard to Appeal Coast 48-Hour Week

C. J. Scollard of Paramount and Sidney Bromberg of Loew's are scheduled to leave New York for the Coast next Tuesday to present the appeal from the recent order of the Los Angeles regional War Manpower Commission governing the work week schedules of all film exchange employes there.

The appeal, which is scheduled for hearing during the week of Nov. 8, will be on behalf of all exchanges. The regional WMC in Los Angeles

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, now visiting the M-G-M studio, will leave there Nov. 6 for a two-week tour of company exchanges in San Francisco, Seattle, Portland and Minneapolis, returning to New York around Nov. 20.

•

JAMES A. FLYNN, booker for Columbia, covering Philadelphia circuits, has left to enter war work. He was former business manager for the Film Exchange Employees Union, Local B-7.

•

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, U. A. Western division manager, is scheduled to leave over the weekend for Chicago, Indianapolis, St. Louis and Kansas City exchanges.

•

MAX B. BLACKMAN is now acting secretary of the Warner Club here, serving while STUART H. AARONS is in the Army.

•

DAVID H. COPLAN, vice-president of United Artists in Canada, now in New York, is expected to return to Toronto over the weekend.

•

PVT. ROBERT A. WEINER, son of HARRY E. WEINER, Columbia branch manager in Philadelphia, has been honorably discharged from the Army.

•

JAMES WINTER, honorably discharged from the Army, has returned to the 'U' exchange in Philadelphia.

•

ESTHER RUDO of the Columbia exchange in Philadelphia, is in the hospital after an emergency appendectomy.

•

PAUL LAZARUS, JR., U. A. advertising-exploitation director, is expected back from Hollywood today.

•

ZELMA BROOKOV of the Warner Eastern talent department will be in Baltimore on Sunday.

•

DAVID MILGRAM, head of Affiliated Theatres, Philadelphia, has gone to Florida to recuperate from an illness.

•

GEORGE KURLANSIK, operator of the Transit, Allentown, Pa., is leaving that city next week to live in Florida.

•

SAM FRIEDMAN, manager of the Franklin, Allentown, Pa., became the father of a son, JACK, recently.

•

SYLVAN KATZ, 20th Century-Fox booker in Philadelphia, has recovered from illness.

•

J. ELLIS SHIPMAN, Warner circuit treasurer in Philadelphia, has returned from vacation.

•

BETTY KENNY, of the Paramount New Haven exchange staff, is spending a week's vacation in New York.

•

FRED MERCY, SR., exhibitor in Yakima, Washington, is in town.

•

MICHAEL FELT, Philadelphia exhibitor, is in Florida on a vacation.

Allied Commends MGM Reissuing 10

M-G-M's decision of last weekend to make available prints of 10 features of previous years to alleviate subsequent-run product shortages was commended by Allied States in a statement issued yesterday.

Allied characterized the present release situation as an "artificial shortage" created because some distributors have reduced the number of available prints on both new and old features.

"Ordinarily exhibitors eye the reissues warily because they usually represent no more than an effort on the part of the exhibitor to take advantage of a thin market by building huge profits on products that have already been liquidated," Allied pointed out. "But Metro's action appears to be a genuine effort to aid exhibitors by making available a substantial number of excellent pictures from which they may choose, and on terms which reflect this laudable purpose."

Allied hopes, concluded the statement, that M-G-M "will not draw too fine a distinction between customers and non-customers. All exhibitors who really need help should receive it." Allied further hopes that distributors will follow Metro's example.

The 10 M-G-M reissues included: "Third Finger, Left Hand," with Myrna Loy and Melvyn Douglas; "Northwest Passage," Spencer Tracy; "The Big Store," Marx Bros.; "Love Crazy," William Powell and Myrna Loy; "Go West," Marx Bros.; "Flight Command," Robert Taylor; "Billy the Kid," Robert Taylor; "A Christmas Carol," Lionel Barrymore; "Escape," Norma Shearer and Robert Taylor, and "Come Live with Me," Hedy Lamarr and James Stewart.

Ban on Sunday Film Deliveries Revoked

CLEVELAND, Oct. 28.—Cleveland film exchanges and local carriers were authorized at a meeting here yesterday with the regional Office of Defense Transportation to continue film deliveries on a six-day week schedule, irrespective of what days of the week are selected.

The authorization, in effect, revokes the regional ODT's earlier order for a discontinuance of Sunday film deliveries in this area. Through the efforts of H. M. Richey of the M-G-M home office it was brought out that the regional ODT order was in conflict with the national ODT regulation permitting deliveries on any six days of the week.

Lesser-RKO Renew Tarzan Films Pact

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28.—Sol Lesser and RKO today renewed their deal for three Tarzan pictures, one to be delivered in September annually in 1944, '45, '46. RKO will get the last one on the old contract in December.

Lesser will leave here for Washington Nov. 5 to line up Army cooperation for "Port of Embarkation," his next film. He has also acquired "Three's a Family," current New York stage play, for February production, with United Artists release.

Rain a 25 to 50% Box Office Damper

Broadway theatres took a boxoffice "beating" this week due to rainstorms which hit the city early Monday and continued through most of yesterday. Drop from the previous week overall was about 25 per cent, although on Tuesday, when the storm was at its height, grosses dropped in some situations 50 per cent below normal. Circuit and independent neighborhood houses were affected even more, their average drop being 30 per cent.

Tri-Cornered Plea To WPB for Trucks

Exhibitor, distributor and film carrier representatives met yesterday at New York's Film Board of Trade headquarters on the threatened breakdown in film deliveries due to truck deterioration. The carriers agreed to collate all facts pertaining to the situation since the Government's freezing order on new trucks. Further meetings will then be held by the three groups to formulate plans to obtain relief and an exhibitor-distributor-film carrier joint committee will go to Washington to plead with WPB officials for priorities for the purchase of new trucks to replace many now in use.

Next meeting is scheduled for the latter part of next week.

Those who attended yesterday's session were: William A. White, general manager of Skouras Theatres; Sam Rinzler, Randforce Circuit; Fred Schwartz, Century Circuit; Irving Dollinger, New Jersey exhibitor, representing exhibitors; Henderson M. Richey, M-G-M executive, for distributors; Ira Meinhardt and Lou Lane, representing film carriers, and Louis Nizer and Ralph Pielow of the Film Board of Trade.

Chicago Anti-Trust Suit Set for Jan. 24

CHICAGO, Oct. 28.—Date for the trial of the Jackson Park Theatre's $360,000 anti-trust suit against Balaban and Katz, Warner Bros. Theatres and the five consent decree companies has been postponed from Nov. 1 to Jan. 24.

Depositions were taken here yesterday from James Coston, Jack Shumew and Harry Seed, by Thomas C. McConnell, attorney. Previous deposition testimony had been taken from Walter Immerman, Allen Usher, Sam Gorelick and Jack Osserman.

UJA Luncheon Today

The amusement industry's effort on behalf of the New York and Brooklyn Federations of Jewish Charities for 1943 will be launched at a Hotel Astor luncheon today with film leaders, stage producers, music publishers and night club owners present.

Schenck Interested In Mexican Films

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 28.—Joseph Schenck, 20th Century-Fox production executive, inspected the Clasa film studio while on a recent visit here, lending credence to reports that he is planning to finance films being produced in this country. Clasa is the largest studio here. Schenck stated that he has been following the progress of the Mexican film industry for some time.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
ERIC KNIGHT'S beloved novel
"LASSIE COME HOME"
with RODDY McDOWALL—DONALD CRISP
An M-G-M Picture in Technicolor
Gala Stage Revue Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Held Over 2nd Week
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
PORTUGAL—EUROPE'S CROSSROADS
20th CENTURY-FOX RELEASE
Another First From The MARCH OF TIME

Mary MARTIN . Franchot TONE . Dick POWELL . Victor MOORE
"TRUE TO LIFE"
IN PERSON
THE INK SPOTS
TONY PASTOR and His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
THE JAPS ARE WORSE THAN KILLERS
'BEHIND THE RISING SUN'

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
First New York Showing!
DONALD O'CONNOR
"TOP MAN"
IN PERSON
LOUIS ARMSTRONG and Orchestra

BETTY GRABLE
ROBERT YOUNG
ADOLPHE MENJOU
Sweet Rosie O'Grady
20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE
IN TECHNICOLOR!
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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"I dood Hit!"
Again the Leaping Lion is roaring with glee. Another happy M-G-M hit is packing the fans into theatres from Coast to Coast. "I DOOD IT" has everything to delight the crowds! Overflowing with talent and tunes, its story of a pants-pressing Romeo and a dancing darling is tops in howling hilarity. Another Big One in M-G-M's gold-mine group "Twelve Toppers."
The fastest-growing STAR of the year!
RED SKELTON
Eleanor POWELL
M-G-M's
I DOOD IT
With
RICHARD AINLEY · PATRICIA DANE · SAM LEVENE
THURSTON HALL · LENA HORNE · HAZEL SCOTT
JIMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer PICTURE
SCREEN PLAY BY SIG HERZIG AND FRED SAIDY
DIRECTED BY VINCENTE MINNELLI PRODUCED BY JACK CUMMINGS
WAR BONDS!
The Job That Never Stops

Federal Sales Tax Rejected By House Unit

(Continued from page 1)

the increase from one to three cents on each 10 cents paid for admissions tentatively adopted by the committee Oct. 26, including one point at which exhibitor representatives may have another opportunity to present their views on the levy.

Before the bill is sent to the House floor, the committee will take a final vote, and at least one vote will be taken in the House itself if any opposition is offered to the committee recommendation, besides the vote by which the bill is sent to the Senate. In the Upper House, further hearings, at which the exhibitors will ask to be heard, are expected to be held by the Senate Finance Committee, which must decide whether to accept, reject or amend the House provision, and a vote also will be taken in the Senate when the bill is debated.

In the event the Senate amends the House provision, the item will come up before a conference committee appointed to iron out the differences between the two chambers.

Exhibitors throughout the country were scored for their "complacency" on the proposed admission tax increase by industry spokesmen here yesterday and national and regional organizations were preparing to marshal their forces for direct protests to Congressmen.

Exhibitors See Clark

While in Washington on Wednesday seeing Assistant Attorneys General Tom C. Clark and Robert L. Wright on their consent decree complaints, representatives of Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors visited several Congressmen and urged them to vote against the proposed increase. They have also sent protests to several Committee members pointing out that the increase in tax will serve to decrease theatre attendance, resulting in a decrease in government revenue. UIE urges that if there is an increase it should not apply to any admission under 35 cents.

The general feeling is that Congressmen are getting a distorted picture of motion picture attendance conditions by witnessing the boom conditions in Washington, where the population has increased almost three-fold since the war began without any new theatres being built.

United Detroit Adds First-Run House

(Continued from page 1)

son will supplement the Broadway-Capitol as a moveover house, expediting first-run flow from the Michigan, United Artists and Palm-State.

This is understood to be the biggest expansion in Detroit in a decade and the first UD extension in 18 months since the suburban Bloomfield was acquired due to first-runs getting extended playing because product quality is up and not just because of prosperous conditions.

Longer Preparation for Better Quality, RKO Aim

(Continued from page 1)

Russell; "Gibson Girl," with Ginger Rogers, and "None But the Lonely Heart," described as three top features, will wind up the 1943-44 schedule and these will all be well along by the first of the year, taking RKO right up to release schedules as of Sept., 1944, when the new distribution season starts, Koerner declared.

Technicolor will be used extensively by RKO in its future films. Six are planned for next year. The company plans to make between 35 and 40 pictures during 1944-45, the same as this year, he said.

"Right after the first of the year we will start work on 'Light Fantastic' with Bing Crosby, and 'Experiment Perilous,' with Paul Henreid and Maureeen O'Hara. We plan to use Pat O'Brien in two, 'Marine Raiders' and 'Having a Wonderful Crime.' 'Spanish Main' will be one of our big-budget Technicolor pictures," Koerner stated.

He reiterated statements made previously by other topflight Coast executives to the effect that production costs have risen 25 per cent since the war started. The studios are pooling, so far as possible, the use of technicians and certain highly technical equipment of which there are shortages.

Shortage of Writers

"There is an acute shortage of stories in Hollywood. RKO now has 40 writers on the payroll, more than at any time in the company's history, developing originals," Koerner said.

The company plans to continue producing the "Fibber McGee and Molly," "Great Gildersleeve" and "Lum and Abner" series. "There are no deals in the making with independent producers," he said. "The policy of RKO is to get away from the use of independent producers." A curtailment of war films is planned, he added.

Koerner, who is East on a semi-vacation and business trip, will leave for the Coast next Friday.

Mono. to Have 20 Ready by Jan. 15

(Continued from page 1)

pany is greater now than ever before," Broidy declared.

On the basis of deals made to date for 1943-44 product, Broidy is of the opinion that Monogram sales will wind up about 35 per cent ahead of last year. The company has already started making plans for 1944-45 and is arranging for at least the same number of pictures as this year. If conditions warrant, the company will produce more, he stated.

Three pictures recently completed will be ready for release after Nov. 15. They include: "Women in Bondage" with Gail Patrick and Nancy Kelly; "Where Are My Children?" with Jackie Cooper, and "Lady, Let's Dance," with Belita which, Broidy stated, was the highest budget production ever made by Monogram.

He plans to remain East one month and then return to Hollywood.

Warners Preparing For Market Changes

(Continued from page 1)

Arthur Sachson, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Norman H. Moray and A. W. Schwalberg preliminary to the main session tomorrow.

This morning's gathering was addressed by Joseph Bernhard and Kalmenson, Einfeld, Blumenstock, Sachson, Moray and others. Plans mapped yesterday at an executive conference were presented to the assembled district managers. Harry M. Kalmine gave the sales group some slants from the theatre operating standpoint, and the playdate situation was discussed by Ed Hinchy.

District managers on hand include Harry A. Seed, Henry Herbel, Ralph L. McCoy, Norman Ayers, Robert Smeltzer, Hall Walsh, Charles Rich, Clarence Eiseman and Wolfe Cohen. Ted Tod, Midwest field representative, also is attending.

Warner Bros. has increased its November release schedule to three productions with the addition of "Old Acquaintance," starring Bette Davis and Miriam Hopkins, on Nov. 27, it was announced by Kalmenson. Other two releases will be "Find the Blackmailer," Nov. 6, and "Northern Pursuit," starring Errol Flynn, Nov. 13.

Studios Seen Aided By Dim-Out Removal

(Continued from page 1)

signs reluctantly and would prefer the status quo. They recognize, however, relighted billboards, market and restaurant signs after Nov. 1, no doubt, will elminate their reluctance and force paralleling action at theatres. Early sentiment, cross-sectionally, sees no benefit to grosses in relighting, although theatres in disadvantageous locations may benefit by restored illumination.

Approves Raises For UD Personnel

(Continued from page 1)

more Jan. 1; Norwest, Alger, Annex, $1 more Jan. 1. The old contract rate would be paying $17 in houses over 1,000 seats; $15 in houses under.

Downtown ushers and usherettes start at 40 cents per hour with regular increases for continued service to 50 cents after 12 months. Old contract ran from 37½ to 42½ cents. Candy girls' rates continue 2½ cents higher; Service chiefs and doormen 5 cents higher. Subsequent-run ushers' rates run from 35 cents to start, up to 45 cents at year's end.

ITOA Meets

Regular meeting of the Independent Theatre Owners Association was held here yesterday at the Hotel Edison, with Harry Brandt, president, conducting the session. "Routine matters" were discussed, it was said.

Installation of officers will take place at the next meeting to be held Nov. 11 at the Hotel Astor.

Major Decree Changes Fail to Reach D. of J.

(Continued from page 1)

department as they happen to be in Washington for brief discussions of certain points in which they are interested. Harry Brandt dropped by Tuesday evening and went along almost immediately to catch a train to New York. Officials of the Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York conferred yesterday with Robert L. Wright, assistant to the Attorney General, but did not see Clark.

Ed Kuykendall, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, visited the department earlier this week, while Clark has invited L. O. Lukan of Seattle, representing the Pacific Coast Conference of Theatre Owners, to confer with him in Washington next week.

Headed for Ruin, UIE Tells Clark

"Present system of monopolistic practices by major film companies will ultimately force all independent exhibitors out of business," representatives of Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York said in a brief to Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark and Robert L. Wright in Washington at a meeting held this week in connection with the re-drafting of the consent decree.

"We cater to people who cannot afford to pay higher-priced prior-run admission charges. Destruction of independent theatres will force these people to pay these higher prices or deprive them of motion pictures," UIE attorney Jacob Leff, claimed.

"More than 50 per cent of independent theatres in the New York area have joined booking combines as contrasted to a condition of several years ago when 250 independently operated houses purchased films and booked them on their own," the UIE decree brief charged in pointing out that independent exhibitors in New York are "being driven out of business or into booking combines".

"Divorcement is essential," the UIE declare. "If a compromise is effected, specific provisions relating to subsequent run exhibitors must be incorporated. A system of simplified, inexpensive arbitration must be established," the UIE brief declared.

RKO Lists 3 Trade Shows

RKO will tradeshow "Gangway for Tomorrow" on Monday at 2:30 p. m.; "Government Girl" on Wednesday at 10 a. m. and 4 p. m.; and "Falcon and the Co-eds" on Thursday at 11 a. m. and 2:30 p. m. at the local RKO exchange projection room, 630 Ninth Ave., the company said yesterday.

Fordham to See 'Major'

Fordham College friends and associates of the late Frank Cavanaugh, subject of RKO's "The Iron Major," will attend Monday evening's special performance of this picture at New York's Globe Theatre.

$21,700 for 'Marines' Is Best in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 28.—Business at downtown houses, encountering many competitive factors, shows a drop for the first time this season. Incessant rain, opening of a new canteen ballroom, the presentation of "Ice Capades" and the opening of a fourth legitimate theatre, all tended to hold business down. Of the new openings, the only impressive business is being shown by "Salute to the Marines," figured on giving the Fox $21,700.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 27-29:

"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
ALDINE—(900) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,200. (Average, $10,300).
"In Old Chicago" (20th-Fox)
ARCADIA—(600) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, re-issue. Gross: $3,850. (Average, $3,500).
"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average, $19,000).
"The Unknown Guest" (Mono.) (6 days)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (46c-57c-75c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Count Basie's orchestra, Apus & Estrellita, Sinclair & LeRoy, Shorty Davis, James Rushing, Earle Warren and Jo Jones. Gross: $28,200. (Average, $23,900).
"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
FAY'S—(2,200) (29c-35c-47c-57c-68c) 7 days of vaudeville, including Jimmie Lunceford's orchestra, Tina Dixon, Miller Bros., Radcliffe & Jenkins and Leon Collins. Gross: $11,800. (Average, $10,000).
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
FOX—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $21,700. (Average, $17,800).
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
KARLTON—(1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $4,700).
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $5,300).
"Princess O'Rourke" (W.B.)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,500. (Average, $22,900).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
STANLEY—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,800. (Average, $18,300).
"Crime School" (WB)
STANTON—(1,700) (35c-41c-46c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week, re-issue. Gross: $8,200. (Average, $8,400).

Harmon Addresses Col. War Fund Rally

Francis S. Harmon, War Activities Committee executive vice-chairman, addressed a rally of 12,000 at the Denver Civic Auditorium as part of the opening of the Colorado National War Fund campaign on Wednesday, WAC reported here yesterday.

Harmon, who had previously spoken at a luncheon rally for the National War Fund at Pueblo, left yesterday for conferences with the Hollywood division of the WAC.

Schreiber Replaces Yellen at Interboro

Ben Schreiber is the new general manager of the Bronx division of Interboro Theatres, replacing Sam Yellen, resigned. The Bronx division is known as the Five Boro Circuit and embraces seven houses.

Schreiber comes from the local Sumner Theatre, where he has been manager for three years.

Kansas City Likes 'Sahara' and 'Rosie'

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 28.—"Sahara" and "Dangerous Blondes" are bringing approximately $25,000 to the Midland this week, to top first-runs. "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" is equalling or surpassing records at the downtown Esquire to produce a gross of $9,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 27-28:

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $5,000)
"Sahara" (Col.)
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
MIDLAND—(3,600) (35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $14,000)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (75c-$1) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $10,900)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
"Henry Aldrich Swings It" (Para.)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $10,000)
"The Kansan" (UA)
"The Old Barn Dance" (Rep.)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) 7 days. Also stage show. Gross: $9,500. (Average, $9,400)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $5,600)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average, $1,450)

World Pictures to Make 6 Musicals

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28. — William Foch is president, and Luis Alvarez, producer, of World Pictures Inc. formed today to make six musicals, several in color. "Lady In Grey" will be the first, by announcement linked cooperatively with the Red Cross and starts on Nov. 8.

Foch formerly produced and directed for UFA, of Berlin. Alvarez, onetime associated with Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks, formerly produced in Buenos Aires and Mexico City.

Canada Houses Drop Fri. Night Revivals

TORONTO, Oct. 28.—Latest step in the coal conservation program of Canadian theatres was announced today in the discontinuance of late revival feature presentations which usually were added attraction for regular Friday night shows. Leading example of the move was the downtown Imperial Theatre here where revivals have been shown for many years.

Already abandoned were Sunday midnight and all extra shows and special screenings for patriotic groups and Government officials as well as matinees in some theatres.

Scollard to Appeal Coast 48-Hour Week

(*Continued from page* 1)

recently rejected the distributors' application for exemption from the 48-hour week there in a ruling which placed approximately half of the exchange employes on a 44-hour week and the remainder on a 48-hour week.

Jack King Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28.—Jack King, writer of the songs "How Am I to Know," "You Still Belong to Me" and other hit songs, died here this week. He was a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

'Rosie' Thrives in Rain, Gets Record $18,000 in Pitts.

PITTSBURGH, Oct. 28.—This was a precedent-shattering week here. Despite almost continuous rains, "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" broke the house record for a regular-price show, previously held by "Shores of Tripoli" at the Harris with a gross of $18,000. At advanced prices, "For Whom the Bell Tolls" grossed a big $48,000 at the Penn.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 26-29:

"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
FULTON—(1,700) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $7,700)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
HARRIS—(2,200) (33c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $9,300)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
PENN—(3,400) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $48,000. (Average, at regular prices, $16,800)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after one week at Penn, one at Warner. Gross: $3,000. (Average, $2,800)
"First Comes Courage" (Col.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average, $3,200)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. Average, $19,200)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $6,900)

'Corvette' Dualled Big $7,900 in New Haven

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 28.—"Corvette K-225" and "Gals, Incorporated," at the Paramount, will gross about $7,900 this week. At the Loew-Poli, "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," dualled with "Chance of a Lifetime," is headed for a neat $10,000, and the bill will move to the College for a second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 28:

"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"Report from the Aleutians" (WAC)
BIJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $3,600)
"Sahara" (Col.)
"Thumbs Up" (Rep.)
COLLEGE—(1,565) (40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,200. (Average, $3,200)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
LOEW-POLI—(3,005) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $9,300)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
"Gals, Incorporated" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,373) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,900. (Average, $6,200)
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
"Adventures in Iraq" (WB)
ROGER SHERMAN—(2,037) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,700. (Average, $6,200)

Army Overseas Film Switch Marks Time

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Plans to transfer the overseas distribution of motion pictures from the Special Service Division of the Army Service Force under Gen. Osborne to the Pictorial Division of the Signal Corps, proposed several months ago, are still hanging fire, it was learned here today.

At the War Department, officials had no comment. No reason was advanced for the delay in putting the plan through.

Dahn Joins Odeon

TORONTO, Oct. 28.—Odeon Theatres of Canada announced today the appointment as district manager at Hamilton, Ont., of Harry S. Dahn formerly one of the original executives of the Famous Players circuit.

Browne Taken Ill At Extortion Trial

(*Continued from page* 1)

treatment by physicians at the Federal House of Detention here.

Earlier, under cross examination by defense attorneys, Browne had recounted how Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, notorious New York racketeer, had endeavored to serve as peacemaker in a quarrel between the late Tommy Maloy, former business agent of the Chicago operators' union, and Harry Sherman of Local 306, New York. The quarrel, Browne said was over Sherman's ambition to run for secretary-treasurer of the IATSE in 1934.

The meeting with Buchalter in Maloy's office was the start of his acquaintance with the New York gangster, Browne said. He testified that he also met Frank Nitti and Frank Rio, Capone lieutenants, through Maloy. The latter met a violent death in Chicago several years ago.

The defense, endeavoring to establish that payments by film executives to Willie Bioff and Browne were bribery and not extortion, asked Browne if other projectionists could not have been obtained for the theatres if the IA men had been called out. Browne conceded that this was so but denied that it was not necessary for the producers to pay up, regardless.

IATSE Opposed

Referring to a meeting on the industry basic agreement in 1935 Browne testified that the IA, then trying to get back into the agreement was opposed by William Hutcheson of the Carpenters Union and Dan Tracey of the Electricians Union. Asked if Nicholas Schenck came to his "rescue" at that time, Browne said "No."

"As a matter of fact," Browne was asked, "you were of the opinion that you could force the producers to make a separate agreement with you weren't you?"

"I was certain of it," Browne replied.

Nelson Clearance Complaint Filed

CHICAGO, Oct. 28.—Charles E. Nelson, operating the Lawndale Theatre has filed a clearance complaint at the arbitration tribunal here against the five consenting companies, naming the Central Park, 20th-Century, Gold and Crawford Theatres as interested parties.

Complaint alleges that clearance of three weeks enjoyed by the Central Park and 20th Century, two weeks by the Crawford and one week by the Gold over the Lawndale are unreasonable and should be abolished.

Services for Lane, Actors Equity Aide

Harry J. Lane, actor and retired member of Actors Equity headquarters staff, died at the Hospital for Joint Diseases Wednesday at the age of 66.

Requiem mass for Lane, who was considered an authority on theatrical contracts, will be held at St. Malachy's Church, 239 West 49th Street, at 11 A.M. tomorrow.

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Three Unions Fight To Organize in N.Y.

Three-cornered fight is under way to organize ushers, doormen and cashiers of some 600 theatres in the New York area between Motion Picture Theatre Managers and Employees Guild, unaffiliated since the CIO withdrew its charter several weeks ago; IATSE-A. F. of L. locals, and the Theatre and Amusement Service Employees Union, Local 54.

Latest addition to the field is Local 54, which says it represents 2,000 porters, cleaners, matrons, cleaning superintendents and watchmen in the theatres affected. Union is understood to have recently obtained tentative authorization from the AFL to organize ushers, doormen and cashiers.

Progress is understood to have been made by IATSE representatives Joseph D. Basson and Richard Scott in organizing ushers, cashiers, and doormen under Locals 170, 171 and 172 which claim jurisdiction over these employees under their charters.

Meanwhile, MPTME which originally set out to organize all theatre employees, has been concentrating its drive on managers and assistants, appearing before the State Labor Relations Board today on its claim that it represents a majority of the managers and assistants in the 21 theatres owned by Harry Brandt. SLRB is also hearing MPTME's claim that it represents a majority of employees of the Laffmovie Theatre, including ushers, doormen and cashiers.

Five Decorations For Comerford Man

Avoca, Pa., Oct. 28.—(1) Distinguished Flying Cross; (2) Soldiers Medal; (3) Oak Leaf Cluster; (4) Another Oak Leaf Cluster; (5) Several Citation Certificates; (6) Recommendation for the Air Medal. That's the collection—so far—of Owen Golden, Jr., formerly a worker at Comerford's Palace Theatre, while flying with the famous 19th Air Squadron, according to word received here by Golden's parents. And, they point out, Owen is still flying.

RKO Tradeshowings Of 'North Star' Set

National trade screenings of Samual Goldwyn's "The North Star," which will be released by RKO Radio, were announced yesterday by Ned E. Depinet, company president.

The picture will be shown on Monday, Nov. 8th, at 11 a.m. in all exchange cities, with the following exceptions: in New York, at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.; in Cincinnati, at 8:30 p.m.; in Sioux Falls, at 10:30 a.m.; and in St. Louis, the following day at 11 a.m.

Paramount Switches

"Miracle of Morgan's Creek," originally scheduled for Paramount's second block of four features for 1943-44 to be tradeshown Nov. 4-5, has been withdrawn, and "No Time for Love" has been substituted.

Documentary Niche In Postwar: Mayer

Predicting the widespread use of the screen in postwar readjustments, Arthur L. Mayer of the War Activities Committee addressed the 20th annual conference of the National Board of Review at the Hotel Pennsylvania yesterday.

Stressing the important war role that has already been played by the screen, Mayer pointed to the film's natural progression to the problems that will face the post-war world. "The American public, partially as moviegoers, but primarily as citizens facing the problems of post war years," he told the conference, "will have a pressing need for the visual, concrete messages on topical themes that documentary short subjects can project."

Mayer then introduced M-G-M's unreleased short subject, "This Is Tomorrow," one of the John Nesbitt series, which was described as the industry's first film dealing with anticipated changes following the war. The film emphasizes the contrast between crowded, noisy and obsolete cities of industrial areas, with the clean, spacious and carefully planned communities that will be integral parts of all post-war programs.

The documentary film will be an integral part of motion picture fare following the war, educating the public through the post-war period, and after, Mayer told the conference.

He revealed that, currently, more documentary films are being made in one week than were made during a full pre-war year.

Short Subjec Reviews

"Bees A'Buzzin'"

(*Warner Bros.*)

An interesting film dealing with t habits and history of the bee, begi ning in the stone age. Good co mentary by Lou Marcelle mak "Bees A'Buzzin'" a good short everyone. Commentary relates bee's "personality" to human tra Running time, 10 mins. Release da Sept. 18.

"Hiss and Make Up"

(*Warner Bros.*)

Another of Leon Schlesinge Technicolor cartoons. Action co cerns a spinster lady and the troubl she has with a pet dog and cat pl some interference by a canary. Clev and amusing, with good music. Ru ning time, 7 mins. Release date, Se 11.

Services for Bernie

Funeral services were held at t Temple Rodeph Sholem in New Yo yesterday for Ben Bernie after estimated 500 persons an hour, ma of them prominent in the entertainme world, viewed the bier at the Rive side Memorial Chapel.

Joselyn on Board

Robert B. Joselyn was named cle of the Des Moines arbitration t bunal, replacing Bruce Williams, w has joined the Navy, the Americ Arbitration Association reported.

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Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 85 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1943. TEN CENTS

WPB Extends 'Brown-out' to Entire Nation

Power Conservation Is Aim of New Rules

The "dim-out" in all Coastal cities which ended last night now becomes the "brown-out" in every city, town and hamlet in the country as the War Production Board today put into effect a voluntary code for illumination which will eliminate virtually all outdoor electric lights except traffic signals during daylight hours and limit most establishments, including theatres, to two hours of exterior lighting after dark. It is understood that compulsory provisions will be forthcoming from the WPB should voluntary participation fall short.

Illumination may be further affected

(Continued on page 6)

Industry Does Not Fight, Says Golden

By FRED STENGEL

Edward A. Golden, producer who hit the "Jackpot" with "Hitler's Children" on a $4,500,000 world-wide, $3,000,000 domestic gross, took the industry to task yesterday for not fighting back against its opponents.

Edward A. Golden

"More militancy should be shown in defending motion pictures from unwarranted attacks by others. The industry backs away from these attacks. We got scared too eas-

(Continued on page 6)

Warners Set for 21-Week Sales Drive

CHICAGO, Oct. 31.—Warner Bros. will conduct a 21-week sales drive, starting Dec. 19 and running into May. It was announced at the weekend by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, at a three-day sales conference held at the Blackstone Hotel.

Details of the sales campaign will be outlined to the field force at a

(Continued on page 6)

One-Fourth of U.S. Recreation Spending To Four Companies

Gross revenues of four companies, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount and Warners, have been approximately equivalent to one-quarter of the nation's annual expenditures for recreation since 1935, it is stated in a discussion of postwar earning prospects of the four companies in the current issue of E. F. Hutton & Company's *Fortnightly Market and Business Survey*.

Average expenditures for recreation for the five years, 1935 through 1939, are estimated at $1,400,000,000, and gross revenues of the four film companies for the period averaged $362,600,000, or 25.9 per cent. From 1940 through 1942, expenditures for recreation increased to $2,000,000,000, while

(Continued on page 4)

OWI Despairs of Film Bureau Funds

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—No further efforts to secure funds for resumption of domestic motion picture activities, other than the liaison which is now maintained with the industry, will be made by the Office of War Information, it was learned here over the weekend.

Decision of the OWI to bow to the

(Continued on page 6)

Decree Draft May Be Finished Today

Counsel for decree companies may complete the draft of proposed revision of the consent decree today on which they have been working steadily since last Wednesday.

Indications are that a completed draft will be taken to Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark in Washington tomorrow by Joseph H. Hazen of Warners and possibly one or two other decree company representatives.

Industry's Tax Stand to Doughton

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—Jack Bryson and James B. Fitzgerald of the MPPDA Washington office met Friday with chairman Robert L. Doughton of the House Ways and Means Committee to discuss the tripled admission tax tentatively adopted by the committee.

The Hays office representatives gave Doughton a detailed exposition of the industry's stand on the tax, which exhibitors claim will not raise the $327,000,000 additional revenue estimated by the Treasury, because of its possible adverse effect on attendance.

Praise Industry's Part In Federation Drive

"The motion picture industry and its allies in the entertainment field have always been most generous in their response to our annual call for funds, and I am confident that they will help us meet our double-barrelled objective this year," Norman S. Goetz, chairman of the city-wide effort on behalf of the 1943 campaign for the New York and Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, declared Friday at a luncheon to inaugurate the film and amusement industry's part in the drive. The meeting was held at the Hotel Astor, with leaders of film companies and other entertainment groups present.

David Bernstein

David Bernstein, co-chairman with Major Albert Warner of the amusement division of the Federation, called upon the industry to contribute far in excess of the $150,000 raised for the

Major Albert Warner

(Continued on page 6)

Gov't Tests to Restore Worn Machine Parts

Might Solve Shortage Problem, Isaac Says

The Government will start tests this week in an attempt to restore worn-down projection equipment parts, to ease, if not completely solve the serious problem of shortages of precision projector parts which has faced exhibitors for months and which threatens to become even more acute.

The theatre equipment section of the War Production Board's service division, headed by Allen G. Smith, will seek to restore worn-out parts by subjecting them to a chromium plating treatment.

Tests of the first group of parts to be subjected to treatment will get underway in New York under the supervision of Lester B. Isaac, chief of Loew Theatres' projection and sound who is industry consultant to the WPB equipment section.

"If the tests prove this restoration

(Continued on page 4)

Metzger to Handle Manpower for WAC

Lou Metzger, California exhibitor, who joined the War Activities Committee recently on a permanent volunteer basis, has been assigned to handle various industry manpower problems, according to an announcement made over the weekend by S. H. Fabian, chairman of the WAC's theatres division.

Metzger has been investigating general background on the manpower situation, and has already had sev-

(Continued on page 6)

Eckman Back in U.K. As Route Reopens

Trans-Atlantic plane routes which had been reported cancelled in recent weeks, have been re-opened, it was reliably learned here over the weekend as Sam Eckman, Jr., M-G-M's

(Continued on page 6)

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Election Day, a legal holiday.**

Personal Mention

JOHN W. HICKS, Paramount vice-president in charge of foreign operations, is expected here today from Hollywood.

•

HELEN FINNEGAN, secretary to CHARLES REAGAN, Paramount assistant general sales manager, for the past 16 years, has resigned, effective Nov. 5. On Nov. 13, she will marry WALLACE C. ROGERS, vice-president and general manager of the N. Y. Rubber Co.

•

A. W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox Eastern sales manager, left yesterday to visit exchanges in Charlotte, Atlanta, New Orleans, Memphis, Oklahoma City and Dallas. CLARENCE HILL, his assistant, will accompany him to Charlotte and Atlanta.

•

MAURICE BASSE, M-G-M salesman in Memphis, who has been associated with the company since 1927, will report for induction Nov. 8.

•

JOHN A. SCHWALM, manager of Northio Rialto in Hamilton, Ohio, is a candidate for reelection to the city council in that town.

•

RUSSELL HOLMAN, in charge of Eastern production for Paramount, will return from the Coast today.

•

RALPH STITT, 20th Century-Fox exploitation representative, was a Hartford visitor late last week.

•

BERT SANFORD, Altec Eastern sales executive, will return to his desk today after a three-week illness.

•

Lt. (J.G.) J. M. SHEPHERD, formerly of the Lincoln, Miami, is in the Naval Hospital at Key West.

•

LOUIS COCHEVETY, owner of theatres in South Bend and Mishawaka, Indiana, is a New York visitor.

•

MIKE DALY, of the Daly circuit of Hartford and Plainfield, Conn., was a recent New Haven visitor.

•

S. E. PIERPOINT, Paramount manager for Brazil, has arrived in New York for a home office visit.

•

DAVID SUGARMAN, manager of the Colonial, Hartford, is recovering from a recent minor operation.

•

M. J. WEISFELDT, Columbia short subject sales manager, is due here today from the Coast.

•

WILLIAM DOZIER, Paramount studio story editor, is expected today from the Coast.

Oppenheim to Small

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 31.—Saul Z. Oppenheim, formerly with Fox-West Coast and before that for 15 years advertising director of *Scholastic Magazine* in New York, has joined Edward Small productions to handle publicity.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

RECENTLY, Richard Watts, Jr., in one of his occasional essays on the artistic state of the centuries-old stage versus that of the infant screen drama, quoted Sinclair Lewis as saying: "No Hollywood writer ever has to apologize for deciding to write for the theatre, but it doesn't work the other way."

Two weeks later, and occupying the same position in the Sunday drama section of the *N. Y. Herald Tribune* as did Mr. Watts' essay, appeared an interview with Lillian Hellman by Otis L. Guernsey, Jr., on the general subject of the Hollywood experiences of Miss Hellman, a favorite artisan of the commentators on stage affairs, with some particular attention to her recent original for Samuel Goldwyn, "The North Star."

Said Miss Hellman: "The two things (writing for the stage and writing for the screen) are quite different, of course—. It's a lot of trouble for me to visualize those camera sequences, much more so than writing a play. As a result, coming back to Broadway seems easier to me than going back to Hollywood."

Doesn't sound much like an apology for having been to Hollywood. And it suggests that perhaps those whose apologies Sinclair Lewis has heard may not have realized before going to Hollywood, as Miss Hellman apparently did, that the two media are "quite different," and that those apologists may have failed in Hollywood as a result. Perhaps, even, their apologies were for their own failures, rather than for their temporary association with the screen.

• •

Samuel Goldwyn in a recent interview here expressed the opinion that more realistic treatment of film subjects is not to be expected, as a general rule, in postwar films.

"I don't think we shall change our method of story treatment," Goldwyn was quoted as saying. "Films are a picture book in audible form. Moreover, our preponderant audience is juvenile, a fact that is often ignored by the critics of our industry. Incidentally, may I add here that it is easier to be a critic than a motion picture producer. Sometime ago I had Dr. Gallup make a survey for me that disclosed that 60 per cent of the nation's picture audience is under 21 years of age."

In view of the Goldwyn conviction that the motion picture's "preponderant audience is juvenile" and his proper conception of films as "picture books," it is cheering to reflect that he does not go to the nursery rhymes for source material.

• •

Jim Mason, the theatre monopolist of Cherry Valley, Ohio, gave us a glimpse into the machinations of exhibition "trusts" recently which may be of interest to others.

We heard tell of a rival exhibitor of Jim's who was making plans to crash the latter's closed situation in Cherry Valley, and wrote Jim to ask what about it. The reply: "So this interloper (Jim's rival) bought the vacant lot across from my De Luxe Theatre. I had been trying to buy the lot for years as pasture land for Martha's cow and an annex for her chicken run, as she has increased the pullet flock considerably since meat rationing. But Tyson Crumb, the police chief, who owns the lot, wouldn't sell to me because I've been making him pay Federal tax on his pass to the De Luxe.

"When I heard he had sold to that bum from Apple Center, over in the next county, I got an option on the lot across from his Four Star in Apple Center for $12.50 and spread the word to the local newspaper there that I was ready to give the community its first modern theatre. So he comes to me and wants to make a deal. He'll stay out of Cherry Valley if I stay out of Apple Center, he says.

" 'But what about my option?' I ask him.

"So we end up with him giving me title to the lot Crumb wouldn't sell me for $75; he takes my $12.50 option on the lot in his town, and I cancel Crumb's season pass. Besides, I knew the bum couldn't build. He couldn't get priority on materials."

• •

Industry representatives in Washington have by no means abandoned hope for a reduction in the proposed new Federal admission tax of 30 per cent. In fact, many of them would not be in the least surprised if the House Ways and Means Committee reconsidered its action and reported out a tax base considerably lower than 30 per cent.

Coming Events

Nov. 4—Allied Theatre Owners New Jersey Fall dinner, Ritz R taurant, Passaic.

Nov. 5—20th Fox "Family Cl entertainment and dance, He Hudson Hotel, New York.

Nov. 9—New York Labor V Chest pageant, Madison Squ Garden, New York.

Nov. 10—20th Fox birthday di for U. S. Marine Corps private screening of *Guadalca Diary*, Chicago.

Nov. 11—NEIC Service flag de cation and pledge rally.

Nov. 14—Reelfellows' nominatio officers, Blackstone Hotel, C cago.

Nov. 16—"Night of Stars" sh United Jewish Appeal, Madi Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 18-19—Annual convention, dependent Theatres Protec Association of Wisconsin and per Michigan, Schroeder Ho Milwaukee. Also, Allied Cara meeting.

Nov. 19—Fall Dinner, Picture P neers, Waldorf-Astoria Ho New York.

Jenkins Named He Of L. & J. Circu

William K. Jenkins, secretary treasurer of the Lucas & Jenkins cuit, Atlanta, for many years, has b named president of the circuit, L ard Goldenson, vice-president of Pa mount in charge of theatre operati announced on Friday. The Lucas Jenkins circuit is a Paramount filiate.

Jenkins, a veteran theatre opera in the South, replaces the late Art Lucas as president of the circuit. operations are centered primarily Atlanta, Savannah, Macon Augu and Columbus, Ga.

Arrangements were made wher Jenkins will continue as general m ager of operations. Representati of Paramount who attended the Atl ta meetings at which Jenkins elected included: Goldenson, Leon Netter, M. F. Gowthorpe and Wa Gross. Netter and Gowthorpe w on to Beaumont, Texas, to attend annual meeting tomorrow of board of directors of the Jeffer Amusement Co.

300 at Associates' Tribute to Joe L

Over 300 exhibitors, sales and change representatives and memb of Motion Picture Associates atten a luncheon at the Hotel Astor New York on Friday to honor Jos Lee, 20th Century-Fox sales repres tative and former president of MI who is leaving this teritory, possi for the Chicago area.

Twentieth-Fox sales heads T Connors and A. W. Smith, Jr., Sam Rinzler, Collector of Inter Revenue Joseph Higgins, Congre man James Fay, Attorney Gene David Willenz, Harry Buchsbaum Harold Rodner paid further tribu to Lee. Jack Ellis, MPA presid was toastmaster.

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The dim-out lights up with a new Star— MARGARET O'BRIEN in M-G-M's "LOST ANGEL"

In the great tradition of the Jackie Coogans and Shirley Temples comes M-G-M's brilliant little actress Margaret O'Brien. "Journey For Margaret" gave a hint of her talent. Now she is in "Thousands Cheer" and her first starring role is in "Lost Angel."

•

"LOST ANGEL" starring MARGARET O'BRIEN with James Craig • Marsha Hunt • Philip Merivale Henry O'Neill • Danald Meek • Original Screen Play by Isabel Lennart • Based on an idea by Angna Enters • Directed by Roy Rawland • Produced by Rabert Sisk • A Metra-Galdwyn-Mayer Picture

Let's All Give! National War Fund — Which Gives To All!

AAA Reports Action On Four Cases; Two Awards Are Entered

Arbitration awards have been entered at the Oklahoma City and Washington tribunals, a clearance complaint has been withdrawn in Milwaukee and an appeal board decision rendered, the American Arbitration Association reported at the weekend.

At Oklahoma City, Jerome E. Henry, arbitrator dismissed the specific run and clearance complaint filed by J. A. Guest, operating the Ritz Theatre, Duncan, Okla., against Paramount and Griffith Amusement. The complaint alleged that Paramount sold second run away to Griffith on 1940-41 and 1942-43 product in violation of Section 10. Costs were assessed against the complainant.

At the Washington tribunal, arbitrator G. Bowdoin Craighill, dismissed the clearance complaint against 20th-Fox and the Forest and Gwynne Theatres filed by the Hilton Theatre Co., operating the Hilton. The arbitrator found that the clearance enjoyed by intervening theatres is reasonable. Costs were assessed against Hilton.

At Milwaukee, the clearance complaint of Lucille Forbes, owner of the Spring Theatre, Spring Green, Wis., against 20th-Fox, RKO, Warners and Paramount has been withdrawn. The withdrawal followed an agreement, terms of which were not disclosed.

The arbitration appeal board here made public a decision affirming the award of Charles Ranney at the Albany tribunal, with modification, in the clearance complaint of Edsol Corp., operating the Scotia, Scotia, N. Y., against the five consenting companies and Fast Theatres, Inc. The board affirmed Ranney's dismissal of RKO in the complaint and the reduction in the clearance of 49 days to 42, with a further provision making for special clearance for the Plaza Theatre over the Scotia in specific cases, and adding that the Plaza in no case shall have less than one day clearance over the Scotia.

Robin Harris Leaves U.A. for the Army

Robin (Curly) Harris, United Artists home office publicity manager, will report for induction on Nov. 8 and will leave the company Friday, Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., U. A. director of advertising and publicity, announced at the weekend.

Prior to joining U. A., where he was publicity manager for the past year, Harris had been associated with various newspapers and handled special publicity for many roadshows. His successor will be announced later in the week.

'Bell' in 252 Keys By Mid-December

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" will have opened 252 key city engagements by mid-December, according to contracts already set, and additional dates are being lined up, Charles M. Reagan, Paramount assistant general sales manager, announced Friday. Of this total, 107 engagements had opened by the weekend.

Gov't Tests to Restore Worn Projector Parts

(*Continued from page* 1)

method is successful, the problem of the shortage of projection parts will be solved and similar treatment can be given to all worn mechanical equipment in theatres," Isaac predicted in New York. "The new method will require less material and less skilled man hours than any attempt to create new parts from substitute metals," Isaac added.

He revealed that under new standards established by the Army and Navy, 16 mm projectors will require the same amount of labor and the same critical parts in their construction as 35 mm projectors. "Smith is doing everything possible to clear the field for Army and Navy requirements, and at the same time is trying to keep the nation's theatres in operation," Isaac declared.

Development of the new method of restoring worn projector parts is in line with the Government's campaign to conserve and rehabilitate worn out parts of equipment which cannot be replaced for the duration. Tests will be conducted simultaneously by Isaac and the Bureau of Standards in Washington and conclusive results are expected to be known in about three weeks.

Balaban and Agnew Returning to N Y.

San Francisco, Oct. 31.—Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, and Neil Agnew, general sales manager, who had been attending conferences at the Hollywood studio between East and West Coast executives, attended a luncheon meeting with exhibitors here on Friday.

Robert M. Gillham, advertising-publicity director, also attended the luncheon and returned to Hollywood. Balaban and Agnew have returned to New York.

Prior to his departure, Balaban announced the world premiere of "Lady in the Dark" in New York early next year. Executives assigned a major exploitation budget, comparable to "For Whom the Bell Tolls," for the picture after viewing it. Gillham will augment his exploitation staff for the purpose.

Peskay Resigns as Roach Executive

Edward J. Peskay for the past two-and-a-half years vice-president of Hal Roach Studios, Inc., has resigned. He will continue as Eastern representative for Roach until about the first of the year.

Peskay is presently Eastern representative for Samuel Bronston and Gregor Rabinovitch and is vice-president of Bogeaus Prod. in charge of distribution. All are United Artists producers.

Crouch to Make 30

William F. Crouch, executive of Soundies Distributing Co., Chicago, has arrived in New York to start work on 30 shorts in which union musicians will be used for the first time since a James Petrillo-AFM ban against employment of unionists for the company's product.

War Fund Group to Meet on Wednesday

Adolph Zukor, national chairman of the industry's drive on behalf of the National War Fund, has called representatives of all film companies, theatre circuits and associated businesses to meet in his Paramount Building office on Wednesday at 3 p.m. Sam Rinzler, Greater New York chairman, will preside and discuss ways and means of conducting the drive.

Those invited and expected to attend include J. Harold Lang and Ray Moon of 20th Century-Fox; Ralph Budd and Clarence Eiseman of Warner Bros.; Charles Moskowitz and Jack Bowen, Loew's; Leon J. Bamberger and Bob Wolf, RKO; Abe Schneider and Nat Cohen, Columbia; Harry Buckley and Sam Lefkowitz, United Artists; Herbert J. Yates and Morris Epstein, Republic; George Dembow, National Screen; W. Ray Johnston and Joseph Felder, Monogram; Harry A. Ross, Ross Federal Service; Joseph H. Lamm and Sidney Kulick, PRC; Samuel Machnovitch and David A. Levy, Universal, and W. E. Green, National Theatre Supply Co.

Si Fabian, Harry Brandt, Fred Schwartz, Harry Mandel and Joe Hornstein, representing the War Activities Committee, will also be present.

Defense Files Appeal In Crescent Case

Nashville, Oct. 31.—In an apparent effort to get both sides of the case before the Superior Court, defense counsel George H. Armistead, Jr., Friday filed a petition for an appeal to the Supreme Court at Washington, D. C., in behalf of Crescent Amusement Co. and its affiliated defendants.

The petition asks a reversal of the decision in favor of the U. S. Department of Justice by Judge Elmer D. Davies based on an "assignment of errors" presented by defense counsel. The petition for an appeal also seeks a suspension of a portion of the decree entered last May 17, 1943, until a decision is rendered by the Supreme Court.

B'Nai B'Rith Cinema Lodge Will Meet

Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, will hold its first open meeting of the season Tuesday, Nov. 8th, at the Hotel Edison at 8:00 P. M. Highlight of the program will be a showing of Frank Capra's "The Battle of Russia."

On the same program, Robert Lurie, National War Service Director for B'nai B'rith will speak on B'nai B'rith's part in helping the war effort.

3 Leave Fox-Wisconsin

Milwaukee, Oct. 31.—Within the past month, three men holding key positions at Fox-Wisconsin Amusement Corp. have resigned. They are Hank Tollette, Hal Knudson and Lowell Parmentier.

One-Fourth of U.S. Recreation Spending To Four Companies

(*Continued from page* 1)

gross revenues of the four companie last year increased to $414,600,000 which, however, was only 21.7 pe cent of the total.

Weighing the postwar reve prospects of the companies, the s vey states that: "We may assume tha about 25 per cent of expenditure for recreation will, in a 'normal' pe riod, find its way to the gross reve nues of the four companies.

"If the frequently cited postwar ob jective of $100 billion annual nationa income is realized, expenditures fo recreation of about $1.9 billion a yea would appear a reasonable expec tion. This would suggest gross reve nues in the neighborhood of $450 mil lion for the four companies unde consideration."

The discussion observes tha "record wartime earnings (of the fou companies) are being capitalized on relatively conservative basis, while th market also appears to be making realistic appraisal of postwar proba bilities. Therefore, it may be con cluded that the motion picture grou will tend to move with the genera market averages until further develop ments provide the basis for a ne evaluation."

Joyce on 20-City Tour for Selznick

Chicago, Oct. 31.—Fred Joyce, pub licity representative for Vanguar Films, is on an advance nationwid tour publicizing "Since You Wen Away" which will be ready for dis tribution about Jan. 1. This is Davi Selznick's first since organization o Vanguard and will be released b United Artists. Joyce has left her for Detroit from where he will star a tour of 20 Eastern cities contactin newspapers, radio stations, advertis ing agencies, circuits and U. A. ex changes.

Next on Selznick's list is "So Littl Time" which will be started shortl after Jan. 1 with John Cromwell agai as the director and Joe Cotten in th lead.

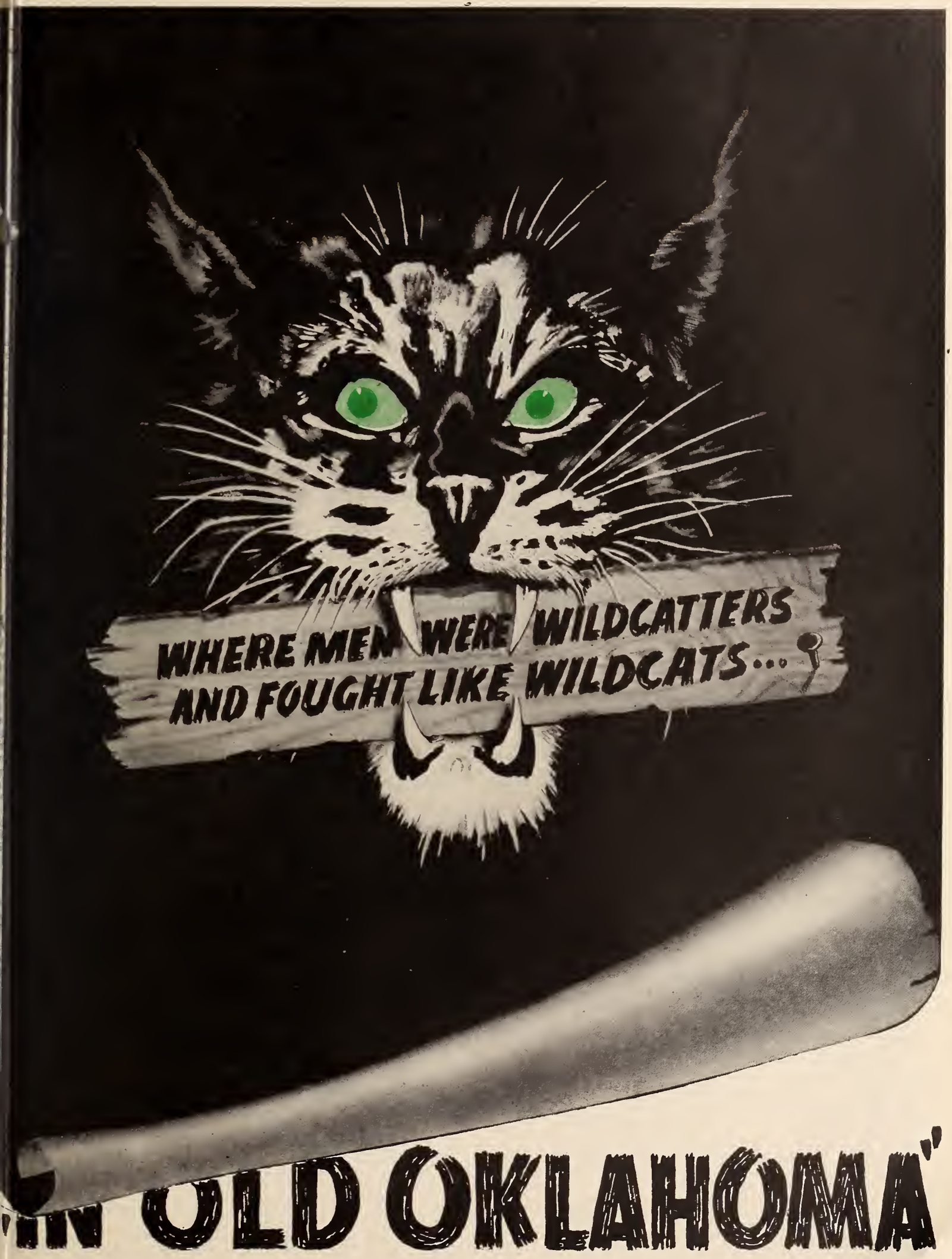
Cowan's Two at a Million and Over

Lester Cowan, independent producer who will release through United Artists, announced here on Friday budgets of $1,500,000 for the filming of Ernie Pyle's book, "Here Is Your War" and $1,000,000 for the Broadway stage play, "Tomorrow the World." Producer, writer, director or cast for the films are not set, although plans call for start of production on each early in January, according to Cowan.

"Scripting of Pyle's book will have as its aim the infantrymen's feelings about what they are fighting for, and their attitude about the peace to come," Cowan said. He may title the film "Yank."

Nov. 3 for 'Oklahoma'

Chicago, Oct. 31.—Republic's "In Old Oklahoma" will have its local premiere at the Woods Theatre on Wednesday with one of the biggest advertising campaigns in the history of the theatre.



"IN OLD OKLAHOMA"

Based on THOMSON BURTIS' *story* "WAR OF THE WILDCATS"

WPB Extends 'Brown-out' to Entire Nation

(Continued from page 1)

nationally by a threatened coal shortage as well as by extension of the new "brownout" regulations to all parts of the country. Federal officials said that if coal supplies of war manufacturing plants are exhausted, some of the supplies which utility companies have on hand for power generation may be requisitioned for the war plants. This would entail the most severe reduction of power consumption, it was pointed out.

Heretofore, the dim-out regulations have applied only to the Coastal areas of the nation. The new WPB "brown-out" regulations are national.

In New York City, there will be no return at this time to the "Gay White Way" on Broadway of pre-war years, but night lighting over two-hour periods will be increased. Many theatres which now have full display lighting during the day for advertising purposes will remain without exterior illumination until dusk. In some instances, after-dark displays will be brighter than before the dim-out, but the overall use of electricity for such purposes will be less because each theatre will be limited to two hours a night of such illumination.

Mayor LaGuardia said the lights on theatre marquees and building entrances besides being extinguished during the day, would have their nightly intensity cut down to a minimum consistent with public safety. Broadway theatre managers declared they expected no effect on their business, which has been consistently big, lights or no lights.

"Night time" was defined in the new WPB code as the period 30 minutes before sunset and 30 minutes before sunrise.

Warners Set for 21-Week Sales Drive

(Continued from page 1)

series of regional meetings by Norman H. Moray, who again has been designated by Kalmenson as captain of the drive. Moray will go from here to Pittsburgh, then to Boston, New York, Memphis, Kansas City, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Friday morning's session opened with a talk by Joseph Bernhard, followed by Charles Einfeld and Harry Kalmine. Kalmenson then conducted a round-table survey with district managers about current selling conditions in their territories.

Einfeld, who came on from the Coast to participate in the session here, proceeded to New York over the weekend with the home office delegation including Bernhard, Kalmenson, Kalmine, Mort Blumenstock, Arthur Sachson, Roy Haines, A. W. Schwalberg, Ed Hinchy and Clarence Eiseman.

Walker, Ampa Guest

Frank C. Walker, Postmaster General, will be guest speaker at Ampa's "Salute to Heroes" luncheon at the Astor Hotel on Nov. 17, Vincent Trotta, Ampa president, announced Friday. Francis Coe, vice-president of MPPDA, will be master-of-ceremonies.

Praise Industry's Part In Federation Drive

(Continued from page 1)

Federation's 116 charities in 1942, in order to meet increased Federation needs in 1943.

Bernstein quoted the services provided by Federation agencies during the past year and stated that the nine Federation hospitals had provided 580,900 days of free care, while 822,000 visits were made to their dispensaries; the child-care agencies took care of 6,400 orphan and dependent children, while the family service agencies aided 9,600 families with serious financial and other problems.

"In all, more than 300,000 men, women and children, many of them non-Jewish, were served by the 116 Federation charities during the past year," Bernstein said.

A new feature of this year's effort in the amusement industry is the appointment of a campaign manager to supervise Federation fund-raising efforts in the industries allied to the motion picture field.

Nathan D. Spingold, of Columbia, will serve as campaign chairman and he reported that he had organized six groups to supplement the work of the main division. Committees organized by Spingold and their chairmen follow:

Artists, band leaders and agents: Nat Lefkowitz, chairman; exhibitors, Harry Brandt; music publishers, Max Dreyfus, and Jack J. Robbins, associate chairman; legitimate theatres, Lawrence Langner; broadcasting, Milton Biow; night clubs and restaurants, Lou Brecker.

Although the committees are still in formation, they are already organizing for the campaign, Spingold said.

All those present at Friday's meeting accepted individual responsibility for organizing their companies and their fields. In addition to Bernstein, Warner and Spingold, the following were present: Jack Cohn, Malcolm Kingsberg, Leopold Friedman, Irving Greenfield, Arthur Israel, Jr., William Zimmerman, Samuel Schneider, Max Blackman, Sam Shain, Samuel Cohen, Samuel Machnovitch, Herman Robbins, Sidney R. Fleisher, Louis Frisch, H. Rachmil, Sam Rinzler, Edward N. Rugoff, Ralph Poucher, Benjamin S. Moss, Emil Friedlander, Miss I. Garretson, Fred Lakeman, Charles Sonin, Max Wolff, Marcus Heiman and Jack Alicoate.

Industry Does Not Fight, Says Golden

(Continued from page 1)

ily. There should be a dozen men in the field making institutional speeches like Charles F. Coe, vice-president of the MPPDA. There are no real champions of motion pictures," Golden said.

And Golden believes that more propaganda pictures should be made, pointing out that "Lassie Come Home" is a propaganda picture for a dog; Samuel Goldwyn's "North Star" is a propaganda picture for peace, and, basically, he added, most pictures are propaganda for something, which is "healthy."

"I will not make a film that hasn't got a message," Golden said. "But it must be entertaining as well, because that is important in a propaganda production.

Golden plans only one picture a year. For the past six months, he has been preparing "The Master Race," based on the book "What About Germany?" by Louis P. Lochner, head of the Associated Press bureau in Berlin for many years. Production is expected to start by the first of the year on the RKO lot. Francis Faragoh is working on the screenplay, but a cast has not been set as yet. Robert Golden, son of Edward, will produce, and RKO will distribute.

"This picture will be a propaganda film about the future. It is being done on the basis that the war ended yesterday, and will be released in the spring," Edward Golden stated.

Ohio Theatreman Dies

MIDDLETOWN, O., Oct. 31.—Services were held here Friday for Albert Wallace, 64, who died in the Middletown Hospital of a heart attack. He was formerly manager of the Sorg and Gordon theatres, and more recently was in charge of the stage at the Strand Theatre here.

OWI Despairs of Film Bureau Funds

(Continued from page 1)

mandate of Congress, expressed last July in its refusal to provide further funds for film production, was shown in an OWI request for a deficiency appropriation now under consideration by the House Appropriations Committee.

In that request, designed to provide funds needed for operation of OWI through the remainder of the current fiscal year, no money was asked for the film bureau of the domestic operations branch, although $83,308 was sought for film work of the overseas branch.

Metzger to Handle Manpower for WAC

(Continued from page 1)

eral discussions with top industry officials.

He and Fabian leave for Washington today for conferences with manpower officials and preliminary talks with Theodore R. Gamble, national War Finance committee director, on possible industry participation in the forthcoming Fourth War loan. Oscar A. Doob of Loew's and Ed Schreiber of the WAC will join Fabian and Metzger for the talks on the Fourth War Loan.

Eckman Back in U. K. As Route Reopens

(Continued from page 1)

British managing director arrived in London from New York.

Other industry officials have been advised to be ready for their proposed trips to England. Among those waiting to go are Ben Goetz, Spyros Skouras, Al Lichtman, J. Robert Rubin, Joseph H. Seidelman, Arthur Kelly, Phil Reisman, Larry Kent, Arthur Silverstone and William Levy.

N. M. Schenck Tells Of Bioff Demands

Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, took his turn in the witness box in Federal court on Friday to add his important bit to the story of the Capone mob's shakedown of the industry through their control of the IATSE.

Schenck, under questioning by Boris Kostelanetz, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, recounted his first meeting with William Bioff, former IATSE representative in Hollywood, a few days before the April, 1936, meeting on the studio basic agreement in New York. Bioff was introduced to Schenck by George E. Browne, former IATSE president. Schenck testified that at the meeting Bioff asked for $2,000,000 from the industry.

Schenck Admits Payments

Schenck admitted that he eventually made two payments of $50,000 each to Browne and Bioff. "Why did you make those payments?" the Government counsel asked.

"I paid the money to save my business," Schenck replied. "Bioff had threatened that he would close the Loew's theatres by strikes and the business would have been destroyed unless I made those payments."

Schenck said that a few days after the $2,000,000 demand by Bioff, while the basic agreement meeting was in progress, Bioff took him and Sidney Kent, late president of 20th Century-Fox, into an adjoining room and told them that he had shaved his original demand to $1,000,000. Bioff also repeated the strike threats, Schenck said.

Two more talks with Bioff followed, Schenck said, and on April 21, 1936, Bioff advised Schenck and Kent that his final proposition was for Loew's, Paramount, 20th Century and Warners to pay Bioff $50,000 a year and Columbia and RKO were to pay $25,000 a year each.

Proposes Different Method

After making the second payment of $50,000, Schenck said he proposed a more devious method of paying off because of the difficulty of accounting for those large cash bounties. Schenck suggested, and Bioff agreed, making one of Bioff's friends an agent for a Hollywood raw film agency. The agency, Smith and Aller, which handled Du Pont film, and which sold to M-G-M, arranged to have Bioff's brother-in-law, Norman Nelson, get a commission on all purchases by M-G-M, and it was agreed by Schenck and Bioff that the commissions would amount to $50,000 a year, plus whatever extra was needed to pay the income taxes on $50,000.

Schenck said he had to go right along with Bioff and Browne and was only thinking of the effect it would have on the industry if he did not pay.

Schenck's testimony is scheduled to be resumed when the trial opens this morning.

Browne concluded his testimony early Friday. He stated that he had been a friend of James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, when the latter was president of the Chicago local, but denied that the two of them remained in the Chateau Theatre, Chicago, one time to "shoot out the lights."

Sold Out

The Reference Book of the Motion Picture Industry

UNPRECEDENTED DEMAND FOR THE 1943-44 EDITION HAS EXHAUSTED THE PRINTING WITHIN TWO WEEKS OF PUBLICATION. ORDERS HAVE BEEN FILLED IN THE SEQUENCE OF RECEIPT BUT WE ARE SORRY WE CAN'T FILL ANY MORE.

QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS

ROCKEFELLER CENTER NEW YORK (20)

'Let's Face It' In Los Angeles: $56,000 Gross

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 31.—"Let's Face It" kicked in with the best performance among first runs here, ending at a handsome $56,000 in its combination downtown L. A. and Hollywood runs. The Paramount emerged with an estimated $38,000 and its namesake over the boundary in Hollywood got another $18,000. "Phantom of the Opera," with which "Chance of a Lifetime" was coupled, held up strongly in its second week at the Hillstreet and Pantages. At the former, it did $19,000 and at the latter, $16,000. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" did nicely on its moveover from the Carthay Circle to the 900-seat Four Star at $7,000.

Estimated receipts for week ending Oct. 27:

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $8,400)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $14,050)
"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
EGYPTIAN — (1,590) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days., 2nd week. Gross: $10,000.
"The City that Stopped Hitler—Heroic Stalingrad" (Para.)
"Campus Rhythm" (Mono.)
HAWAII — (1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $9,260)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
FOUR STAR — (900) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $3,250)
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.) 2nd week
"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
HILLSTREET — (2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $15,240)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average, $20,750)
"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000.
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.) 2nd week
"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $12,800)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Hollywood)—(1,407) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $10,800)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(Downtown) (3,595) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $38,000. (Average, $19,750)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
RITZ — (1,376) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $9,400)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
UNITED ARTISTS — (2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 11th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $29,810)
"Victory Through Air" (UA) 2nd week
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
UPTOWN — (1,715) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000.
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Hollywood) — (3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,940. (Average, $13,651)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Downtown) — (3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,400. (Average, $16,094)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Wiltern) — (2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,880.

Marines See 'Guadalcanal'

Preview of 20th-Fox's "Guadalcanal Diary" was held at the home office at the weekend for a group of U. S. Marine officers, headed by Lt. Col. McKinless of the Eastern area. Other screenings are scheduled for rine officers throughout the coun-

'Sahara's' $19,880 Leads in Denver

DENVER, Oct. 31.—"Sahara" on a dual at the Denver was in top place for the week with a gross of $19,880 expected, while "Fired Wife" on a twin bill at the Paramount was slated to do $8,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 26-28:

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (30c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $5,000)
"The Youngest Profession" (M-G-M)
"Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (30c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $3,125. (Average, $2,500)
"The City That Stopped Hitler" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (30c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $6,500)
"Sahara" (Col.)
"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.)
DENVER—(2,600) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,880. (Average, $11,000)
"Sahara" (Col.)
"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,250. (Average, $3,000)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
"Campus Rhythm" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $5,000)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"Someone to Remember" (Rep.)
RIALTO—(900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $5,600. (Average, $3,500)

'Young Ideas' Hits $4,900 Above Par

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 31.—"Young Ideas" coupled with a stage show at the Orpheum theatre headed for a $16,500 week's gross. Mild weather here and business was good at other situations.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30:

"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
CENTURY — (1,600) (40-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $7,000)
"This Is the Army" (WB)
STATE—(2,300) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $12,000)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
GOPHER — (998) (35c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $3,400)
"The Constant Nymph" (WB)
WORLD—(350) (40c50c-55c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,400. (Average, $2,200)
"Stage Door Canteen" (UA)
LYRIC—(1,250) (40c-55c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $4,500. (Average, $4,500)
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (45c-60c) 7 days. On stage: Sonny Dunham's orchestra and Little Tough Guys. Gross: $16,500. (Average, $11,600)
"Union Pacific" (Para.) 4 days
"Here Comes Kelly" (Mono.) 4 days
ASTER—(900) (20c-30c) 7 days, with a midweek change. Gross: $2,600. (Average, $2,300)

FWC Buys Monogram

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 31.—Monogram has completed a booking deal, with Fox West Coast Theatres for the 1943-'44 program which will make distribution of Monogram's films the widest in that company's history. The deal, which involves 217 theatres in California and Arizona, was handled by the Los Angeles and San Francisco Monogram exchanges.

Sponsor Variety Drive

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 31.—The Heart Fund charity drive sponsored by the local Variety Club, will be repeated this year with a goal of $15,000. Jack Beresin will again be chairman of the campaign.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Oct. 31

AS part of the anniversary of the Hollywood Canteen today, a Hall of Honor, carrying hundreds of photographs of Hollywood men in the service will be inaugurated, with Bette Davis, Canteen president, presiding. Among the topmost positions will be Capt. Clark Gable, Major William Wyler, Lt. Col. Anatole Litvak, Commander John Ford, Lieutenants James Stewart and Robert Taylor, Capt. Ronald Reagan, Chief Petty Officer Victor Mature and Lt. Col. Frank Capra. Miss Davis will make the formal dedication. Leopold Stokowski will conduct a symphony orchestra and John Charles Thomas will sing.

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Francis Harmon, War Activities Committee executive, conferred here with Stanton Griffis, head of the motion picture unit of the Office of War Information and members of the WAC Hollywood division on WAC short subject plans at the weekend. En route here he opened a War Fund drive in Denver.

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Warners has announced "Ground Force," a story of ground troops, mainly the infantry, for production. Hal Wallis will produce with Army cooperation.

Suprise Blackouts in Southeast Called Off

NASHVILLE, Oct. 31.—Unless U. S. Army officials make it mandatory, there will be no more surprise blackouts in the seven Southeastern states, according to information brought back by local Civilian Defense Co-ordinators who attended a defense council meeting in Atlanta.

Although the surprise blackouts have seemingly effected film theatre attendance in most sections little removal of their possibility will be welcomed by operators and should stimulate attendance some.

Sales Officials at N. J. Allied Dinner

Among those expected to attend the New Jersey Allied dinner at Harry Hecht's Ritz Restaurant in Passaic, Nov. 4 are Ray Moon, Moe Kurtz, Moe Sanders, J. Rosen, J. Fernicola, S. Florin and A. Mendelson of 20th-Fox; Ben Abner of Metro, Irving Wormser, Moe Fraum and John Wenisch of Columbia; Maxwell Gillis and Tony Ricci, Republic; Bernard Sholtz, RCA; Adolph Haas, Motion Picture Advertising Service, and W. E. MacKee, Ross Federal.

Warner Circuit Changes

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 31.—Warner's here reports several shifts in circuit personnel, including the transfer of Dave Deming from the Rialto to the Hartford Lenox, as manager, following Francis Smith's induction into the Army. Jay Matthews of the Manchester Circle goes to the Empress, Danbury, to replace J. O'Sullivan who has been shifted to the Garde in New London. Wallace Lappe replaces Deming as manager of the Rialto and A. Michalski, former assistant at the Warner in Lynn, takes Matthews' post at the Circle.

'Major', 'Bell' Biggest Items On Boston Bil

BOSTON, Oct. 31.—Held over for third week at the Metropolitan, "F Whom the Bell Tolls" has hung some new records for that house a bids fair to continue getting an es mated $29,800 this week. At Keith Memorial world premiere "The Iron Major" and personal a pearances of Pat O'Brien and Ru Warwick crowded that big theatre its doors, grossing $22,700.

Estimated receipts for the week en ing Oct. 30:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (75c and $1 this engagement only). Gross: $29,8 (Average, $27,400)
"The Iron Major" (RKO)
KEITH MEMORIAL — (3,000) (44c-5 65c). Gross: $22,700. (Average, $19,300)
"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Nazty Nuisance" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,900) (44c-55c-65c). days. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $17,100)
"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Nazty Nuisance" (UA)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM — (3,000) (44c-5 65c). 7 days. Gross: $22,300. (Averag $23,700)
"This Is the Army" (WB)
PARAMOUNT — (1,487) (44c-55c-65c) days. Gross: $7,600. (Average, $8,400)
"This Is the Army" (WB)
FENWAY—(1,208) (44c-55c-65c) 7 da Gross: $5,400. (Average, $5,800)
"Crime Doctor" (Col.)
RKO BOSTON—(3,400) (44c-55c-65c-8 7 days. Stage show: Woody Herman a his orchestra. Gross: $26,700. (Averag $26,800).

'Phantom' Grosses $15,080 to To

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 31.—Althoug this was a good week all around, wi several excellent pictures playi downtown, "Phantom of the Opera at the Warner took top honors wi over $15,000 gross. "I Dood It" the Wisconsin and "Sahara" at t Palace also scored better than averag

Estimated receipts for week endi Oct. 30:

"Sahara" (Col.)
"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
PALACE—(2,400) (40c-55c-75c) 7 day Gross: $10,640. (Average: $7,600).
"Frontier Badmen" (Univ.)
RIVERSIDE—(2,700) (44c-50c-75c) 7 day plus Tiny Hill and his orchestra. Gros $14,000. (Average, $14,000).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
STRAND—(1,400) (40c-55c-75c) 7 day 2nd downtown week. Gross: $3,120. (Ave age: $2,400).
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
"Yanks Ahoy" (UA)
WARNER—(2,400) (44c-65c) 7 days. Gros $15,080. (Average: $10,400).
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Harrigan's Kid" (M-G-M)
WISCONSIN—(3,200) (40c-55c-75c) 7 day Gross: $14,310. (Average: $10,600).
"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
ALHAMBRA—(1,900) (44c-65c) 7 days, 2n week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000).

Variety Post Elects

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 31.—Isador Epstein, general manager of Atlanti Theatres, has been recently electe Commander of the American Legio Variety Post here. He will be for merly installed Nov. 5. Other officer named were: Jack A. Kraker, At lantic district manager of Ross Fed eral Service, vice-commander; Josep Engel, Republic branch manager junior vice-commander; Max Levin adjutant; Leo B. Beresin, finance of ficer and John M. Flynn, Warner cir cuit district manager, chaplain.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 86 — NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1943 — TEN CENTS

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TICKET TAX IS CUT FROM 30 TO 20%

U.S. Approves Commissions For Full Year

Film, Other Salesmen Collect for All 1943

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—Film and other salesmen will be permitted to collect all commissions earned on their own individual sales during all of 1943, provided the rate of commission and the amount of any compensation has not been increased since Oct. 2, 1942, under a new ruling issued here by the Internal Revenue Bureau.

Announcement was made by Commissioner Robert E. Hannegan, who last month succeeded Guy L. Helvering, and who, on Oct. 7, announced that commissions earned during September and October could be paid. The new ruling extends that policy

(Continued on page 8)

Schwartz Assigned Libson Operations

Edward L. Alperson, general manager of RKO Theatres, discloses that the RKO houses in Cincinnati and Dayton formerly operated by the late Lee Libson, will be added to those already under the supervision of Sol A. Schwartz, RKO Western zone manager. Arthur Frudenfeld continues as division manager.

James M. Brennan, RKO's Eastern zone manager, will assume charge of the RKO Theatres in Boston, in addition to the RKO holdings in the east which he now presently supervises. Harold J. Mirisch will take charge of the film buying and booking for Cincinnati and Dayton—handling this directly through the New York office.

Pollock to Assist Lazarus at U. A.

Louis Pollock, formerly Eastern publicity-advertising manager for Universal, has been named by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., director of United Artists advertising and publicity, as his assistant to replace Robin Harris, who resigned for Army induction.

Pollock, who has just returned from the Coast where he was engaged in preparing radio scripts and handling special publicity for Independent M. P. Producers Association, will assume his new post on Monday.

Kalmenson Warns First Runs Against 'Trick' Screenings

DALLAS, Nov. 2.—With first-run theatres enjoying the greatest number of quality pictures ever turned out, there is a vital obligation on the industry to maintain legitimate first-run standards of exhibition and not impose on the public with product below this level, it was stated by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager for Warners, on his arrival here from the company's Chicago sales meeting. He is on a tour of Warner exchanges.

Taking advantage of an eager amusement-seeking public by showing "trick-pictures," which may attract large crowds through freak exploitation angles but send them away feeling disgruntled and imposed upon, will have the ultimate effect of alienating many regular patrons, Kalmenson warned. Several cases of this kind had come to his attention in recent weeks, he said.

Class A houses, charging top prices in a community cannot afford to abuse the confidence of filmgoers with currently sensational catchpenny attractions that aren't worth first-run admissions, he said.

Golden Opportunity for Goodwill

In times like the present, when theatres are drawing the highest attendance in the history of the business, Kalmenson pointed out, there is a golden opportunity for creating and cementing goodwill for the screen in general—a chance to make permanent friends and customers of millions who have not been steady film patrons in the past.

Many new customers also are being developed today among the nation's youth, he said, and this offers a chance to not only help solve juvenile delinquency problems by providing wholesome entertainment but also to make new patrons who will continue to be filmgoers for life.

Companies' Decree Draft Presented

Decree company attorneys completed work Monday on proposals for changes in the consent decree and the draft has been delivered to Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark in Washington.

Based upon proposals discussed previously by heads of the five consenting companies and Clark, the draft is said to cover everything the companies are in a position to concede at this time. Additional proposals may be made following further meetings with Clark. In the meantime, the latter is expected to obtain exhibitor reaction to the proposals. A final disposition of the subject by Nov. 20 is regarded as possible but not probable.

'Rosie' and Show Do $120,000 to Lead B'way Gross Again

Election day, with resultant holiday prices and crowds, proved the "clincher" for high grosses on Broadway after bad weather of last week. Leader for the second week in a row was the Roxy with "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" and a stage show starring Danny Kaye and Tommy Tucker and his band heading for a terrific $120,-

(Continued on page 8)

Exhibitors Expected to Fight for Sliding Scale Instead

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—House Ways and Means Committee has slashed the proposed 30 per cent ticket tax tentatively adopted last month to 20 per cent, a cut in estimated revenue of $163,500,000 a year. Action was taken after lengthy reconsideration by the House Ways and Means Committee on Monday.

The fight against the trebled tax originally approved by the committee was pushed by Republican members, including Representatives Gearhart of California and Knutson of Minnesota.

While the 20 per cent rate is double that now in effect, it is believed here that the cut in rate will eliminate much of the fear expressed by exhibitor representatives at hearings last

(Continued on page 8)

Flinn Named Coast WAC Coordinator

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 2.—John C. Flinn succeeds Frederick W. Beetson as coordinator of the Hollywood Branch of the War Activities Committee. Beetson was compelled to relinquish the post because of illness. He is recuperating slowly, from a heart attack. In accepting his resignation the WAC committee expressed thanks to Beetson for his efforts in behalf of the WAC.

Flinn is executive secretary of the Society of Independent M. P. Pro-

(Continued on page 8)

Broadway Is Biggest 'Boom Town', Receipts Running 35% Over Year Ago

Broadway is the biggest "boom-town" of the nation, reports collected in the field disclose. Overall box-office business at 15 de luxe and lesser first runs circling the Times Square area has been running from 25 to 35 per cent ahead of last year steadily for the past three months, with top business for the period reached one week ago when receipts hit 35 per cent over the same week a year ago.

However, 70 of the largest cities in the country experienced a gain of only 10 to 18 per cent, with the 18 reached only in one week, 16 per cent remaining the top for the rest of the period.

Broadway's low was reached last week, because of the four-day storm, with receipts dropping some 25 per cent, reaching as much at 50 per cent in the neighborhoods, as reported Friday in *Motion Picture Daily*.

WPB Adopts New Construction Plan

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—The motion picture section of the Service Trades branch of the Office of Civilian Requirements now is handling all applications for theatre construction and alteration under a new method of procedure which has been adopted by the War Production Board.

While the section has been processing all applications requiring priorities assistance, and forwarding its recom-

(Continued on page 8)

Personal Mention

HARRY COHN, Columbia president, arrived in New York from the Coast on Monday.

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PILOT OFFICER DOUG EVANS, former manager of the accessories department of Empire-Universal Films, Toronto, has arrived overseas. SGT. PILOT IVAN WILSON of the same department also is overseas.

•

CHARLES F. COE, MPPDA vice-president and general counsel, entered Doctors' Hospital here Monday night for an annual physical checkup.

•

L. MCKEACHNEY, Tri-States Theatre Corp. treasurer, and MRS. MCKEACHNEY have returned to Des Moines from an Eastern trip.

•

MORRISON ORR, United Artists branch manager in Cleveland, was a recent visitor here.

•

PAUL MOONEY, personal representative of HERMAN ROBBINS, National Screen Service president, is in Cincinnati.

•

C. J. SCOLLARD of Paramount, TOM MURRAY of Universal and A. A. SCHUBART of RKO Radio left for the Coast yesterday.

•

SAM GALANTY, Columbia division manager, and LOU WEINBERG, of the home office, has returned from Cincinnati.

•

LOU MARKS, M-G-M salesman, has returned to the Cleveland branch after having been honorably discharged from the Army.

•

RUSSELL HOLMAN and WILLIAM DOZIER of Paramount arrived from the Coast Monday.

•

JULES LEVEY, United Artists producer, is scheduled to leave for the Coast this weekend.

•

PERRY LIEBER, RKO studio publicity head, left yesterday for Hollywood.

•

RICHARD OWEN, of the 20th Century-Fox exploitation staff, is in town from Dallas.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, is touring Warner exchanges in the West.

•

JOSEPH OULAHAN, Cincinnati Paramount exchange manager, is in Washington.

•

HANK LINET and LOU LUSTY of Universal have returned from Cincinnati.

•

MORRIS SCHMALZBACH, 20th Century-Fox auditor, is in Cincinnati.

•

BUDD ROGERS has returned from Cincinnati.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 2

INDEPENDENT producers will tell you on the drop of a gin rummy card how tough it is for them to turn out pictures. The man who produces one, two or three a year and cannot develop a talent stockpile which he could not keep gainfully employed never had an easy time of it at best. In war times his situation is tighter.

The explanation is never complicated, moreover. The independent is in definite competition with the major studios which can afford handsome contract rosters of players, directors and writers. Loanouts are arranged in what is an acknowledged routine and practice, but the independent pays; in fact, he says he pays and pays. Too, he has to await the pleasures and availabilities of the employer-studio. Sometimes the loaning lot will loan to keep its own payroll down. Other times, its interest is in a swap, provided the contracting independent has a property or a production asset which the major is interested in obtaining.

■

Thus, the reasons vary. They varied in peace days and certainly they vary in these war days with its shortages in leading men and what responsible individuals here unite in declaring to be a shriveled market for writing talent. While all of this is by way of well known background material, the newest phase which sweetens the position of the majors and makes it correspondingly difficult for the independents is pointed up by a trend toward straight seven-year, optionless contracts.

The reasons are several:

1. Long-term deals, providing for hikes at stated intervals, tie to Washington and salary restrictions. There appears to lurk in these extended service contracts a way out.

2. The always-around desire of each studio to keep its own talent lineup blooming for one thing and, for another, to keep that talent from a competitor.

■

The independents, bemoaning their fate, complain, of course. But they complain only to the degree that they recognize their own inability to practice what they complain of. If they, in turn, could do what the majors do, they would. They say so without hesitation.

Hollywood, so frequently a place of contradictions, however, disproves all that has been written here thus far in one notable direction: David O. Selznick. Certainly, an independent and not a producer of pictures in number — "Since You Went Away" is the first since "Rebecca" — Selznick, nevertheless, has a talent list made up of individuals any major plant in town would very much like to possess. Proof is available in the regularity and the frequency with which he loans out. Alfred Hitchcock to 20th Century-Fox; Bob Stevenson ditto until he went into the service. Joe Cotten to Universal. Ingrid Bergman to Paramount, Warner and Metro. Dorothy McGuire to Fox. Others, too.

■ ■

Charlie Einfeld passes along this amusing tale:

After several years at a rigorous Siberian battle station, a Russian soldier gets his long-awaited furlough. Long enough, in fact, to allow him to spend it in Moscow. As he travels West toward the capital, his visions are chiefly about food. In Moscow he finds it.

First, caviar. Then roasts and thereafter down the line until the dessert stage is reached.

"Now! What for dessert?" he asks.

"How about Tootsie Rolls?" is the reply.

"Tootsie Rolls? What are they?"

"Lend lease, comrade."

■ ■

Richard Jaeckel was a messenger boy at Fox. Then Bryan Foy saw him, cast him for a part in "Guadalcanal Diary." As "Chicken" Anderson, he delivers a job highly promising because of its freshness and youth.

But Jaeckel, research at the studio reveals, has no acting ambitions. Once a mail boy, then an actor, he is now a soda jerker.

In Hollywood it happens.

■ ■

Mona Freeman is 17, hails from Baltimore. Paramount publicity narrates she modeled 'teen-age clothes for John Powers, the model man, while she attended school. Her first picture role makes her a student in a convent where Maureen O'Hara is a novice in "Tomorrow's Harvest."

That gives Paramount another Freeman. But Frank and Mona are not related.

Kameron Becomes Malaria Specialist

Nat Kameron, film theatre orchestra leader for years, visiting *Motion Picture Daily's* editorial rooms at the weekend related how his son, Lee, former manager of the Astor Theatre on Broadway and now a Marine Platoon Sergeant in the South Pacific, was recently stricken with his fifth attack of malaria.

NEW YORK THEATRE

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
ERIC KNIGHT'S beloved novel
"LASSIE COME HOME"
with RODDY McDOWALL—DONALD CRISI
An M-G-M Picture in Technicolor
Gala Stage Revue Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-460

Held Over 2nd Wee
RADIO CITY MUSIC HAL

PORTUGAL- EUROPE'S CROSSROADS
Another First From The MARCH OF TIME

Mary MARTIN . Franchot TONE . Dick POWELL . Victor MOORE
"TRUE TO LIFE"
IN PERSON
THE INK SPOTS
TONY PASTOR and His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
THE JAPS ARE WORSE THAN KILLERS
'BEHIND THE RISING SUN'

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
First New York Showing!
DONALD O'CONNOR
"TOP MAN"
IN PERSON
LOUIS ARMSTRONG and Orchestra

BETTY GRABLE
ROBERT YOUNG
ADOLPHE MENJOU
Sweet Rosie O'Grady
20th Century-Fox
IN TECHNICOLOR!
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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ar Stripped MGM's ritish Sales Staff

With the return of Sam Eckman, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's manag- director for Great Britain, to ndon from a visit to the United tes, M-G-M's home office reveals the first time that the company in United Kingdom lost every sales- p conscription and is now staffed by older men in England, those have been excused from active ice or those who have been dis- rged from the armed forces.

he personnel situation in the Unit- Kingdom is so acute, it is stated, t a majority of the 350 other per- s employed by M-G-M are either ried women who had not worked ears, or youngsters of from 14 to who have not been called to the rs.

Although fewer than 20 per cent pre-war personnel is left, business igger than in normal times," Eck- n declared.

ckman points out that film sales- n over there, each of whom is re- nsible for about 70 accounts face a h more rigid system of gasoline oning than those in America, and travel mostly by train or bus, icing very few accounts by the phone.

here is no room for film advertise- nts in London daily newspapers ch now usually comprise four es. Ten posters are the limit for h picture, and film trade maga- es which formerly were printed y now publish three times a week, fan magazines virtually non-ex- nt.

Despite the inability to publicize s as heretofore, the public is re- nding to pictures in great numbers, as in the United States," Eck- n says, adding: "Generally speak- grosses in Great Britain compare orably with those in the U. S."

oadshowings for 'Twain,' 'Saratoga'

Warner Bros. is considering the dshowing of "Mark Twain" and ratoga Truck," it was learned here terday. "Desert Song," which will general release, will have an ad- licity promotional budget in excess $250,000.

Company will have about ten fea- es for release during the sales drive nned from Dec. 19 to May 13.

aynor Rejoins 20th ublicity Department

Leonard Gaynor, who was connected h the publicity-advertising depart- nt of 20th Century-Fox from 1932 1939, has rejoined company's home ce publicity department, it was rned Monday. Gaynor since leaving x was with Lynn Farnol and also s Eastern representative for Frank oyd Productions, among other posts.

'Guadalcanal' Dinner

World premiere of 20th Century- x's "Guadalcanal Diary" at the x, Philadelphia, Nov. 10, will be eceded by a dinner at the Bellevue atford Hotel there at which Mayor rnard Samuel will act as host. New ork trade paper representatives will among the company's guests at the air.

Review

"Old Acquaintance"

(*Warners*)

TWENTY years or thereabouts in the lives of two women and the objects of their affections are spanned in "Old Acquaintance." The highlights of this period are the separation of a husband and wife, John Loder and Miriam Hopkins, and successive renunciations, first of the husband, then of a young lover, by Bette Davis. That these proceedings are more engrossing than the average depiction of the same or similar happenings is a tribute to the skill of those to whose talents they were commended.

For they are distinctly more engrossing than the average of their kind. The women, as they say, will like this picture, and their men will find it good adult storytelling. It is good merchandise for any screen, marquee and theatre ad.

Miss Davis and Miss Hopkins, as girlhood friends, are reunited after the former has written one of those novels that the critics applaud and the public ignores. The latter, in a difficult role as a scatterbrain type, is well enough married and about to have a baby. She decides that she can write novels, too, and the kind the public likes. She's right. The money from her book sales rolls in for ten successive years during which she becomes progressively more difficult as wife and mother. At the end of the ten years, John Loder, the husband, leaves her. He has been in love for some time with Miss Davis, but the latter resists his importunings out of loyalty for her girlhood friend, Loder's wife.

Another ten years and the (presumably) ex-wife is even more successful as an author, and a correspondingly greater failure as a mother. Miss Davis, by then, is in love with Gig Young, and has decided to marry him after a period of doubt because of the difference in their ages. Whereupon Young and Dolores Moran, the daughter of the novelist and the departed husband, fall in love. Miss Davis, renouncing her love for Young, aids in bringing the two youngsters together.

The effectiveness of the production is in the fine performances of the principals and a good supporting cast which includes Philip Reed, Roscoe Karns, Anne Revere, Esther Dale and Marjorie Hoshelle. Vincent Sherman's direction is an example of a difficult assignment expertly done. The Henry Blanke production is in the luxury item class. John Van Druten and Lenore Coffee wrote the screenplay from Van Druten's stage play of the same title.

Running time, 110 minutes. Classification "G."*

SHERWIN KANE

U.A. Sets Campaign For Five Releases

National newspaper, trade paper, fan magazine and radio campaign will be conducted by United Artists on an ambitious scale in connection with the forthcoming release of five of the company's new productions, Paul Lazarus, Jr., United Artists advertising and publicity director, announced on Monday.

The campaign will employ extensive use of posters in areas where newspaper and other advertising lineage is rationed because of newsprint shortage. Campaign will open late this month and will continue through January. The pictures which it will cover are: "Three Russian Girls," an R & F production; Samuel Bronston's "Jack London"; "Voice in the Wind," a Ripley-Monter production; Ben Bogeaus' "The Bridge of San Luis Rey," and Producing Corp. of America's "Knickerbocker Holiday."

Harvey, Lukan to See Clark for PCCITO

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 2.—H. V. Harvey, of San Francisco, will also represent the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners at consent decree hearings with Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark in Washington in addition to L. O. Lukan. Both will also attend a meeting of the Allied Caravan in Milwaukee, Harvey representing the PCCITO on Nov. 16 and 17 and Lukan on Nov. 18 and 19.

Services Today for Max Reinhardt

Funeral services will be held here today at the Free Synagogue, 40 West 68th St. for Max Reinhardt, noted producer, who directed Warner's film version of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and the stage production of "The Miracle" in many world capitals. Reinhardt died at the Hotel Gladstone here on Sunday at the age of 70 after a brief illness. He had suffered a stroke three weeks ago while supervising the production of "La Belle Helene" for the New Opera Company. Pneumonia developed last Thursday.

He was born in Baden, near Vienna, in 1873. During his first 25 years as a producer, Reinhardt staged 23,-374 nights of entertainment for Berlin theatregoers. More than 2,500 performances were devoted to Shakespeare, and more than 1,200 to the works of George Bernard Shaw. He came to the United States in 1934 to produce "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in the Hollywood Bowl. For Warner Bros.' Shakesperean work, he built what were said to be among the largest and most expensive studio sets designed up to that time, spending some $1,300,000.

Reinhardt is survived by his wife, the former Helene Thimig an Austrian actress whom he married in 1935, and two sons, Sgt. Gottfried Reinhardt, and Wolfgang Reinhardt, both of whom are well-known in the American film industry.

Canada Now Eyeing Post-War Markets

"Canada intends to continue production of the National Film Board of Canada's 'World in Action' and 'Canada at War' series of documentary and educational films after the end of the war, producing subjects dealing with public interest," Irene Baird, Canadian film board executive, revealed in an interview here Monday. "But at no point do we intend to compete with the industry in our work," she added. However, Miss Baird, visiting here to attend last week's National Board of Review conference, reported that the "World in Action" series, for which rentals are charged, had received 750 theatre bookings in Canada and 6,000 in the U. S.

"After the war, as Europe reopens, we expect to send Canadian films into the world markets to tell the story of Canada. We shall continue to make films of our own rather than utilize films made by the American or British film industries that merely touch upon Canada," Miss Baird stated.

She emphasized that "Canadian production at present and as contemplated in the post-war period, will be of documentary and educational nature as far as one can prophesize." Canada has developed an international audience for its films in the three and one-half years it has been in production with the films. As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last week, Canada is now sending its films in 12 languages to 64 countries where Canada has diplomatic representation. "Practically 90 per cent of our productions treat with the war or the war effort," Miss Baird said.

Employment Limit Placed on L. A. Area

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 2.—The War Manpower Commission has announced a limitation on all Los Angeles county industries, except high urgency war plants, to the highest employment figure reached during October.

WMC Director H. R. Harnish told MOTION PICTURE DAILY, "Studios are included under the limitation, but we will sit down with the motion picture committee and work out a practical solution of their special problem, taking into account the necessarily fluctuating work level." Studio employment chiefs say no serious effects are anticipated, due to the general high production activity last month.

Extortion Trial Will Resume Today

Trial of the Chicago racketeers was postponed on Monday until today due to the illness on that day of Boris Kostelanetz, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, and because of yesterday's Election Day holiday.

Confirm Allen Film For Skirball-U.A.

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 2.—Projected Fred Allen film to be produced by Jack Skirball for United Artists release, has been definitely set. The film will be made here, co-jointly, with Allen's return to the air on Dec. 12.

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

YIPPEE! "GIRL CRAZY"
MGM
HANG ON!
HE NEVER MISSES!
"The name Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer means more in the motion picture business than any other single name."
Quotation from LIFE Magazine

"Far and away the BEST documentary short subjects being turned out by any major studio are the This Is America series of RKO"..... IRVING HOFFMAN

Noted Columnist and Critic
of the HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Thank you Mr. Hoffman for this frank statement. And you are so very right! For with "CHILDREN OF MARS", that remarkably timely release which rounds out the first year of this vital series, THIS IS AMERICA is being shown on more than 7400 of the country's motion picture screens.

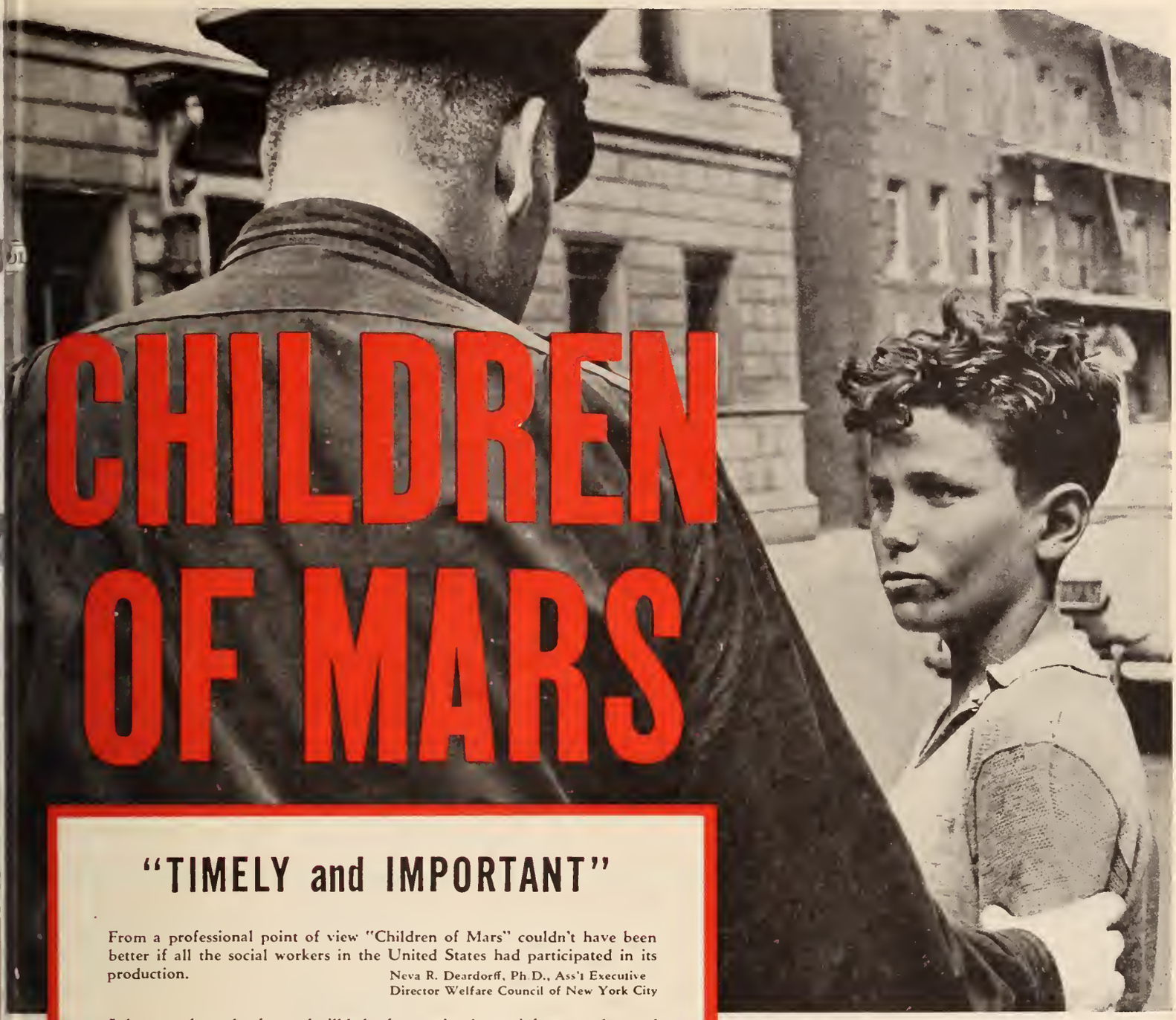
THIS IS AMERICA

RKO RADIO PICTURES

A New Release Every Four Weeks

Produced by FREDERIC ULLMAN JR.

Distributed by RKO RADIO PICTURES INC.



CHILDREN OF MARS

"TIMELY and IMPORTANT"

From a professional point of view "Children of Mars" couldn't have been better if all the social workers in the United States had participated in its production.

Neva R. Deardorff, Ph.D., Ass'l Executive
Director Welfare Council of New York City

It is a superb production and will help the people who see it better understand the Boy Scout program.

Leslie Stratton, Nat'l Director of
Public Relations, Boy Scouts of America

An excellent film, dramatic without being sensational. We heartily recommend it.

Girl Reserve Committee
National Board, Y. W. C. A.

An excellent job in presenting the problems of youngsters left alone by mothers who have gone into industry.

Francis J. Brennan, Acting Director
Recreational and Community Activities, Board of Education, New York City

"Children of Mars" accurately and forcefully illustrates the Number One social problem of our times.

Joseph H. McCoy, General Secretary
Big Brother Movement, New York City

"Children of Mars" is beautifully done. The incidents illustrating delinquency, etc., cleverly selected and pointed up. I believe the picture is a real contribution to the home front at a critical time in our history.

Louise Avery Child, Finance Secretary
Big Brother Movement, New York City

"Children of Mars" carries a timely and important message. I wish every parent in America could see this picture.

Daniel Carpenter, Director
Hudson Guild Neighborhood House, New York City

The picture is unusually good, particularly with respect to ways of preventing juvenile delinquency.

Suzanne Wunder, Public Information Director
National Probation Association

This latest
THIS IS AMERICA
subject, released Oct. 22, is now on the screens of the picture theatres of the country and is available for you to

BOOK TODAY!

'Rosie' and Show Do $120,000 to Lead B'way Gross Again

(Continued from page 1)

000 estimated gross. Kaye was out several days on Army call. The Music Hall, where "Lassie Come Home" and a stage show is in the fourth and final week, is expecting a good $97,-000, with "Claudia" and a stage show opening tomorrow.

"Phantom of the Opera" and Lena Horne and Duke Ellington on the stage at the Capitol will do in the neighborhood of $60,000 for the third week and holds over. "True to Life" and Tony Pastor and his band on the stage at the Paramount took a neat $52,000 in its third week. It holds.

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" is expected to gross $42,000 for a third week of a continuous run policy at the Rivoli. "Thank Your Lucky Stars" and a stage show featuring Sammy Kaye and his band winds up a stay at the Strand with a fifth week take of $37,500 estimated. "Princess O'Rourke" and Shep Fields and his band on the stage open at the Strand on Friday.

"Corvette K-225" is headed for a net $28,000 at the Criterion and holds. "Behind the Rising Sun" finishes a three-week at the Palace today with an estimated final week gross of $18,-000. "North Star" opens tomorrow at the Palace and also at the New Victoria on Broadway. "This Is the Army" did an estimated $13,500 in the final five days of its 14 weeks at the Hollywood. "Old Acquaintance" opened to big business at the house yesterday.

"Thousands Cheer" for its seventh week at the Astor grossed an estimated $13,000 and continued. "Paris After Dark" is expected to gross $7,-500 in its second and final week at the Rialto, with "Son of Dracula" opening there on Friday.

"The Iron Major" is drawing well in its first week at the Globe, where $15,000 is expected.

U.S. Approves Full Year's Commissions

(Continued from page 1)

through the remainder of the year. All commissions earned on 1943 sales are covered, even though some may not be paid until next year.

It was emphasized that this policy does not apply to over-riding commissions, such as those to an employee which are based on the sales of other employees, although such type of commission may be paid without approval if the dollar amount of the commission and other compensation does not exceed that paid during the company's accounting year prior to Oct. 2, 1942.

War Fund Meet Today

Representatives of film companies, circuits and associated fields will meet with Adolph Zukor, chairman of the industry's drive for the National War Fund, today at three o'clock in the Paramount Building to discuss plans for the drive. Si Fabian, Harry Brandt, Fred Schwartz, Harry Mandel and Joe Hornstein are scheduled to represent the War Activities Committee at the meeting.

Brazil Now Gets Films Regularly

Shipments of film from the U. S. to Brazil, which had been irregular for some time, due to war shipping restrictions, are now being received at regular intervals, reports S. E. Pierpont, Paramount's manager for Brazil, who arrived here over the weekend.

Shipping film to the northern part of Brazil is slow and difficult because of poor transportation facilities, Pierpont added.

About 13 features a year are produced by native producers. Every theatre must show one Brazilian feature once a year, and at least one Brazilian short subject must also be exhibited. All advertising accessories, continued Pierpont, must be approved by a censor board, and newspaper advertisements of product must at all times mention the title of the Brazilian short being shown in conjunction with the feature. General admission prices range from 30 to 35 cents plus tax in equivalent U. S. currency.

The Armed Forces see new films, shown in 16 mm., months before they are shown in commercial theatres.

Raw stock is being received in about the same proportion as had been shipped to raw stock agents here during 1939-42.

Educational films, sponsored by the U. S. Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs, are screened in churches, schools, factories and auditoriums, and in addition are taken into the interior, where motion pictures are seen for the first time by natives. There are about 1,380 theatres in Brazil, and all important first runs are air conditioned.

RCA 'Going to Bat' On Fight with AFM

"We are unwilling to pay either direct to a union or to persons not employed by us and who never have been employed by us." This is the stand taken Friday by RCA Victor in a letter sent by J. W. Murray, general manager, to Victor recording artists relative to the controversy between the American Federation of Musicians and the company.

RCA Victor reveals that it will present its case at a formal War Labor Board hearing starting today. Company charges that the AFM has remained adamant in demands which it cannot accept. In addition to RCA Victor, Columbia Recording and the recording affiliate of NBC have not yet reached accords with AFM.

WPB Adopts New Construction Plan

(Continued from page 1)

mendation to the WPB materials branch, it now is also handling applications which do not require priorities and which formerly went direct to the approving officials.

The effect of the change, officials of the section pointed out, is to bring all theatre projects to a point where they are handled by men familiar with the theatre business, whereas heretofore many of them went to divisions which were better informed as to materials and construction generally than as to theatres.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 2

PNEUMONIA threatens Joseph Schenck's, 20th-Fox production executive, return from Mexico City. He has a cold, making his departure for the Bioff trial in New York also uncertain.

•

Capts. Clark Gable and John Lee Mahin are here to edit 50,000 feet of color film for Army training courses. The film will show the activities of heavy bomber groups stationed in England.

•

Francis Harmon, War Activities Committee executive, is in St. Vincent's Hospital, Los Angeles, suffering from a heavy cold.

•

Charles R. Rogers has announced his purchase of the screen rights to Mannix Walker's novel, "Count on Two Days."

•

Bernie Kamins, publicity director for Harry Sherman for several years, has resigned to become publicity manager of Charles R. Rogers Prod.

Flinn Named Coast WAC Coordinator

(Continued from page 1)

ducers, in which capacity he will continue in addition to his new WAC duties, which compare with those of Francis Harmon, coordinator in the East.

Harmon and Stanton Griffis, liaison between motion pictures and the Office of War Information, have conferred here with WAC studio officials in connection with future WAC-OWI war-information short subject production. Harmon will remain for several days, arriving back in New York next Monday. Griffis has already returned to Washington.

Griffis told the WAC committee here that the film industry deserved a great deal of credit for the extent of its cooperation with the OWI. Before returning to the Capital, Griffis was guest at a luncheon attended by George J. Schaefer, national WAC chairman; Ulric Bell, chief of the Los Angeles Overseas Bureau of OWI; James S. Howie, of the Association of M. P. Producers, Inc., and the following members of the executive committee of the WAC Hollywood division: chairman Mary C. McCall, Jr.; vice-chairman E. J. Mannix; Bert Allenberg, Y. Frank Freeman, Kenneth Thomson, Walter Wanger, George Brown and J. P. McGowan, who served as an alternate for Mark Sandrich.

Ladd Out of Army

Corp. Alan Ladd has been honorably discharged from the Army Air Corps because of a recurring stomach ailment, after nearly a year in service, Paramount reported over the weekend. He has returned to Hollywood from an Army hospital at Santa Barbara, where he had been confined for several weeks. Paramount here was unaware yesterday of immediate starring plans for Ladd, assuming there will be a lapse of several weeks before he returns to the studio.

Ticket Tax Is Cut From 30 to 20%

(Continued from page 1)

month that the 30 per cent then un discussion would result in loss audience. It is quite likely, howev that the exhibitor groups may c tinue their efforts to secure what th consider a more equitable measure the tax, in the form of a sliding sc keeping the present 10 per cent on admissions up to 20 cents, with 20 per cent rate on admissions tween that and 50 cents and 30 cent on higher admissions.

In this connection, Ed Kuykenda MPTOA president, arrived in Was ington today and will confer w other exhibitors' representatives a Congressmen on further action on t tax. Abram F. Myers, Allied Sta board chairman and general couns also is following closely all develo ments on the tax.

Commenting on the lowered ra Myers declared: "The committe modification is a tribute to the magni cent response from exhibitors in sections to the call sent out by Alli on Oct. 14.

"I had hoped the existing tax mig stand, at least on low admissions Myers told MOTION PICTURE DAIL "Whether efforts will be renewed the House must await the views the men in the field."

"The tax," Kuykendall told M TION PICTURE DAILY today, "is di criminatory, unfair and unequaliz It discriminates against theatre p trons as a class. MPTOA is n through fighting against it yet."

In addition to easing the admissi tax, the committee has reduced t proposed 10-cent air mail rate eight cents but increased first cla postage rates from two to three cen on local mail and three to four cen on out-of-town mail.

The committee now has disposed the excise taxes and is preparing write the bill, which is expected to to the House about the middle of ne week.

Scophony Reports New Television Fin

Scophony television claims it h developed a system utilizing its ne Skiatron inventions which, if desir by regulatory authorities in the pos war period, makes possible the mod fication of the present technologic limitations placed on the number television transmission stations th may be established in key cities, ar makes possible an increase in the nun ber of such television broadcastir stations by 50 per cent or more, a cording to a statement from that com pany.

Scophony is associated with Par mount (through its wholly own subsidiary Television Productions, In of Hollywood) and General Precisi Equipment Corp., which in turn associated with 20th Century-Fox.

Correction

First open meeting of the season Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith will b held next Tuesday at the Edis Hotel. Due to a typographical erro the meeting date was given in M TION PICTURE DAILY as Tuesday, No 8, rather than Nov. 9.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

OL. 54. NO. 87 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1943 | TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Critical Coal Stocks Worry Many Owners

NY Circuit Chiefs Warn Situation Serious

Coal supplies for hundreds of eatres throughout the country al-eady have reached a critical stage d the immediate future is being atched by theatre operators with in-easing misgiving as the mine labor tuation increases in gravity, it was arned yesterday.

The indicated settlement of the min-s' strike last night promised no im-ediate relief to theatre owners already serious straits because of shortages coal which face war plants and wer companies, industry observers inted out.

Reports from New York circuit op-ators dependent upon coal for theatre eating paralleled those from other ctions of the country. The situation the more serious in that scores of e houses now faced with a coal

(*Continued on page 7*)

Midwest Exhibitors Form Anti-Tax Bloc

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 3.—Circuit and dependent exhibitors in Minnesota nd the Dakotas have formed a solid ont in an allout effort to ward off nal approval of the proposed in-eased federal admission tax, now in ongress.

Action was voted at an emergency eeting called here following receipt f a telegram from national Allied ead, Abram Myers, advising that a

(*Continued on page 7*)

Paramount Partners To Meet with WAC

A number of Paramount theatre artners will arrive in New York late is week and early next to attend a eneral War Activities Committee theatres division) meeting to be held e fore part of next week, Leonard oldenson, vice-president in charge of aramount theatre operation, reported ere yesterday.

Already in this city is E. V. Rich-rds of New Orleans. Bob O'Donnell ill arrive from Texas tomorrow and obert Wilby, Karl Hoblitzelle, A. I. Blank, John Balaban, Marty Mul-n and Sam Pinanski will arrive early ext week.

Legality of Long Term Franchises Before U.S. Court

NASHVILLE, Nov. 3.—One of the most important issues involved in a U. S. Supreme Court review of the Crescent Amusement anti-trust case will be a determination of the legality or illegality of franchises for the long-term licensing of pictures. Holding that the decree entered by Judge Elmer Davies in the case is not clear to whether a franchise is illegal or legal "per-se," it becomes known now that Crescent defense counsel in their

(*Continued on page 7*)

Zukor Appeals for Aid for War Fund

Stressing the service record of exhibitors in the advancement of the war program, Adolph Zukor, Paramount, and chairman of the National War Fund for the War Activities Committee, yesterday asked all theatremen to give total support to the success of the War Fund Drive in their communities.

Adolph Zukor

In a letter sent to more than 16,000 theatre men, Zukor stated that while general as-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Exhibitors Honor Fabian and Mayer

Si Fabian and Arthur Mayer will be guests at a luncheon given in their honor by theatre owners of New York in the main ballroom of the Hotel Astor on Tuesday, Nov. 16. James J. Walker will be toastmaster. David Weistock is chairman.

The luncheon will be in appreciation of Fabian's and Mayer's efforts on behalf of the industry and the war.

Schenck Testifies Bioff Threatened Louis Mayer's Life

An implied threat against the life of Louis B. Mayer was made by Willie Bioff in 1937 as an aftermath of a move to investigate labor conditions in the studios which was undertaken by an interim committee of the California Legislature, Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, testified yesterday at the resumption of the racketeering trial in Federal Court here.

Schenck testified that Bioff, upon confronting Mayer at a Coast meeting, said to the latter: "There is no room in this world for both of us, and I will be here."

It was Bioff's belief that Mayer had inspired the labor investigation.

"Do you mean that Bioff threatened to kill Mr. Mayer?" Schenck was asked by defense counsel.

"What do you think?" he replied.

(*Continued on page 6*)

U.S. Expects Even Greater Bond Aid from Industry

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—The film industry will be expected to play as important a part, if not more, in the fourth war loan drive in January as it did in the third loan campaign in September when it had bond sales in excess of $1,909,889,000, it was declared here today by Ted R. Gamble, national director of the War Finance division of the Treasury Department.

Plans for industry's participation in the first 1944 drive, in which it is expected that the quota of sales to individuals will be even larger than in September, were explored in preliminary fashion yesterday by Gamble

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ten-Week Tours For Top Film Stars

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 3.—Board of directors of the Association of Motion Picture Producers at their regular monthly meeting here adopted a three-point plan to make additional film talent available to the Hollywood Victory Committee and the USO for the entertainment of troops overseas.

Abe Lastfogel, USO Camps Shows executive, and Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, pointed out to the board that

(*Continued on page 7*)

Majors' Decree Proposals Are Turned Down

Clark Tells Them They Must Yield Lots More

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—Formal proposals of the distributors for revision of the consent decree were discussed with Assistant U. S. Attorney-General Tom C. Clark yesterday by Joseph Hazen, Warner counsel, representing the five consent decree signers, who in a 15-minute session, was told flatly that they were unsatisfactory.

Clark told Hazen that the companies would have to concede a great deal more than they appeared willing to in the document laid before him and that they would have to do it quickly.

The brief time spent by Hazen in the department was in itself an indication that Clark saw nothing in the proposals which merited discussion

(*Continued on page 6*)

'Brown-Out' Some Help to Theatres

Lifting of the rigid dimout regulations in coastal cities, East and West, resulting in the relighting of theatre marquees has brought some increase in box office receipts, reports from the field and from circuit heads here indicate.

Boston especially reports a decided increase in film theatre business, starting Monday, the night the restrictions were waived. Increases up to 25 per cent were noted in box-office returns

(*Continued on page 7*)

Concessions for Extra War Work

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 3.—Opening the way for thousands of workers in the film and other so-called non-essential fields to work part time in war industry, H. R. Harnish, state manpower director, has notified the Citizens' Manpower Committee here that the Government will not freeze double-duty workers in a war job, ruling also that it is not mandatory for part-time workers to switch full-time to an essential industry when they are doing

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal president, who is recuperating rapidly at the Fifth Avenue Hospital following a recent minor operation, expects to leave the hospital tomorrow.

•

BARNEY BALABAN and NEIL AGNEW returned from the Coast yesterday after viewing new Paramount product at the studio and immediately went into a huddle with LEONARD GOLDENSON, JOHN W. HICKS, RUSSELL HOLMAN and others, which continued while luncheon was served in Balaban's office.

•

MORRIS EPSTEIN, Republic's New York branch manager, was discharged yesterday from Mt. Sinai Hospital following an operation. He will continue convalescing at home.

•

ARCHIE S. MAYERS, Eastern representative for JULES LEVEY, will leave next week for Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City.

•

EDWARD L. ALPERSON, general manager of RKO Theatres, who is in Cincinnati, is expected back here Monday.

•

JOHN JOSEPH, Universal advertising and publicity director, plans to leave for the Coast today with a brief stopover in Chicago.

•

WILLIAM MORTENSEN, managing director of the Bushnell Memorial Playhouse, Hartford, is the new mayor of that city.

•

DANNY GREENHOUSE, former RKO manager in Chile, has arrived in Hollywood and may locate there.

•

JOSEPH I. BREEN, Production Code Administrator, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

WALTER BRANSON, RKO Western division manager, is expected from the Coast on Monday.

•

CHARLES KOERNER and MRS. KOERNER leave here tomorrow for Hollywood.

•

HENRY GORDON, Paramount manager for Panama, has arrived in New York for a home office visit.

•

LOUIS ROSENBERG, California Theatre operator, was a recent Seattle visitor from San Luis Obispo.

•

SAM ROSEN, Fabian circuit partner, returned recently from Saratoga.

•

ROBERT FABIAN, SI FABIAN's son, has enlisted in the Army.

•

JOSEPH HAZEN of Warners is expected back from Washington today.

•

HANK LINET, of Universal, will be in Philadelphia Monday.

•

MAX ROSENBLATT, RKO salesman in Omaha, is the father of a boy.

Jack Cohn, 54, Gets A Birthday Party

A surprise birthday party was tendered to Jack Cohn, vice president of Columbia Pictures, by company executives at the Waldorf-Astoria yesterday. The party was deferred from Oct. 27, Cohn's 54th birthday, pending the arrival of Harry Cohn, Columbia president, from the Coast.

Among those present, beside the Cohns, were Nate Spingold, Abe Montague, Abe Schneider, M. J. Weisfeldt, Nat Cohn, Louis Barbano, Rube Jackter, Louis Weinberg, Louis Astor, Dr. M. Goldstein, Mendel Silberberg, Harry J. Takiff, Joseph McConville, Leo Jaffe, Irving Moross, Floyd Weber, George Josephs, William Brennan, Mortimer Wormser, Warren Sharpe, Max Cohn, Frank Rosenberg, David Lipton, David O'Malley, Harry Foster, Hal Hode, Max and Al Seligman, John Kane, Hank Kaufman, Jack Meyers, Arnold Picker, Jack Segal, Carter Blake, Sid Alexander, Charles Schwartz and Joseph Cohn.

Vandalism in Berger Circuit Is Reduced

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 3.—Vandalism in Berger Circuit operations here has declined to near normal levels after reaching its peak last May, Ben Berger, president of the independent chain, told a meeting of managers at the Nicollet Hotel here. He congratulated them for bringing "the nuisance under control."

Manpower remains the No. 1 problem of the circuit, Berger and his general manager, G. F. Swenberger, revealed, adding "it is necessary for every member of the firm to double in brass" until such time as the labor shortage situation shows improvement.

British to Push Product Overseas

LONDON, Nov. 3.—British Film Producers' Association, mutual aid organization of most producers here, has formed British Commonwealth Film Corp. to undertake overseas distribution of British films. Directors are J. Arthur Rank, England's most powerful producer-distributor-exhibitor, who is president of the BFPC, and Michael Balcon, Sam Smith and W. G. Hall.

Pioneer Films to Release 13 Reissues

TORONTO, Nov. 3. — Distribution rights to 13 reissues have been acquired here by Pioneer Films for Canada. They are: "A Star Is Born," "The Young in Heart," "Made for Each Other," "Little Lord Fauntleroy," "Nothing Sacred," "Topper," "Merrily We Live," and six Laurel and Hardy comedies.

M-G-M Meets Nov. 29

CHICAGO, Nov. 3.—M-G-M district managers and home office representatives will hold a meeting here at Blackstone Hotel, Nov. 29 and 30 and Dec. 1.

Asks Theatre Ban on Christmas Lighting

Washington, Nov. 3.—Theatre operators throughout the country today were asked by the Office of War Utilities to forego the usual Christmas lighting of their houses this year. Director J. A. Krug urged that interiors and exteriors of theatres dispense with lighting because of the critical power situation, accentuated this week by the current coal strike.

Krug pointed out that there is a particular shortage of electric light bulbs at present and warned that widespread consumption during the Christmas season "merely will mean a greater scarcity later on."

NLRB Seeks Disney Enforcement Order

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 3.—The National Labor Relations Board has petitioned the ninth Federal District Court of Appeals, in San Francisco, to enforce its March 31 order requiring the Disney Studio to reinstate Arthur Babbitt, now in the Army, with back pay from Nov. 24, 1941, to Nov. 19, 1942, within 40 days after his return from service.

Gunther Lessing, Disney executive, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY, "We will defend our refusal to accept the NLRB order when the case is set in court." Babbitt was a key figure in the cartoonist strike against Disney in 1941.

The NLRB order also sought to restrain Disney from discouraging workers from joining the Screen Cartoonists Guild.

Gaynor and Powers Join Twentieth-Fox

Hal Horne, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox, yesterday verified MOTION PICTURE DAILY's story of Wednesday disclosing the appointment of Leonard Gaynor to a special post in the publicity-exploitation departments, Gaynor will function under Jack Goldstein, publicity manager.

Pat Powers has also joined the staff. He will specialize exclusively on the New York run of "The Song of Bernadette," plans for which are now being made.

Publicity Club Luncheon

Ruth Warrick, featured in RKO-Radio's "The Iron Major" and Dorothy Roe, Associated Press women's editor, will be guests at the second Fall luncheon meeting of the Publicity Club of New York at the Belmont Plaza Hotel today.

Ulm Retires

RANDOLPH, Neb., Nov. 3.—A. A. Ulm, one of Nebraska's oldest exhibitors who has had his Ran theatre here for more than 30 years has sold out to Leonard Leise of Hartington. Ulm will retire.

Action on 4 More Arbitration Case

A new clearance complaint has be filed at Boston, a some run compla filed at Detroit, an appeal on a manded proceedings award filed fr New Orleans, and a consent awa entered in Boston, the American A bitration Association announced h yesterday.

Keith's Campello Amusement Cor owner and operator of a second r in Brockton, Mass., filed the clearan complaint against the five consenti companies at Boston. Complaina alleges that present clearance of days held by the Brockton and C lonial, Brockton, Mass., over Keitl Campello's is unreasonable, and as for a maximum clearance of not mo than 30 days.

Detroit Consolidated Files

In Detroit, Detroit Consolidat Theatres Inc., operating the Gra Theatre there, filed a some run co plaint against 20th Century-Fox.

Anthony Demharter, owner a operator of the Peacock Theatre, Ne Orleans, has appealed the remand proceedings award on a specific r complaint against Paramount, 20t Fox, RKO and Warners. Origin complaint had been dismissed, follo ing an appeal to the appeals boar which remanded the case to Ne Orleans for a fuller hearing, by co sent of counsel for the distributors.

Consent Award Entered

A consent award by stipulation w entered at the Boston tribunal in t complaint of Carlton Amusement E terprises, Inc., operator of the Came Pittsfield, against all five consenti companies and Western Massachuset Theatres, Inc. Stipulation states th the maximum clearance of the Capit Colonial and Palace shall be 45 da over any second run theatre in Pitt field. Further, that the maximu clearance which may be granted to a second run theatre operated by t intervenor, including the Strand, ov the Cameo (provided they are thi runs), shall be 14 days, provided al that all pictures shall be available the Cameo 75 days after showing the intervenor's first-run theatres. T Tyler Theatre's availability and clea ance on Loew's product shall not affected and complainant shall n be prejudiced in bringing any proceed ing respecting such availability a clearance. Costs were assessed equal against all parties.

'Chicago Sun' Raises Advertising Rate

CHICAGO, Nov. 3. — The Chicag *Sun* has increased advertising rat from five to 33 per cent in a gener readjustment of its entire rate stru ture. The increase for amusement a vertising was equal to the lowest i any department.

Restriction on space allowed amus ment adverisers in the Chicag *Tribune* has been eliminated tempo arily.

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GUIDE TO THEATERS

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NOW THE WORLD PREMIERE OF THE NEWEST ACHIEVEMENT OF WARNER BROS.

I love you... I love you... I love

More than she has before, in this production Bette pours all the wondrous warmth of her being into the story of the hidden love of a woman of the world

BETTE DAVIS
rivals again with her co-star of 'The Old Maid,'
MIRIAM HOPKINS
in the picturization of the Noted Stage Triumph..

OLD ACQUAINTANCE

with
GIG YOUNG
JOHN LODER • DOLORES MORAN
Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN
Screen Play by John Van Druten & Lenore Coffee
FROM THE STAGE PLAY BY JOHN VAN DRUTEN
Produced by Dwight Deere Wiman
Produced by HENRY BLANKE

CONTINUOUS POPULAR PRICES · OPENS 10 A. M.

HOLLYWOOD
BROADWAY AT 51st

All Give to the National War Fund —it gives to all!

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 3

LOUIS LIFTON, Monogram advertising and publicity director, will leave here Saturday for New York conferences on a "Where Are My Children?" $100,000 advertising campaign. Monogram sales department has set a $1,000,000 sales quota on the film.

•

Screen personalities who have entertained troops overseas will participate in a 45-minute "Around the World" Thanksgiving morning broadcast over NBC under the auspices of the USO and the Hollywood Victory Committee. Jack Benny and Bob Hope will divide the master of ceremonies duties. The program will present 14 stars from Hollywood, cutting in others from Honolulu, Panama, North Africa, London, Washington and New York.

•

Orson Welles' Mercury Productions will make two pictures during his absence in England with Jackson Leighter producing. Release is now being negotiated. Properties are "The Importance of Being Earnest," by Oscar Wilde, and "Elsie Vanner," by Oliver Wendell Holmes.

•

Monogram's "Unknown Guest" will go into Fox West Coast's Chinese, Loew's State and the Ritz on the 20th. The booking is called "the most important Pacific Coast presentation" in the company's history.

•

Warners has purchased Clifford Odets' unfinished play, "An Errand for Uncle." Eliza Kazan, stage director, has been signed to do the picture. Jerry Wald will produce.

•

Lee J. McCarthy, assistant general sales manager of PRC, has arrived here for company conferences. Arthur Greenblatt, PRC sales manager, will arrive here on Nov. 15.

•

"Horror Island," concerning Japan's enforcement of inter-marriage with captive populations, will be produced by 20th-Fox.

•

Columbia has confirmed the amicable cancellation of producer Arthur Schwartz's contract following completion of "Cover Girl."

•

Modern Film Corp. will distribute six musicals to be produced by World Pictures, the latter announces here.

•

Robert M. Gillham, Paramount director of advertising and publicity, left here today for the East.

•

Republic has signed producer Walter Colmes for six pictures. His first will be "Trocadero."

•

George J. Gill, PRC board member, has left here for the East.

'North Star' Tonight

Samuel Goldwyn's "The North Star," Lillian Hellman film about the Nazi invasion of Russia, will have its two-theatre world premiere tonight at the New Victoria Theatre and the RKO Palace. Seats for the first night will be on reserved basis; subsequently, the Palace will operate continuously and the Victoria will retain the policy of two shows daily with reserved seats. The Goldwyn office said the film cost $3,000,000.

Personal Mention

LEWEN PIZOR, Philadelphia exhibitor, is a member of that city's committee assisting the National Jewish Hospital, Denver.

•

GEORGE D. BURROWS, Monogram vice-president and treasurer, and JOHN S. HARRINGTON, head of the prints and accessories department, are expected here tomorrow from the Coast.

•

JAMES LEWIS, RKO Kansas City branch manager, and RAYMOND McKITRICK, branch booker, have received induction notices. Lewis will report to the Army Nov. 18, McKitrick to the Marines Nov. 10.

•

FRANZ and BETTY WESTFALL, he is manager of the Colonial, Salem, Va., announce the birth of a second son, STEPHAN, at the Jefferson Hospital, Roanoke, last week.

•

FRANK COHEN, assistant manager of Warner's Stanley, Philadelphia, has resigned to enter the Navy. He has been succeeded by SOL CIOCIOLA, JR.

•

HARRY C. ARTHUR, JR., general manager of Fanchon & Marco, St. Louis, has returned to that city from a New York trip.

•

MOE SILVER, Warner circuit Pittsburgh zone manager, and HARRY FEINSTEIN, head film buyer in that territory, are in New York.

•

C. J. LATTA, Warner circuit zone manager in Albany, and MAX FRIEDMAN, buyer and booker for that area, arrived here yesterday.

•

WILLIAM SAGE, manager of the Roxy, Northampton, Pa., has joined the Navy. His wife succeeeds him in the post.

•

JUNE BLAKE, daughter of B. K. BLAKE, Columbia producer-director, is engaged to wed JESSE KRIEGER, a lawyer.

•

JAMES E. COSTON, Warner Theatres mid-West zone manager, is here from Chicago.

•

JACK SEGAL, Columbia assistant foreign manager, is in Mexico City on a Latin-American business trip.

•

ROY BROWN, film buyer for the Evergreen circuit, Seattle, was a recent Los Angeles visitor.

MAJOR BARNEY OLDFIELD, of the Paratroops, well known newspaperman in Nebraska and for years a Quigley Publications correspondent there, is in New York awaiting an assignment abroad. MRS. OLDFIELD has entered the WACs.

•

MRS. RICHARD HEINEN, daughter of ED ROWLEY of the Robb and Rowley circuit in Texas, is the mother of a son, her second.

•

FRED GREGOR of the Majestic Theatre, New Waterford, N. S., has been discharged from a Halifax, N. S., hospital after recovering from a recent illness.

•

LOU WECHSLER, former United Artists manager in New Haven, now associated with 20th Century-Fox in Boston, was given a farewell dinner on leaving for his new post.

•

HOWARD FLETCHER, owner of the Hollyburn, West Vancouver, recently was given the Chamber of Commerce "Good Citizen" award in Vancouver.

•

JACK CARTER, manager of the Newsreel Theatre, Baltimore, is in New York to meet SHERRILL CORWIN, Hollywood circuit operator, who is on a business trip East.

•

RUSSELL ARMENTROUT, owner of the Armentrout circuit in Missouri and Illinois, visited in Omaha following a hunting trip in South Dakota.

•

SAM HAASE, Boston theatre broker, and MRS. HAASE were honored there recently on their 22nd wedding anniversary.

•

HERMAN B. SHAWN, manager of Cosmopolitan Films, Ltd., Toronto, has applied for enlistment in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

•

ALEX L. HILLMAN, publisher of *Movieland* magazine, and PHILIP KEENAN, general manager, are in Washington.

•

HENRY WESSEL, operating the Film Delivery Service, Cincinnati, observed his 71st birthday this week.

•

NORMAN CLARK, drama critic for the *News-Post*, Baltimore, is on a two-week vacation.

•

MORRIS MECHANIC, owner of the New Theatre, Baltimore, is in New York.

Sunday Film Ban Lifted by Pa. Cities

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 3.—Seven municipalities in Pennsylvania yesterday voted in favor of Sunday films and one decided to continue the ban on them. Greenville, which now prohibits Sunday shows, voted against opening theatres on the Sabbath.

Voting in favor of Sunday films were Laureldale, Wyalusing, Athens, Monroe Township, Carmichaels, Boswell, and Port Carbon. All except Port Carbon now prohibit Sunday pictures.

Veto Sunday Showings

HAMILTON, O., Nov. 3.—Showing of motion pictures on Sunday at Cambridge, defeated in several previous elections, was again vetoed yesterday.

'In Old Oklahoma' Has 1st Opening

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 3.—Today was "In Old Oklahoma Day" here, by proclamation of Robert S. Kerr, Governor of Oklahoma; Stanley Draper, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and Robert Hefner, Mayor of Oklahoma City, in observance of the world premiere of the Republic film at the Criterion Theatre tonight. Premiere, sponsored by the *Daily Oklahoman*, was for the benefit of the Milk and Ice Fund.

John Wayne, Martha Scott and George (Gabby) Hayes, stars of the picture, and its director, Albert S. Rogell, were here for the premiere.

The Very Ingenious William K. Saxto

Baltimore, Nov. 3.—With six-alarm fire blazing opp site the Century Theatre an police keeping pedestrians block away, business the othe night was going to ruin. I fact, there wasn't any busi ness until William K. Saxto Baltimore manager for Loe Theatres, quickly thought u a solution.

He opened the rear door o the theatre, provided a tem porary box office and sol tickets, and plenty of them.

Air FCC Views on Postwar Televisi

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—View the Federal Communications Com sion concerning post-war televisio velopment and frequency alloca are expected to be made known morrow by Chairman James L.

In line with current thought in industry, the commission has studying the post-war situation its announcement may lay dow general pattern for the full- launching of television.

Fly today was the first witness fore the Senate Interstate Comm Committee as it opened hearing the White-Wheeler bill to amend Communications Act and reorga the commission. He charged that National Association of Broadca is dominated by the two big netw pointing out that Mutual and the Network are not members of Association. He also accused the N of "stirring up small stations" attempting to create public opi in favor of the legislation to res the commission's powers.

Telecasters and Ad Heads Meet Nov.

American Television Society the Advertising Club of New Y will hold a joint meeting and di session next Wednesday with Nor D. Waters, ATS president, presi Meeting will bring together both t nical and commercial interests as ated with the future of television

Speakers scheduled include: A B. DuMont, president of DuM Thomas Joyce, RCA vice-presid Robert L. Gibson, General Elect Thomas Hutchinson of Ruthrauff Ryan and John Southwell of Bat Barton, Durstine & Osborne.

Following the dinner, a demons tion of commercial programs wil presented by DuMont and receive sets installed at the Advertising by courtesy of DuMont.

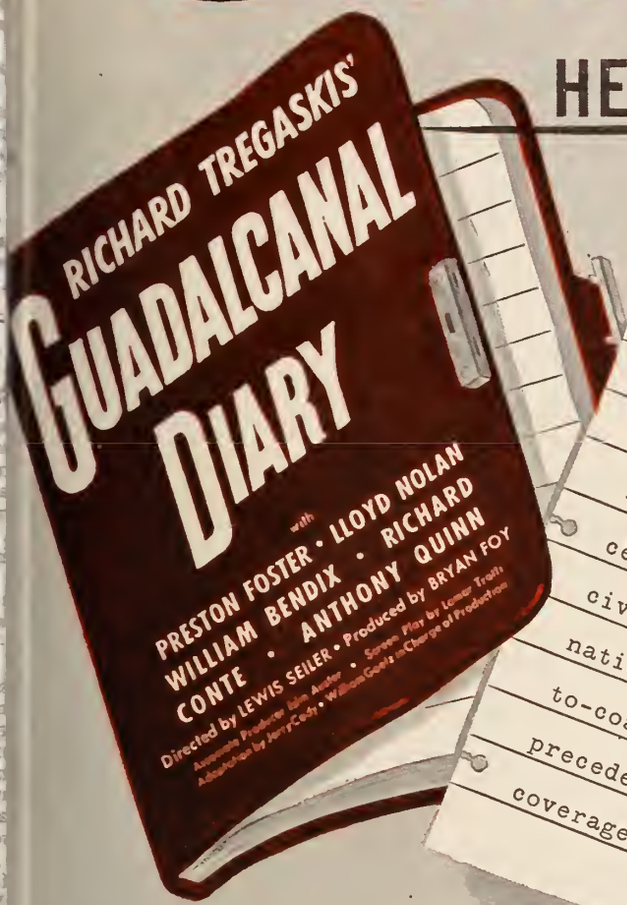
AFM-Recorders Dispute Reope

The fight of the large recor companies, led by Columbia Recor Corp. against James C. Petril American Federation of Musici reopened here yesterday before a Labor Board panel. Petrillo deman that the disc-makers pay the AF royalty for each "platter."

Opening session was marked stormy arguments between Jos Padway, counsel for the union, Ralph F. Colin, attorney for lumbia.

Showmen—

HERE'S ONE FOR THE BOOK!



November 10th
On this day, GUADALCANAL
DIARY opens at the Fox
Theatre in Philadelphia
-- entire city joining in
celebration! parades!
civic banquet attended by
nation's notables! coast-
to-coast broadcasts! un-
precedented newspaper
coverage!

"This Week" -- circulated
to over 7,000,000 readers
in 21 of the nation's key
city newspapers -- will
carry a full-page 4-color
ad extolling the tremen-
dous entertainment values
of GUADALCANAL DIARY!

More showmanship!
More excitement than
there's space to tell!
And cheers
from the trade press!
VARIETY "GUADALCANAL
DIARY" big b.o.
M.P. Daily "boxoffice
success!"
Film Daily "No exhibitor
prayer could have been more
favorably answered!"

Big Ones
ARE BACKED BIG BY
20th
CENTURY-FOX

Schenck Testifies Bioff Threatened Louis Mayer's Life

(*Continued from page* 1)

"Do you believe he would murder Mr. Mayer?" counsel persisted.

"I can't think of anyone killing anyone else," Schenck said.

Schenck related that the meeting at which the threat was made was attended by himself, Mayer, Bioff, George E. Browne, former IATSE president, and Joseph M. Schenck and was held at the latter's home.

The witness denied that he had later invited Browne to his Great Neck home to discuss a threatened strike of studio painters but admitted having entertained Browne and others at the Schenck winter home at Hialeah Park, Fla.

On cross-examination, Schenck was again taken over the ground covered in his testimony last week concerning the payments made to Bioff and Browne. He reiterated earlier testimony that the payments were made under the threat of destroying the industry by closing the theatres, an act, Schenck said, which the two former IATSE officials could have accomplished by a mere "gesture." He said he was convinced in his own mind that he was helpless and would have to comply with the demands, so did not attempt to consult his lawyers.

The trial is scheduled to be resumed today.

Zukor Appeals for Aid for War Fund

(*Continued from page* 1)

sistance to the local campaign was all that was being asked of exhibitors, it was important that all, as individuals, "go the limit" in their personal support of the drive from their own funds.

"The vital relief work of the 26 organizations served by the National War Fund," stated Zukor, "is another important and indispensable link in the support of our fighting men. Contributions from each of us, and all of our employees, from every corporation, large and small, all added together, will reach a figure that will bespeak again the great generosity and patriotic consciousness of our industry."

The special War Fund film, "Last Will and Testament of Tom Smith," has already been shown by most exhibitors, who will also be asked to screen a trailer by local representatives of the campaign.

Sam Rinzler, New York chairman for the industry in the War Fund campaign, held a meeting yesterday in the Paramount Building office of Chairman Zukor with representatives of film companies, circuits and others to discuss ways and means of stimulating interest in the drive. Zukor, Rinzler and the latter's committee, including Si Fabian, Harry Brandt, Fred Schwartz, Arthur Mayer and Joe Hornstein, offered their personal services to attend various companies' executive and employee drive meetings.

Also present were J. Harold Lang and Ray Moon, 20th Century-Fox; Ralph Budd and Clarence Eiseman, Warner Brothers; M. Rosen and Jack Bown, Loew's; Leon J. Bamberger and Bob Wolf, RKO; Sam Lefkowitz, United Artists; R. I. Poucher and David Block, Republic; Samuel Machnovitch, Universal; Claude Lee, Paramount; David Weinstock and Edward Schreiber, War Activities, and all members of Rinzler's committee, excepting Harry Mandel, RKO, who was out-of-town, and was represented by John A. Cassidy.

Reviews

"Deerslayer"

(*Harrison-Derr-Republic*)

WITHIN the trade, "Deerslayer" probably will command more interest as the first production effort of P. S. Harrison, in association with E. B. Derr, than for any other reason. Harrison, after these many years of appraising the work of other producers, now brings forth an entry of his own. Whether he willed it that way or not, there is about his enterprises the suggestion of the critic demonstrating how he thinks it should be done.

"Deerslayer" emerges a good outdoor action picture, particularly suitable for children. It falls short of the best of its kind and runs well ahead of the poorest of its kind. There is a place for it wherever action pictures are popular.

Its principal weaknesses are in a continuity that is sometimes confusing and in occasional unexplained story developments. There is, for example, the incident of Bruce Kellogg, as Deerslayer, being taken captive by the Huron Indian tribe and his almost immediate reappearance on the scene with his Mohican friend, played by Larry Parks. How the two outwitted the warring Hurons and made their escape is not explained either pictorially or in dialogue, yet in an action picture such an escape episode might have been made a highlight of the picture.

On its plus side, are good performances by principals, a full measure of action—riding, shooting, free-for-alls, sustained interest and a fair amount of excitement and suspense. Romance is not neglected, but as usual in action pictures, it is on the quiet, incidental side. The outdoor fans may welcome it as an Indian story, in place of the more familiar Western villainy and outlawry.

When the Hurons descend on the peaceful Mohican and Delaware tribes, a Mohican princess, played by Yvonne de Carlo, is taken prisoner with the aid of a traitorous Mohican. Parks, to whom the princess is bethrothed, vows to rescue the one and kill the other. The white settlers also are attacked by the Hurons and other captives are taken. With the aid of Kellogg, as Deerslayer, and Warren Ashe, as a frontiersman, the rescues, interspersed with plenty of action, are effected. The Hurons are driven away by the organized settlers. Jean Parker, loved by Kellogg, is won by Ashe.

Lew Landers directed and Harrison and Derr are credited with the story treatment and screenplay. Running time, 65 minutes. Classification, "G."* SHERWIN KANE

"Government Girl"

(*RKO-Radio*)

Hollywood, Nov. 3

EXCEPT for some spots where direction lets down the smooth flow of action and dialogue, "Government Girl," starring Olivia de Havilland with Sonny Tufts and Anne Shirley, stands up well as good entertainment with plenty of laughs and sufficient plot to keep the customers interested.

It is a story of wartime Washington and a two-fisted young man brought there to see that bombers are built. Tufts, as Ed Browne, arrives to take over a post enmeshed in red tape and bureaucracy, only to become entangled with Miss de Havilland, as Smokey, an efficient and attractive Washington secretary. Tufts cuts through the tape and gets things done as his girl "Friday" begins to see things his way. His refusal to play either the Washington social or political games puts him in a tight hole with his secretary's boy-friend, a social and political climber. It's only through the girl's clever appearance before a Senate committee that Tufts is saved from a muckraking investigation designed to disgrace him.

Dudley Nichols produced and directed from his own screenplay based on a story by Adela Rogers St. John. The story is good, the dialogue bright and sparkling with a modern flare to it and the production job leaves nothing to be desired. George Givot does a bit as Count Bodinski, the enemy agent, likewise James Dunn, as Sergeant Joe. Miss de Havilland works a little too hard with her romantic-comedy role while Miss Shirley struggles with her part. A lot of people in Washington may not like some of the implications.

Running time, 93 minutes. "G."* JACK CARTWRIGHT

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Pursuit' for Strand

"Northern Pursuit," Warner's Errol Flynn starrer, has been set to follow "Princess O'Rourke" at the New York Strand for a probable Thanksgiving opening. Latter film will open at that house tomorrow.

Clark Turns Down Decree Proposa

(*Continued from page* 1)

and that the companies and the G ernment were far apart.

He declined to discuss the propo in detail following the meeting or indicate the provisions which fell sh of acceptance, but it was a good gu that the companies had failed a quately to deal with some of the r jor demands of exhibitors and Government.

Clark suggested that the co panies make another effort to di proposals which he said must much further than those submitted demanded that they put all their ca on the table, expressing the belief t they had made merely a minimum fer as a basis for "trading."

There will be no trading, he sa and unless the companies submit satisfactory platform before the dec expires on Nov. 20 the departm will lose no time in reopening Federal anti-trust case. He made clear that the department intends act, one way or the other, as so as the deadline is reached and acti he said after the conference, will delayed only in the event the revi decree has reached the stage wh only mechanical steps are required make it effective.

Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA preside is scheduled to confer with Cla again here tomorrow. Harry Buchan chairman of the legislative commit of the Theatre Owners of North a South Carolina, who has been h from Hendersonville, N. C., in co nection with the exhibitor opposit to the proposed admission tax, also expected to confer with Clark befo the end of the week.

It was reported here today that O. Lukan of the PCCITO would unable to come here for schedu conferences with Clark and that Ro Harvey would represent that orga zation instead. Poole is expected h Monday.

Prizes from 'U' fo Campaigns on Short

Universal's second short subje exploitation contest will be judged a luncheon on Friday, Nov. 12th, was announced here yesterday by Bernard Kreisler, shorts and new reel manager. R. J. O'Donnell of I terstate Circuit, Texas, will be gue of honor. Prizes of $3,000 and $500 silver trophy will be awarded the judges who are circuit and ind pendent exhibitor executives and tra paper editors. Judging will take pla in the Hotel Astor and will be fo lowed by luncheon.

Prizes are divided so that exhibito in every type of community have opportunity to compete on an equ basis. In addition to the prizes the will be a special $500 silver trop for the best campaign on "Roar, Nav Roar," special featurette. Oth prizes will be given for best cam paigns on Walt Lantz' "Cartunes

'Sahara' Set for Capito

Columbia's "Sahara" will have New York premiere at the Loew Capitol on Nov. 11. The film, whi stars Humphrey Bogart, will be a companied by the following stag show: Lawrence Welk and orchestr Yvette and Ralph Edwards with h "Truth or Consequences" show.

Legality of Long Term Franchises Before U.S. Court

(Continued from page 1)

petition for an appeal to the Supreme Court state their opinion that "a franchise is not per-se illegal especially if clearance provisions are subject to readjustment and if such franchises are not in effect at any one time with more than half the distributors currently producing pictures."

"From the standpoint of the exhibitor a franchise (long term rental contract) may have valid business advantages in that the exhibitor is assured a supply of pictures without having to negotiate at intervals over prices; and the distributor has corresponding advantages in having an outlet for its pictures," the defense petition points out, insisting that "in the event the consent decree and block-of-five-buying plan be 'modified' and long term contracts again be permitted, defendant exhibitors should be free to negotiate on this basis."

Questions Jurisdiction

Defense petition also raises the question, for the Supreme Court to decide, as to whether the jurisdiction in the case was taken away from Judge Davies after he had granted the Government's petition for appeal on July 16 and while a defense motion to dismiss the D. of J. appeal remained without action by the local court, calling attention to the fact that this dismissal motion has not yet been acted upon by Judge Davies, although on Aug. 27 he denied various other defense motions.

Meanwhile, Charles Fahy, the special solicitor for the Department of Justice anti-trust division, has "refiled" the Government's petition for an appeal in the Crescent anti-trust case in order to cover supplemental findings of fact and conclusions of law filed by Judge Elmer D. Davies on Aug. 27 and on the possibility that the original petition filed on July 16 was nullified by the later filings of Judge Davies.

Discussion of Davies Action

The deviation from the July petition is a detailed discussion of the action of Judge Davies with reference to the theatre acquisition provision in the judgment filed by the District Court on May 17. In a brief filed prior to that date Government counsel asked that this provision provide for the "restraining of each exhibitor defendant from acquiring a financial interest in additional theatres outside of Nashville except after an affirmative showing (before the District Court) that such acquisition will not unreasonably restrain competition." Judge Davies refused to include this condition in the provision in either the May 17 or the August 27 decisions.

Insisting that the evidence in the trial revealed that between 1936 and 1940 defendant exhibitors acquired at least 10 theatres in 10 different towns "for the purpose of eliminating independent competition," the Government petition argued that "once the elimination of such competition occurs, the filing of a contempt proceeding can never restore the pre-existing competitive situation. The only adequate relief is a provision which will prevent the elimination of such competition before the elimination occurs."

U.S. Expects Even Greater Bond Aid from Industry

(Continued from page 1)

and Oscar Doob of Loew's, assistant national director in the last drive; and Si Fabian, Lou Metzger and Ed Schreiber, representing the War Activities Committee, and all of New York. Another session will be held next week, probably on Nov. 11 in New York, to formulate a definite program.

The whole industry will again be enlisted in the winter bond campaign, Gamble said.

Promotional effort of the industry in the third war loan was estimated to have a value "running into millions of dollars if it could have been bought," it was declared in a formal appreciation by the Treasury today of the assistance given by film advertising and publicity media. Reviewing the activities of the industry, Gamble estimated that it spent itself well over a million dollars on the Bond Cavalcade and Airmada tours, special films and special advertising.

"The Treasury, recognizing the especially fine job turned in during the third war loan, is hopeful of securing the same fine cooperation in the January drive," Gamble told MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

He declared that "without the aid given by the motion picture industry we could never have sold the fantastic, unprecedented 53,000,000 war bonds that were written during the third loan," adding that the screen again proved that it ranks among the three great means of communication today, alongside of press and radio.

Director of the War Finance Division, Edward Hall, head of the investment banker section of the War Finance Division; S. H. Fabian, Oscar A. Doob, Lou Metzger and Ed. Schreiber of W. A. C. attended.

Gamble, on behalf of Secretary Morgenthau, said that it was the Treasury's hope that the motion picture industry would again take an active part in the Fourth War Loan campaign. While no date is officially set, it is probable that the drive will start around the middle of January.

Exhibitors to Launch War Bond Campaign

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 3.—Four hundred fifty Southern California exhibitors under the chairmanship of Dave Bershon will conduct a Thanksgiving-to-Christmas campaign vending war bonds to patrons for gift uses. Exploitation campaign including trailers and lobby material will start immediately. Area is divided into districts under a sub-chairman and each theatre is assigned a quota.

Concessions for Extra War Work

(Continued from page 1)

war work after a regular eight-hour performance in a non-essential post.

LeRoy M. Edwards, chairman of the Citizens' Manpower Committee, said many have hesitated to enter war industry part-time for fear they might be denied the right to remain in their less essential positions.

Harnish further ruled that the 48-hour work-week order in civilian industry could be waived in cases of employees who contribute four hours of night work to war production. Half of the employees of film exchanges here are now subject to the 48-hour work-week, and the remainder are on a 44-hour week.

New Boston Company Buys Classics' Films

Federal Film Co., new distributing company, has been formed in Boston to distribute the 36 pictures released by Film Classics, in New England, the latter reports here. Deal was closed by Irvin Shapiro, general manager of Film Classics and Albert Swerdlove, head of the new company.

Line-up includes 30 Gaumont-20th Century reissues, seven Selznick-Whitney productions, four Hal Roach-M-G-M reissues and "Hara Kiri."

'Acquaintance' Record

Aided partly by the election day holiday for many and despite heavy rains in the evening, premiere of Warner's "Old Acquaintance" at the Hollywood Theatre on Tuesday set a new first-day record for the house, topping the previous record-holder, Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army," by close to $900, Warners said yesterday.

'Brown-out' Some Help to Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

of the first three nights of the new "brown out" plan.

In Los Angeles, pre-war illumination now reigns, with a majority of theatres taking advantage of the Army's repeal of the dimout. The Theatre Defense Bureau, which advised compliance with the "voluntary brown-out" said yesterday that exhibitors, however, can cut out lights on a moment's notice if danger threatens.

Bureau pointed out that the Army's action does not repeal state or municipal directives issued during emergency, although cancellation of these regulations is expected shortly. Most exhibitors here agree that the relighting will benefit box offices.

To Publish 'Twenty Best Film Plays'

"Twenty Best Film Plays," compiled and edited by Dudley Nichols and John Gassner, will be published Nov. 24 by Crown Publishers. Book actually contains 21—not 20—film plays, and Nichols makes it twice, with "This Land Is Mine" and "Stagecoach."

Others in the collection are: "It Happened One Night," "The Women," "My Man Godfrey," "Here Comes Mr. Jordan," "Rebecca," "Wuthering Heights," "The Grapes of Wrath," "How Green Was My Valley," "Make Way for Tomorrow," "Little Caesar," "Fury," "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," "The Life of Emile Zola," "Juarez," "Mrs. Miniver," "The Good Earth," "All That Money Can Buy," "Yellow Jack" and "The Fight for Life."

Critical Coal Stocks Worry Many Owners

(Continued from page 1)

shortage or famine, last year converted their heating systems to that fuel from oil. Many of these now are without materials or oil ration coupons to make re-conversion possible.

Century Circuit here reported that most of its houses have been converted from oil to coal and now have only limited supplies of the latter fuel on hand. If the miners' strike continues for any length of time, a spokesman for the circuit said yesterday, "our theatres will be very severely affected."

Many of the Brandt Circuit houses were said to be in the same predicament. Fabian and Randforce circuits reported a sufficient stock of coal on hand to carry them through a "temporary" emergency period.

William England of RKO Theatres reported that, following normal practice, coal was ordered for the theatres and delivered to them last Summer. Barring a prolonged strike in the mines, he said, present supplies would be sufficient to carry most of the circuit's houses through an emergency.

Harry Goldberg of Warner Theatres reported that the bulk of the circuit's houses are unaffected by the coal situation as they are still using fuel oil.

Exhibitors Will Aid WAVES' Recruiting

"Chief Neeley Reports to the Nation," a 10-minute film produced by the Navy, will be nationally distributed through Columbia exchanges starting Dec. 2 to stimulate WAVES recruiting, the War Activities Committee announced yesterday.

Exhibitors will play the film in conjunction with lobby displays for the WAVES. Meetings in exchange areas between Navy officers and WAC exhibitor, distributor and publicity representatives, to map out campaigns in each territory, are being arranged. A press book and ad-slug mats will be available soon from National Screen Service exchanges.

Midwest Exhibitors Form Anti-Tax Bloc

(Continued from page 1)

united front stood a "good chance" of promoting reconsideration of the tax proposal.

It was suggested at the meeting that protests to Congressmen point out that small town theatres in defense areas are vitally needed as morale builders and with the inauguration of the new tax many of those houses would be forced to close.

Ten-Week Tours For Top Film Stars

(Continued from page 1)

increased demands for top personalities, coupled with a reduction of entertainment personnel by military induction, has created a scarcity of suitable talent. The board's new plan envisions freeing top stars for 10-week tours.

LIFE calls it

MOVIE OF THE YEAR

North Star

Goldwyn makes eloquent tone poem of Russian town in peace and war

On a Hollywood back lot Samuel Goldwyn constructed a ten-acre Russian town complete with thatched roof cottages, a hospital, a school. His purpose: to make *The North Star*, a movie showing a small Russian town at peace and at war. To write the story he hired Lillian Hellman (*Watch On the Rhine, Little Foxes*). To provide original music he hired Aaron Copland, high-ranking U. S. composer. For a cast he picked actors for their ability rather than their box-office value: Anne Baxter, Walter Huston, Ann Harding, Walter Brennan, Erich Von Stroheim and Farley Granger, a newcomer.

The result of all this conscientious effort directed by Lewis Milestone is a superb movie. More than just another exciting war film, *North Star* is a document that shows with great eloquence how a people fight and die. Much of the story is told with scant dialogue, the camera making mural-like sequences. Unlike many thin-skinned Hollywood products it is a tone poem in motion pictures that moves slowly and deeply and says things worth saying.

What gives this picture eminent distinction over any other production of the year so far is its epic breadth and sweep. Character and characterization, excellent though they are, are subordinated to the mighty conflict of a whole people against the enemy. North Star, real hero of *North Star*, becomes, in effect, one of those "inhabited places" which appear so frequently in the Soviet communiques. It also becomes all Russia at war.

NOV. 1st. *issue*

LIFE

LET'S ALL GIVE TO
NATIONAL WAR FU
WHICH GIVES TO

MOVIE OF THE YEAR"

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S GREATEST PICTURE

THE NORTH STAR

Directed By LEWIS MILESTONE

Original Story and Screen Play By LILLIAN HELLMAN

RELEASED THROUGH RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

'Rosie' Waltzes To Tune of a $35,000 Take

CHICAGO, Nov. 3. — "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" is the steady lady of the Loop this week. Patrons are happily depositing $35,000 at the State-Lake box office. Second week of "So Proudly We Hail" at the Chicago Theatre will probably hit a very good $58,000 and "Phantom of the Opera" coupled with "You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" is doing a splendid $26,000 in its second week at the Palace. Strong attractions dominate the Loop with highly satisfactory results.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 4:

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c), 7 days, 2nd week. Gross $9,000. (Average, $10,000).

"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days, 2nd week. Stage B. & K. Pan-American Revue. Gross: $58,000. (Average: $43,000).

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,500).

"Spitfire" (RKO) 6 days
"The 7th Victim" (RKO) 6 days
"Sky's the Limit" (RKO) 1 day, 3rd week in Loop
"Petticoat Larceny" (RKO) 1 day, 3rd week in Loop
GRAND — (1,150) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,000)

"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c). 7 days. Stage Al. Dexter and his Texas Troupe. Gross $29,000. (Average $22,000).

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
"You're a Lucky Fellow Mr. Smith" (Univ.)
PALACE—(2,500) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c), 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $19,000).

"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $17,000).

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $23,000).

"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $18,000).

"Destroyer" (Col.) 5 days
"Murder at the Waterfront" (WB) 5 days
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.) 2 days
WOODS—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $7,500).

'Svistok' on Coast For America-Soviet

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 3. — "The Svistok," described as "the story of Ivan Ivanovitch and Joe Smith and what they contributed to victory and peace," will be Hollywood's contribution to the Congress of American Soviet Friendship at the Shrine Auditorium on Nov. 16. Director Jean Renoir will stage the play which is being written by Bernard Schoenfeld. Producer Jack Moss is assembling a cast of Hollywood players.

Seven thousand are expected to attend the meeting, arranged by the Los Angeles Council of American Soviet Friendship in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of American recognition of the Soviet. U. S. District Court Judge J. F. T. O'Connor will preside.

Kaliski Named WB Mgr.

Joe Kaliski has been promoted from the sales staff to branch manager in Cleveland, Ben Kalmenson, Warner sales manager, has announced here. Kaliski succeeds Bert M. Stearn, resigned.

Reviews

"Son of Dracula"

(*Universal*)

Hollywood, Nov. 3

UNIVERSAL'S newest horror-chamber picture is one of the many that have sprung from the original story of Count Dracula, the vampire nobleman of the middle ages, and lives up to the suspense, menacing drama and unholy myths which made the original a powerful horror picture.

Lon Chaney, Jr., as Count Dracula, with Louise Allbritton as the American girl-student of the occult who has welcomed vampirism in her morbid fear of death, and Robert Paige as her sweetheart, deliver creditable performances which go a long way toward making the picture one of the best of its kind of late.

Dracula comes to a lonely manor home in America through the cunning plotting of his youthful victim, Miss Allbritton. Established there to continue preying upon living persons during the night hours as he had for centuries in his native land, he has as his consort the girl. Although she turns upon him in an effort to bring her sweetheart, Paige, into the same kind of life with her and thereby entail the destroying of Dracula, she is unsuccessful when the young man destroys both Dracula and the girl he loves because of the evil that has entered her soul. Ford Beebe produced with full attention to detail while Robert Siodmak directed from a script by Eric Taylor. The results sustain suspense and menace.

Running time, 80 minutes. "G."*

"The Mad Ghoul"

(*Universal*)

Hollywood, Nov. 3

"THE MAD GHOUL" is apparently a page from "Phantom of the Opera," with a little but not sufficiently different twist. It dissipates punch through the too oft repeated transitions of a handsome young medical student to a ghoulish figure and back again.

David Bruce, as the student who has fallen under the influence of George Zucco, a chemistry professor with a secret of the ancients, delivers an excellent performance while Evelyn Ankers, as his concert singer sweetheart, does a very acceptable performance excepting for attempts to have her sing what might otherwise be excellent concert numbers.

The chemistry professor has found a secret gas producing ghoulish old age, which can only be cured by injections of plasma from a human heart. He tricks his student assistant into becoming a subject. As the lovesick man follows his singer sweetheart on her concert tour, new graves are rifled, mortuaries invaded and murders committed. In the end the youth realizes what has happened to him, destroys the ingredients, after tricking his professor, and is slain on the concert stage as he is about to kill his friend with whom the girl has fallen in love.

James Hogan directed the Ben Pivar production from a script by Brenda Weisberg and Paul Gangelin.

Running time, 65 minutes. "G."*

JACK CARTWRIGHT

**"G" denotes general patronage.*

Industry Leads Drive

NEW HAVEN, Nov. 3.—The motion picture industry, running up a record of 111 per cent of its quota, leads all local organizations in the current National War Fund campaign here. Leading theatres in the drive are B. E. Hoffman of Warners; Herman M. Levy, Connecticut MPTO secretary; Morey Goldstein, M-G-M; Maurice Bailey, Lou Brown, Jacob B. Fishman, James Darby, Carl Goe, Tim O'Toole, John Pavone, Ben Simon, Samuel Seletsky, Edward Ruff, Barney Pitkin and Daniel Pouzzner.

Warners Reopen Two

NEW HAVEN, Nov. 3. — Warners have reopened their Globe and Clinton here, closed for the summer. The other Warner house in this zone which closed this summer, the Tremont, Ansonia, has also reopened for weekend operation only, with John Scanlon, Jr., son of the Warner, Torrington manager, in charge.

B. & K. Employes Elect

CHICAGO, Nov. 3.—James Shields was elected president of the Balaban and Katz Employes Club at a recent meeting held here. Other officers include: Jerome Winsberg, vice-president in charge of welfare; J. J. Katz, vice-president in charge of entertainment; George Bressler, vice-president in charge of athletics; Samuel E. Stott, treasurer, and Gertrude Studdert, secretary. New directors are Geraldine Beach, Robert Reichardt, Frank P. Riley, Helen Czeske and Edmund Crane.

Gifts to Col. Servicemen

More than 600 former Columbia employees now serving in the armed forces will receive Christmas gift packages and money orders from the company. In addition, the Columbian Club, employees' organization, will give each of the servicemen a year's subscription to two popular magazines.

'Face It' Face $26,000 Weel In Washingto

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—Bob Ho and Betty Hutton are the top grosse in the Nation's Capital this week "Let's Face It," at Warner's Earl headed for a splendid $26,000. Anoth pace-setter is "For Whom the Be Tolls" which in its seventh week Loew's Columbia is doing a bette than-average $10,000.

Estimated receipts for the we ending Nov. 3:

"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (28c-39c-66c) 7 days. On stage: Woody Herm Orchestra. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $22,00

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (75c-$1. 7 days, seventh week. Gross: $10,000. (Av age: $6,900).

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (30c-40c-5 75c-90c) 7 days. On stage: Walter D Wahl, Rolly Rolls. Gross: $26,000. (Avera $18,800).

"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
RKO-KEITH'S — (1,800) (40c-50c-65c) days, second week. Gross: $10,000. (Avera $11,400).

"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
WARNERS' METROPOLITAN — (1, (30c-44c) 8 days, third downtown we Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,900).

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (28c-55c) days, second downtown week. Gross: $14, (Average: $17,600).

'Phantom' Is Good On $21,000 Gros

BUFFALO, Nov. 3.—"Phantom Opera" was the "pipperoo" here th week and is bidding for a fine $21,0 at the Lafayette. "Johnny Come Lat ly" is proving Jimmy Cagney's pop larity in Buffalo. At the Buffalo, t picture is expected to gross $21,20 aided by a Dr. I. Q. Monday nig quiz show.

Estimated receipts for the week en ing Nov. 6:

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (35c-40c-55c-65c) days. Dr. I. Q. on stage Monday nig Gross: $21,200. (Average: $16,500).

"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $16,400).

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c) days, moveover. Gross: $7,400. (Averag $9,500).

"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (35 55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Averag $10,600).

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
"All By Myself" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 day Gross: $21,100. (Average: $10,500).

Defer Hearing on Guild Brandt Clain

Regional War Labor Board hear ing on the claim of Motion Pictur Theatre Managers and Employee Guild that it represents a majority o the managers and assistants in the 2 theatres in New York owned b Harry Brandt has been postponed t tomorrow.

RWLB hearing on MPTME' claim that it represents a majority o the employees of the Laffmovie The atre, New York, will be held today.

Brandt Gets Two More

The Palace Theatre, Netcong, an Liberty, Bernardsville, both in Ne Jersey, are now under Brandt man agement.

AL PEARCE
HERE COMES ELMER
with
Dale EVANS · Frank ALBERTSON
GLORIA STUART · WALLY VERNON
featuring
RADIO'S POPULAR ENTERTAINERS
ARTIE AUERBACH as "KITZEL" · ARLENE HARRIS · WILLIAM COMSTOCK
"PINKY" TOMLIN · WENDELL NILES · THE SPORTSMEN
THE KING COLE TRIO and
JAN GARBER and HIS BAND
JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director
Original Screen Play by Jack Townley & Stanley Davis
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
BUY U. S. WAR SAVINGS BONDS

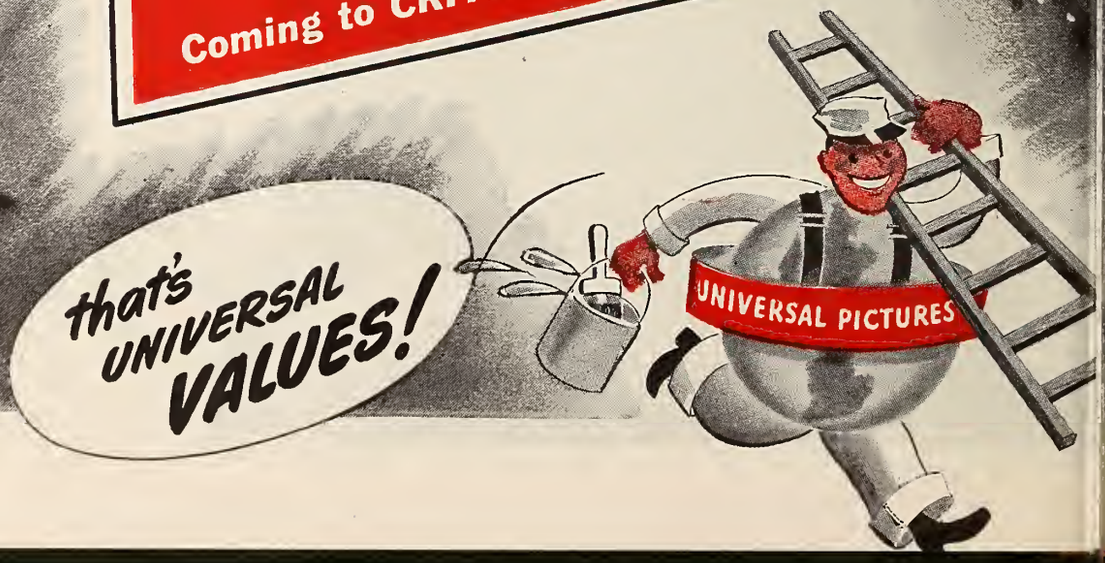
UNIVERSALLY GOOD ON BROADWAY!

Breaking All Records!
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
IN TECHNICOLOR!
CAPITOL THEATRE

Packed Houses Every Day
HOWARD HAWKS'
CORVETTE K-225
CRITERION THEATRE

Bigger Than "Mister Big"
TOP MAN
LOEW'S STATE

Nominated as the Picture to be Seen Twice
FLESH AND FANTASY
Coming to CRITERION THEATRE



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Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 88 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1943 | TEN CENTS

Gov't Program For Settling War Contracts

Many in Film Industry Would Benefit

Scores of film companies, laboratories, producers and, principally, film equipment manufacturers and services working wholly or in part on Government war contracts stand to benefit by a program being devised by the U. S. Committee for Economic Development for monetary settlement of contracts terminated when peace comes.

Adequate machinery is recommended by the committee for promptly freezing funds which firms in this and other fields will have tied up in war contracts at the close of the war; at present war contract valuations aggregate up to $75,000,000,000, with inventories up to $15,000,000,000. The committee reports that, "needless delay in the release of business funds will cause needless unemployment"

(Continued on page 6)

Smith Here on New Process for Parts

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—Results of operating tests on worn-out projector parts reclaimed by a new process will be discussed in New York tomorrow by Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section of the War Production Board, with Lester Isaacs, director of sound for Loew's Theatres, in which the tests are being conducted.

Tests are being run on parts whose badly-worn areas were built up by an electro-chrome replating process developed by Graham Brothers, of Denver. MOTION PICTURE DAILY first

(Continued on page 6)

WAC to Investigate Carrier Difficulties

Representatives of the War Activities Committee of the New York area met yesterday to canvass the possibility of a breakdown in the handling of film deliveries for the coming winter, due to the deterioration of trucks and the refusal of the WPB to give truckers priorities for the purchase of new trucks.

Committee composed of distributors, exhibitors and representatives of the

(Continued on page 6)

Union Contracts Apply to Workers Of Acquisitions

Claimed to establish an important precedent, the Appellate Division of the New York Supreme Court has unanimously affirmed a decision of a lower court in ruling that a circuit having a contract with a union for its theatres must apply the terms of that contract to workers of any additional theatres acquired, and must arbitrate disputes which arise with employees of the newly-acquired theatres in the same manner as prescribed in the contract held with union workers of the theatres it already operates.

Issue arose in connection with the Strassberg circuit's acquisition of the Uptown Theatre in New York. Strassberg, which has contracts with projectionists' Local 306, IATSE, claimed that it was not bound by contract in the case of the Uptown workers, and that Local 306 had no jurisdiction over them. Refusing to arbitrate, Strass-

(Continued on page 6)

Capital Unit Names Lust to the MPTOA

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4. — Sidney Lust, independent theatre operator, was elected Capital representative to the MPTOA at a meeting here of the MPTO of the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia. The District executive board was reduced from nine members to six, comprising John J. Payette, Warner Theatres; Carter Barron, Loew's Theatres; Louis Bernheimer, independent; Lloyd Wineland, independent; Abe Lichtman, independent, and Lust.

Julian Brylawski, recently reelected president, presided at the meeting at which other officers, including Fred Kogod, vice-president; Nat Browne, secretary, and Abe Tolkins, treasurer, were formally inducted.

Schenck Accepts FDR Bid for Polio Drive

Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew president, responding to a personal request from President Roosevelt, will again serve as national chairman for the industry's 1944 March of Dimes Drive on behalf of the fight against infantile paralysis. Schenck has served similarly for the industry drives of 1943, 1942 and 1941.

Nicholas M. Schenck

Industry's campaign will start Monday, Jan. 24 and close on Sunday, Jan. 30, the President's birthday. There will be collections in theatre auditoriums. In 1943 more than 11,000 theatres turned in $2,116,539, almost half of the amount from all sources.

A. Warner on Stand At Extort Trial

Albert Warner, vice-president and treasurer of Warner Brothers yesterday told a Federal Court jury that he was "plenty scared" when William Bioff, convicted labor racketeer, demanded huge sums of money from motion picture producers in 1936, under threat of calling a nation-wide strike of theatre employes.

Testifying at the trial of eight men charged with conspiring to extort more than $1,000,000 from the film industry, Warner said that "knowing the background of those people" he feared personal violence as well

(Continued on page 6)

Decree Companies Ponder Future Course for Liberalizing Proposals

The rejection of the consent decree proposals of the five consenting companies by Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark in Washington this week was discussed by company officials at a meeting here yesterday and is expected to be followed by further deliberations today or early next week. Whether or not the proposals will be immediately revised was not apparent late yesterday.

Decree company officials declined to comment on Clark's action but conceded that further discussions will be necessary and that a number of their proposals will have to be "liberalized" before an agreement can be reached.

Present indications are that Clark will confer with exhibitor leaders during the next few days before meeting again with the decree company officials. He has already announced a number of such conferences.

Rodgers on a National Tour For Goodwill

To Contact Owners on Trade Problems

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 4.—William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution, will visit exhibitor groups in virtually every key city in the country to promote general exhibitor-distributor relations, starting in San Francisco on Monday.

Industry spokesmen in New York yesterday were unaware of any formal industry effort pointing toward such an exhibitor-distributor goodwill promotion, but indicated that the nationwide tour by William Rodgers was probably an independent venture in behalf of unity, pointing out the efforts of Rodgers for years in behalf of better exhibitor-distributor relations.

Rodgers will leave Los Angeles on Saturday for San Francisco, where he will address exhibitors at a

(Continued on page 6)

OWI, Navy Filming Our War with Japs

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—House Appropriations Committee today approved the full amount of $5,000,000 sought by the Office of War Information to supplement its regular appropriation for its overseas branch for carrying on "psychological" warfare and propaganda activities in connection with military operations.

Hearings on the OWI's request for a deficiency appropriation developed that the overseas branch, in conjunction with the U. S. Navy, is preparing

(Continued on page 6)

Fibre Container Usage Is Approved

New York City's Bureau of Standards and Appeals has approved the continued use of fibre containers for film prints for the duration of the war. This decision is expected to affect a case in Magistrate's Court today involving summonses issued by Fire Department inspectors against several major distributor film exchanges, film laboratories and freight forwarders, for using the fibre cases.

Summonses were issued several

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

CHARLES FRANCIS COE, MPPDA vice-president, will return to his office on Monday after a week at Doctors' Hospital for an annual checkup.

•

WILLIAM POWELL, Pittsfield district manager for Western Massachusetts Theatres, is recovering from a heart attack at St. Luke's Hospital, Pittsfield. DON CHAMBERS, the circuit's ad manager, is subbing for Powell.

•

HELEN FINNEGAN, secretary to CHARLES REAGAN, Paramount sales executive, who leaves today to marry WALLACE C. ROGERS, was feted at a Sardi luncheon by her Paramount associates yesterday.

•

HAROLD K. SIMON, member of the National Screen Service art department here for the past 12 years, will leave the company today and will enter the Army early in December.

•

ED KUYKENDALL, MPTOA president, left Washington yesterday for Memphis, where he will attend an exhibitor meeting at the Variety Club there on Monday.

•

DOUGLAS LEISHMAN, personnel director of the Schine Circuit, Gloversville, N. Y., visited Quigley Publications' "Round Table" office yesterday.

•

TERRY TURNER, RKO exploitation department head and HARRY REINERS, RKO exploiteer, have returned to the home office from an extended tour.

•

HARRY H. THOMAS, Monogram's Eastern division manager, left for Philadelphia yesterday and will return tomorrow.

•

HARRY BLACK, Fabian circuit's Staten Island district manager, left for Florida yesterday for an indefinite stay.

•

STEVE BRODY, Monogram distribution chief, left for Boston yesterday and will return early next week.

•

GEORGE KEENAN, manager of the Burns Theatre, Newport, Vt., and MRS. KEENAN are in New York.

•

ED MOREY, NAT FURST and BEN ABRAMS were in New Haven yesterday to visit the Monogram exchange.

•

HAROLD MIRISCH, HARRY MANDEL and SOL SCHWARTZ, of RKO, will return today from Cincinnati.

•

HARRY ANASTASI, Quigley Publications business staff member, leaves today for the Army.

•

HUGH UBER, vice-president and treasurer of Hal Roach Studios, is in town from the Coast.

•

H. M. RICHEY of M-G-M is expected back from Washington today.

War Building Aids Panama Box Offices

By FRED STENGEL

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" is being readied for distribution in Latin and South America with dubbing of narration in two sequences of the film and subtitling of the rest of the picture in Portuguese and Spanish and is nearing completion, it was learned during the course of an interview here yesterday with Henry Gordon, Paramount Central American manager, with headquarters in Panama, who is here for home office conferences.

Gordon reported that during a construction period since the war started, business has increased considerably in Panama. "It is true, though, that Spanish language pictures have made some inroads in playing time of American product in some Central American countries," he said.

Hollywood pictures are shown in Army camps ahead of civilian theatres, but still soldiers and sailors make up an important part of the increase in receipts, along with government workers brought down from the States, Gordon pointed out.

Censorship is developing in Jamaica, British West Indies, where "gangster" pictures are now banned. As in the majority of other territories, exhibitors and audiences in Central America complain of the many war pictures being shown, Gordon added.

Plane and bus are used to deliver prints in his territory, and they are delivered from the United States by boat and plane, Gordon declared. Opening of the Presidente Theatre in Panama City is awaiting arrival of equipment from this country. That is the only new theatre under construction at present.

Gen. Harmon Praises Industry for Films

In a statement released yesterday by the War Department, Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon, of the South Pacific theatre of operations, expressed appreciation to the industry for its gift of 16mm. features to the Army and stated that they are of extreme importance to morale. He pointed out that three full programs each week is the average film fare for the "G. I." in the South Pacific.

"Additional projection equipment," Harmon revealed, "is expected in the near future and upon its distribution the troops in this area will be able to enjoy four new film shows weekly if the present supply of films can be maintained."

Ugast Joins Universal

Edward Ugast, until recently a member of Paramount's New York sales staff, has joined the Columbia exploitation department, the company announced here yesterday. Ugast will work out of the home office.

Allied Holds Dinner

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey held its Fall dinner at the Ritz Restaurant, Passaic, N. J., last night. Exhibitors, exchangemen and home office representatives attended.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 4

CHAIRMAN Y. FRANK FREEMAN announced today following the first reports that the War Chest campaign is running ahead of the best previous drive with 11,839 individuals already pledging donations. Disclosure of dollar totals awaits the close of the campaign.

•

Lindsley Parsons, who will produce the Hollywood Victory Committee air show on Saturday, will record the hour-long Christmas "command performance" program for the American forces on all fronts. Cast includes Fred Allen, Bob Hope, Kay Kyser, Nelson Eddy, Jimmy Durante, Ed Gardner, Amos 'n' Andy, Judy Garland, Ginny Simms, Dinah Shore and Frances Langford.

•

Francis Harmon, War Activities Committee Eastern executive, is "doing very well," according to St. Vincent's Hospital, Los Angeles, where he was taken Saturday following an attack of pleurisy which at first was believed to be pneumonia.

•

Charles Koerner, RKO production head, will return here on Monday from the East. Perry Lieber, studio publicity chief, will arrive Tuesday.

•

Writer Robert Rossen was today made a director at Warner Brothers. His first assignment will be a remake of "Patent Leather Kid."

•

David Lewis will join International Pictures on Dec. 1. His first plans are for a New York trip to survey possible story properties.

•

Joseph Steele will serve as production associate as well as publicity director with Producing Corp. of America.

•

Fire caused an estimated $4,50 damage to the Savoy Theatre, neighborhood house.

•

Sol Lesser will leave here tomorrow for conferences with RKO executives in the East.

•

John Joseph, Universal advertising-publicity director, will arrive here on Tuesday from New York.

•

David Lewis will produce "Tomorrow Is Forever," his first assignment for the Spitz-Goetz organization.

•

Lou Costello, Jr., one-year-old son of comedian Lou Costello, drowned today in the family swimming pool.

•

Paramount today assigned Paul Jones to produce "Duffy's Tavern."

•

Al Parmenter today joined Harry Sherman Prod. as head of publicity.

•

Samuel Bronston left here today for the East.

•

Monogram has purchased "Acquacade," an original story.

Telephoto Answer To 'U's' Problem

Faced with the problem of getting new advertising ideas on the Deanna Durbin picture, "His Butler's Sister," from the home office to Universal's studio advertising department in much less time than air mail could accomplish it, John Joseph and Maurice Bergman solved the problem neatly the other day.

The art work was put on Acme Telephoto at 3:30 p.m. New York time, and was in the studio at 4:30 p.m. Coast time.

NEW YORK THEATRE

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
"CLAUDIA"
with DOROTHY McGUIRE
ROBERT YOUNG INA CLAIRE
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Gala Stage Show Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-460

RADIO CITY MUSIC HAL

Mary MARTIN . Franchot TONE . Dick POWELL . Victor MOORE.
"TRUE TO LIFE"
IN PERSON
THE INK SPOTS
TONY PASTOR and His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
Claudette COLBERT
Paulette GODDARD
Veronica LAKE
"SO PROUDLY WE HAIL"
In Person
BENNY FIELDS
JEAN PARKER

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily. 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—CI 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

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lue Web in Air Censorship Study

"Thorough, comprehensive and rching" study of iree speech and hsorship on the air, which is ex-rted to continue for at least a year, s begun yesterday by Thomas rter Robinson, author of the book, adio Networks and the Federal vernment," for the Blue network.

making the announcement of the ject Edgar Kobak, executive vice-sident of the Blue, said that the ignment will be a full-time one for binson, who will go into the "whole tter of free speech and censorship the air."

Sees National levision Networks

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—Nation-le television networks, made eco-nically feasible by substitution of ra-high frequency radio relay for coaxial cable, were predicted to- as a development of the early st-war period by Chairman James Fly of the Federal Communica-ns Commission.

Fly suggested that stations and net-rks should discontinue the services "smear" news commentators and uld employ "the right man with se and balance to analyze and adcast news." He made this com-nt after referring to a recent CBS ler that its news commentators uld not editorialize in their broad-ts.

Fly announced that development in field of the ultra-high and super-h frequencies, much of it of mili-y importance, has been so broad t an informal conference has been led for Nov. 17 at which the board war communications, the interde-rtmental radio advisory committee the industry's recently organized lio technical planning board will p out a program of studies on the hnical future of radio. The future ld of radio development, possibly olving television and FM, may lie the frequencies above 300,000 kilo-les, an area which as yet has been plored but little, Fly said.

egion Rates 11, None Objectionable

One of the largest lineups of fea-res, numbering 11, to be rated by e National Legion of Decency, this ek finds none objectionable and only o: Universal's "Flesh and Fantasy" d Tansas Films' "Jeannie" (Brit-), being rated Class A-II, for ults

Others, in Class A-I, for general tronage include "Campus Rhythm" d "Death Valley Rangers," Mono-am; "Crazy House," Universal; Devil Riders," PRC; "Guadalcanal ary," 20th Century-Fox; "The Iron ajor," RKO; "Is Everybody Hap-", Columbia; "Northern Pursuit," arners and "Overland Mail Rob-ry," Republic.

Mass for Cohan Today

Memorial Mass will be sung this orning at 10:30 for George M. han at the Church of the Blessed crament on West 71st Street. The ass will also be offered for Cohan's other, Helen; his father, Jerry, and sister, Josephine.

Reviews

"Lost Angel"

(M-G-M)

A DELIGHTFUL performance by charming little Margaret O'Brien who scored her initial triumph in "Journey for Margaret," coupled with a heartwarming human interest story embellished with some of the cleverest comedy sequences seen in a film in a long time, makes M-G-M's "Lost Angel" grand, top-notch entertainment for every member of the family. James Craig as a cockey reporter who suddenly finds the responsibilities of "fatherhood" thrust upon him, and Marsha Hunt as his patient night club singer fiancee, deliver first-rate performances in this pleasant surprise which producer Robert Sisk has prepared for the customers. Even without the benefit of "big" box office names, this should score handsomely.

Angna Enters supplied the original idea for Isobel Lennart's swell screen play which deftly combines whimsical comedy with the sentimental story of Craig's capitulation to little Margaret's disarming charm. A six-year-old genius reared by a group of musty professors as a psychological experiment, Margaret has been sheltered from the corrupting influences of the outside world until Craig breaks into her ivory tower to interview her. Filling her with tales of the wondrous enchantment of the outside world, Craig upsets the sensitive child who has been deprived of fun and affection by her guardians, and she bolts her intellectual surroundings. Touching and hilarious complications ensue with Margaret becoming so attached to Craig that he is eventually obliged to forsake his carefree existence for the responsibilities of fatherhood and marriage to Miss Hunt. Needless to say the psychological experiment is ruined, and Margaret has penetrated quite a few tough exteriors besides Craig's, before the final fadeout.

Roy Rowland's direction is flawless. He skillfully keeps the action moving at a lively pace. Philip Merivale, Alan Napier, Donald Meek and Henry O'Neill turn in neat performances, with Keenan Wynn providing some droll antics as a gangster who avoids a murder rap with the help of Craig and Margaret. But top honors go to little Margaret for her natural and unaffected performance as the child prodigy.

Running time, 91 mins. "G."*

MILT LIVINGSTON

"Riding High"

(Paramount)

GIVEN a big boost by lavish sets against a beautiful Technicolor background of the West, "Riding High" delivers a bill that should spell good news for the box-office. A wealth of good songs, both love lyrics and catchy novelty numbers, good comedy and a refreshing love story stand out. The plot is somewhat fantastic, though amusing, throwing Dorothy Lamour and Dick Powell together in a saga of the cow country. The photographic end is handled in excellent fashion by Karl Struss and Harry Hallenberger. Nothing appears to have been spared to get in all of the beauty and glamor that is still the West.

Action concerns Miss Lamour, a successful chorine from the East, whose father operates a silver mine which isn't doing very well, and Dick Powell, a financially embarrassed mining engineer. Victor Moore presents a novel version of a notorious counterfeiter hiding out in the Western resort town. A sweet old scoundrel at heart, he gives Powell a fortune in counterfeit greenbacks to use as a "come-on" for prospective investors in Miss Lamour's father's dwindling mine enterprise. The rest of the story concerns the attempts of Powell and Lamour to promote enough good money to get the mine going again and to keep the "timid" Moore out of the hands of police. After a series of events, including the mine yielding large amounts of copper instead of silver, the film climaxes with an exciting chuck-wagon race which Powell and Miss Lamour fall into by accident. Of course, the pair learn they are meant for each other.

The picture has several excellent musical numbers, including "Injun Gal Heap Hep," "Willie, the Wolf of the West," "You're the Rainbow" and "Whistlin' in the Light." Musical direction was by Victor Young. Johnny Mercer, Harold Arlen and Joseph Lilley wrote most of the songs and Lilley did the vocal arrangements.

Miss Lamour, Powell and Moore turn in excellent performances. Deserving of creditable mention are Cass Daley, whose clever renditions of novelty songs add much to the production, and Gil Lamb, who also does a good job in a comedy role. George Marshall's capable direction has molded all the high spots into an all-around good entertainment. Fred Kohlmar produced.

Running time, 89 mins. "G."*

HELEN MCNAMARA

"G" denotes general classification.

Belpik Clearance Case Is Withdrawn

Combination clearance and specific-run complaint has been withdrawn in Cincinnati and a notice of appeal has been filed with the Appeal Board in an arbitration award entered at Albany, the American Arbitration Association announced here yesterday.

In Cincinnati, the combined clearance and specific-run complaint filed by the Belpik Theatre Corp., operating the Miami and Piqua Theatres, Piqua, O., against all five decree companies, has been withdrawn, following an agreement, the terms of which were not disclosed.

Stanley-Mark Strand Corp., Utica, N. Y., an intervenor, filed a notice of appeal in the clearance complaint award rendered by the Albany arbitrator in favor of the Valley Theatre Corp., operating the Liberty Theatre, Herkimer, N. Y. Loew's, RKO, Paramount and 20th-Fox were the distributors named in the original complaint.

Goldwyn's 'Star' in Dual N. Y. Premiere

Samuel Goldwyn's "North Star," distributed by RKO-Radio, made its world bow simultaneously at the RKO Palace and the New Victoria theatres in New York last night to an audience that included industry leaders and names in finance, industry and the arts.

Among those invited were: N. Peter Rathvon, Ned Depinet, Charles Koerner, Robert Mochrie, Malcolm Kingsberg, L. E. Thompson, Elsa Maxwell, Orson Welles, the Herbert Bayard Swopes, the Samuel Goldwyns, Howard Dietz, Edward Golden, Paul Lazarus, Arthur Kelly, S. Barret McCormick, Carl Leserman, Charles Reagan, Leon Netter, Neil Agnew, Gregory Ratoff, T. J. Connors, Gradwell Sears, et al.

MPOE Representing Para. News Workers

Regional War Labor Board here is understood to have certified the Motion Picture Office Employees Union, Local 23169, as bargaining agent for white-collarites at Paramount News in New York. Contract negotiations between union and company heads are to get underway next week. Organization of Paramount News employees follows MPOE's Warner organization activities.

Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, which has contracts for other Paramount white-collarites in New York is understood to have abandoned attempts to checkmate MPOE.

Davis in Holiday Short

Bette Davis, Warner star, will make a short subject urging the public to exchange War Bonds and stamps as Christmas gifts. Film was arranged by Stanton Griffis, motion picture bureau director of the Office of War Information, through Jack L. Warner.

Surles Pioneers Guest

Major General A. D. Surles, chief of public relations of the War Department, will be an honor guest at the annual dinner of the Picture Pioneers to be held on Friday, Nov. 19, at the Waldorf-Astoria here.

55 Filming, 59 Preparing, 62 Editing

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 4. — Production moved up three more notches during the past week with eight new pictures started to bring the total on the stages up to 55. Eight finished, 62 were editing, and 59 preparing. Previous week saw seven finished, 52 shooting, 60 preparing and 62 in the cutting rooms. The production scene:

Columbia

Started: "Nine Girls," with Ann Harding, Evelyn Keyes, Jinx Falkenburg, Anita Louise, Edgar Buchanan.

Shooting: "The Racket Man," "Beautiful But Broke," "Curly," "Cover Girl."

Finished: "None Shall Escape."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Dragon Seed," "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed," "The Canterville Ghost," "Gaslight," "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble," (resumed after Mickey Rooney's bond tour.)

Monogram

Shooting: "The Voodoo Man," "Arizona Whirlwind," "Where Are My Children?"

Paramount

Started: "Tomorrow's Harvest," with Ray Milland, Maureen O'Hara, Lucile Watson, Walter Slezak, Vladimir Sokoloff, Konstantin Shayne. "The Hitler Gang," with Robert Watson, Alexander Pope, Victor Varconi, Martin Kosleck, Roman Bohnen, Fritz Kortner, and others.

Shooting: "When I Come Back," "Rainbow Island," "The Man in Half Moon St.," "Double Indemnity."

Finished: "Going My Way?"

P.R.C.

Started: "Jungle Terror," with Buster Crabbe, Fifi Dorsay, Barton MacLane, "Texas Wildcats," with Dave (Tex) O'Brien, Jim Newill, Guy Wilkerson.

Shooting: "Career Girl" (formerly "Manhattan Rhythm.")

Finished: "Gunsmoke Mesa."

RKO-Radio

Started: "Show Business," with Eddie Cantor, George Murphy, Constance Moore, Nancy Kelly, Joan Davis, Don Douglas, Bert Gordon. "International Zone" with George Sanders, Virginia Bruce, Lenore Aubert, Gene Lockhart, Robert Armstrong.

Shooting: "The Falcon in Texas."

Finished: "Tender Comrades," "Days of Glory."

Republic

Shooting: "The Monster" (formerly "The Monster and the Lady"), "Rhythm Revelry," "The Fighting Seabees," "Casanova in Burlesque."

20th-Fox

Shooting: "Four Jills and a Jeep," "The Purple Heart," "The Sullivans," "Eve of St. Mark," "Home in Indiana." "Lifeboat."

United Artists

(Arnold Productions)

Shooting: "It Happened Tomorrow."

(Benedict Bogeaus)

Shooting: "The Bridge of San Luis Rey."

(P. C. A.)

Shooting: "Knickerbocker Holiday."

(Vanguard Films)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

Universal

Started: "Moonlight in Vermont," with Gloria Jean, Fay Helm, Vivian Austin, George Dolenz, Sidney Miller, Betty McCabe.

Shooting: "Three Cheers for the Boys," "Calling Dr. Death," "Gypsy Wildcat," "Patrick the Great," "Her Primitive Man," "When Ladies Fly," "The Impostor."

Finished: "Phantom Lady," "Gung Ho."

Warners

Shooting: "Mr. Skeffington," "One More Tomorrow," "Passage to Marseille," "Outward Bound."

Finished: "Uncertain Glory."

Review

"Cry 'Havoc'"

(M-G-M)

Hollywood, November 4

THE scene is Bataan again. The background—war, of course—is the campaign which pushed MacArthur's meagre forces into the sea and onto Corregidor. The story is about heroic odds and an overpowering enemy, a pattern which Hollywood has made familiar by this time.

This is the major handicap under which "Cry 'Havoc'" suffers. Aside from its cast of 13 women, which sets it unimportantly apart from its predecessors, the story line will give audiences practically nothing which they have not already had. They had Bataan in "Bataan" through the eyes of 13 fighting men. They had the story of brave nurses in "So Proudly We Hail." In this attraction, they get that latter story, virtually intact, again. Therefore, the fate of this M-G-M attraction automatically draws a question mark.

Judged solely on its own and without relationship to films of similar type or current feelings about war pictures, "Cry 'Havoc'" stands up representatively enough. It is sombre, of course. It is also gruesome, relieved when and where the weight of the pivotal situation allows an injection of comedy. That happens with a fair regularity, but never for long. Comedy and humor couldn't endure, not in the face of dying men in a field hospital subjected to Japanese bombs, lack of doctors, and nurses, shortages of medicines and foods and, finally, not even escape.

The dramatic thread, in fact, is a sustained one only in the sense that it shows the reactions and the thinking of the 13 all-women cast. Margaret Sullavan and Fay Bainter are the only Army nurses; the other 11 are volunteers. Joan Blondell is a former strip teaser; Ann Southern, a waitress but "de luxe"; Ella Raines, a fashion writer; Heather Angel, a music student, etc. How they pass through their crucibles of terror and shock, each of them to emerge determinedly transfixed to her duty is unfolded in the course of the film. Performances are good, led off by Miss Sothern and Miss Blondell with Miss Sullavan a bit on the side of strained dramatics and an inclination toward theatricalisms.

Richard Thorpe's direction is as good as anti-climactic material permitted. Edwin Knopf produced from a screenplay by Paul Osborn who based it on the play by Allan R. Kenward.

Running time, 98 mins. "G."* RED KANN

**"G" denotes general classification.*

CFI Third Quarter Profit Is Doubled

For the three months ended Sept. 30, Consolidated Film Industries reports a profit of $381,938 before Federal tax provision. Estimated Federal normal and surtax amounts to $160,414, leaving a net, after taxes, of $221,524, which compares with a net for the same period for 1942 of $104,450.

Per share earnings for the third quarter of 1943 are equivalent to 50 cents on the 400,000 shares of preferred stock outstanding and four cents on the 524,973 shares of common stock outstanding which compares with 26 cents per share earned on the preferred in the same quarter of 1942. Earnings are subject to the renegotiation provisions of the National Defense Appropriation Act.

R. C. A. Nine-Month Gross $218,240,901

Total gross income of Radio Corporation and subsidiaries for the first nine months of 1943 amounted to $218,240,901, compared to $136,477,537 during the same period last year, it was reported yesterday by David Sarnoff, president. Net income, after all charges and taxes, was $7,435,025 for the first nine months, compared with $6,999,127 in 1942, an increase of $435,898. The portion of net income resulting from war production contracts is subject to renegotiation by the Government.

Provision for Federal income taxes amounted to $20,877,900 for the first nine months of 1943, compared with $14,009,600 for the corresponding 1942 period, an increase of $6,868,300.

After payment of preferred dividends, earnings applicable to the common stock for the first nine months were 36.3 cents per share, compared with 33 cents per share in the first nine months of 1942.

MOT Screens 'Crisis'

"Youth in Crisis," latest March of Time, treating the prevalent juvenile delinquency problem, was screened yesterday by MOT to 400 leaders in the fields of juvenile behavior, sociology, community relations, religion and related channels.

Screening was held in the Waldorf-Astoria here, with luncheon following, and was presided over by Richard de Rochemont, MOT executive producer, and Phil Williams.

Seeks to Make FC Web Rules Into La

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—Senat Wallace H. White of Maine, co-a thor of the White-Wheeler bill amend the Communications Act, d closed today during hearings on t measure before the Senate Intersta Commerce Committee that he is dra ing legislation to incorporate the g of the FCC network regulations law.

White indicated that his conter plated measure would include oth provisions designed to clarify the sit ation resulting from the Commi sion's regulation of networks whi was unsuccessfully contested in t courts by the National Broadcastir Company and the Columbia Broa casting system.

$1,661,509 in Taxes Collected in Ohi

COLUMBUS, O., Nov. 4.—Admissic tax collections from amusements fro Jan. 1 to Oct. 1, totaled $1,661,50 according to Don H. Ebright, sta treasurer. Total for the year is est mated at $2,100,000, highest since t three per cent tax on gross receip became effective four years ago. Th represents $70,000,000 in admission or $10 for every man, woman an child in the State over the four year

The full year collection from fil theatres will be approximately $53 000,000, it is estimated.

Comparatively, total admission ta collections in 1940 were $1,694,120, i 1941, $1,820,904, and in 1942 wer $1,939,668.

Showmen's Club Resumes in Phila

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 4.—Showmen' Club, local industry organizatio which disbanded at the start of th war, has been reorganized as a wel fare unit, drawing membership fron among independent theatre mana gers. The club will be modeled along the lines of Motion Picture Asso ciates and will be strictly for wel fare purposes and members' ow protection through the medium o group insurance.

Sam Rosen, Monogram branc manager; Meyer Adelman, head o New Jersey messenger film delivery service and Jack Engel, RKO sales man, assisted in the reorganization

39-Week CBS Profit Reaches $3,245,625

Gross revenue of Columbia Broadcasting for the 39-weeks ending Oct 2, totaled $53,846,108, compared to $45,2931,614 in the same period in 1942. Net for the 39 weeks was $3,245,625, or $1.89 per share, compared to $2,894,751, or $1.69 a share in the same period last year.

Board of directors of the web has declared a year-end cash dividend of 90 cents per share on Class A and B stock. Dividend is payable to shareholders on record at the close of business Nov. 19.

Local 702 Induction

Motion Picture Laboratory Technicians, Local 702, IATSE, will induct new officers, board of trustees and executive board at a meeting at the Fraternal Clubhouse, New York, tonight.

BASIC AERONAUTICAL RESEARCH in the laboratories of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics at Langley Field, Va., uses Ciné-Kodak to study airfoils and air currents—through "smokeflow movies" made in wind tunnels—and fuel combustion in aircraft engine cylinders. These movies, showing what the eye can't see, lead to design refinements—in aircraft and engines—which "pay out" when the guns begin to chatter or the bombs find their mark.

KEY TO SECRET WEAPONS ... *a movie camera—*

Ciné-Kodak *—which stretches split-seconds into minutes*

"WORKING BLIND" . . . trying to improve a plane or gun or projectile which moves so fast you can't see it . . . is necessarily a slow, fumbling business. In time of war, not good enough . . .

Fortunately, back in 1932, Kodak made available to our best engineering and scientific brains a new kind of eye . . . which could *see* what goes on at blinding speed in our mechanized, electrified world.

This eye was a movie camera for taking thousands of pictures *a second*—which could then be shown at normal movie speed of 16 pictures a second. It "magnified time." In the resulting movies, action which had actually occurred in a split-second was stretched into minutes.

Research scientists used these cameras to help develop faster airplanes, more powerful motors. And, with the approach of war, to find out why a machine gun "jammed"—and fix it; to "take the bugs out" of the recoil mechanisms of bigger guns: to pack a more effective "train of fire" into a contact bomb . . . examples are numbered in hundreds.

NOT "OLD FAITHFUL," but "stills" enlarged from movies made at 2500 pictures a second, showing the comparative efficiency of two designs in fuel injection jets. The superior distribution of fuel from the jet at the right—invisible without the movies—is the type of small improvement which helps our men write America's fighting record in the air.

Your 16-mm. home movie Ciné-Kodak was the "jumping-off place" in designing Eastman's super-speed movie camera, which takes 3,000 pictures a second—the film streaking through at over 50 miles an hour. The "shutter" is a spinning "prism"—speed 90,000 r.p.m.

At this incredible speed, this Ciné-Kodak makes good movies—with standard 16-mm. films, Kodachrome included, and has become a most effective military tool . . . Eastman Kodak Co., Rochester, N. Y.

REMEMBER MAJOR HENDERSON? . . . *how Major Lofton Henderson, USMC, flew his crippled bomber right down onto the Jap carrier's deck? And how his name was given to that bomb-scarred field on Guadalcanal? It is a stern example for us at home.*
BUY MORE WAR BONDS.

Serving human progress through Photography

Gov't Program For Settling War Contracts

(Continued from page 1)

after the Government cancels these contracts.

Basic recommendation by the committee is for the creation by Congress of a contract settlement board to establish a uniform policy governing settlement of terminated war contracts, with authority to make final settlement placed with the various Government contracting agencies. Mandatory loans would be provided for contractors and sub-contractors, pending any delay in effecting settlements. This, says the committee, which has headquarters in Washington, would enable firms, particularly smaller ones, to reemploy workers and quickly return to peacetime production.

The CED views the settlement of terminated war contracts as "one of the most vital postwar problems to be solved before this country can achieve prosperous peacetime conditions."

Under Gov't Contract

Several film studios on both Coasts are working under Government contracts, and so are practically all existing non-theatrical, documentary and advertising film firms, likewise the raw stock manufacturers and nearly all equipment manufacturers. Production facilities of the following equipment makers are now entirely or for the most part devoted to the making of war goods: International Projector, Altec-Lansing, Heywood-Wakefield, Ideal Seating, Ashcraft, Brenkert Light Projection, General Register, RCA, General Electric, Motiograph, DeVry, Strong Electric, Formica Insulation, American Seating, Bausch & Lomb, Ilex, U. S. Air Conditioning, Carrier, Hertner Electric Century Projector, Weber Machine, Anemostat, U. S. Rubber, Artkraft Sign, Celotex, U. S. Gypsum, Automatic Devices, U. S. Plywood, International Seat, Westinghouse, La Vezzi Machine Works, Pittsburgh Plate Glass, Alexander Smith, Mohawk Carpet Mills, Bigelow-Sanford and most of the photoelectric cell manufacturers, besides others.

Fields to Run 'Diary' Philadelphia Show

Arrangements for Philadelphia premiere and banquet of 20th Century-Fox's "Guadalcanal Diary" to be held Nov. 10, on the anniversary of the founding of the U. S. Marines, have been completed by Hal Horne, director of advertising-publicity, who has named Jules Fields as liaison between the company, city of Philadelphia, Marines officials and others.

Among the 500 expected at the banquet will be Preston Foster, one of the stars of the film; Mayor Bernard Samuel of Philadelphia, who will act as host; Supreme Court Judge Carroll, who will be master of ceremonies, U. S. Marine personnel, Washington luminaries, members of the press and syndicates from New York, Washington, and Baltimore and 20th-Fox executives headed by Spyros Skouras, Tom Connors, Larry Kent, Hal Horne and Sam Shain.

Albert Warner Takes Stand at Extortion Trial

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as physical damage to the Warner corporation's properties. Warner testified that his company paid Bioff $50,000 as Warners' share under an agreement the producers made with Bioff following a basic agreement meeting in 1936.

The following year, 1937, Warner said, Bioff demanded another $50,000. "I told him," Warner said, "that I thought the first $50,000 completed our arrangement and he said, no, that I would have to pay and pay." Subsequently, Warner said, he gave Bioff an additional $30,000.

Under questioning by Boris Kostelanetz, Government prosecutor, Warner said that "the power of these people and the harm they could do," was in his mind as he considered Bioff's demand.

Replying to questions by Murray, Warner denied that he had any knowledge that his company had paid money to Bioff for the privilege of maintaining only one operator in the projection booths of Warner theatres in Chicago. The witness denied that he had ever met Bioff prior to the 1936 basic agreement meeting in New York and said that, even at the meeting, he did not know Bioff's status. He said he first learned of the money demand by Bioff through Nicholas M. Schenck.

Norman Nelson Testifies

Norman Nelson, brother-in-law of William Bioff, testified that out of a total of $77,448 paid to him as commissions for the sale of raw film to the M-G-M studios, he received only $125 weekly as salary. The balance, he said, went to Bioff.

Nelson, a Government witness, explained in detail the arrangements which were made to have the commission deal established through the Hollywood office of Smith and Aller, Ltd., representatives of the Du Pont film interests.

Bioff, said the witness, invited him to California from Chicago, and then took him to the office of Louis B. Mayer, who introduced Nelson to J. Wesley Smith. Mayer said to Smith, according to Nelson:

"This is Mr. Bioff's brother-in-law. I want you to put him in the film business."

The next day, Nelson said, he went to the film distributing agency for a short interview and thereafter, from June, 1937, to some time in 1939, he received weekly checks from the agency.

"I was paid $125 a week for collecting and the balance was to go to Bioff," Nelson said.

The "balance," according to Nelson, was paid to Bioff in amounts ranging from $3,000 to $5,000, usually at monthly intervals.

"Did you do any work for Smith and Aller?" Nelson was asked.

"I picked up the checks every week. Outside of that, I did nothing else," he replied.

Strong Takes Stand

Hugh J. Strong, supervisor of personnel for 20th Century-Fox, and one time bodyguard for the late Sidney Kent, testified that Bioff twice received sums of cash from Kent in 1937. Bioff has testified that he received $100,000 from Kent.

William C. Michel, executive vice-president of 20th-Fox, followed Strong on the stand and testified that, upon Kent's orders, checks for "inflated and padded" expenses were cashed by the company in 1936 and the money was turned over to Kent.

Assistant U. S. Attorney General Boris Kostelanetz failed in his attempt to offer the checks in evidence, Judge John Bright sustaining defense objections that Michel did not actually write all the checks and he did not know what Kent did with the money. Between 1935 and 1940, Michel said, he gave Kent $93,000 of company funds. Asked what Kent did with the money, the witness was not permitted to answer.

WAC to Investigate Carrier Difficuties

(Continued from page 1)

carriers was appointed to investigate the situation and report to the WAC.

Members appointed were H. M. Richey, Harry Brandt, Irving Dollinger, Bob Wolff, Ralph Pielow, as well as several additional men to be designated by the carriers.

Also on the agenda at yesterday's WAC meet was a discussion of the most efficacious method of handling "Battle of Russia," the War Department feature which is being distributed for the WAC by 20th Century-Fox.

Fibre Container Usage Is Approved

(Continued from page 1)

weeks ago because of alleged violations of city ordinances in the use of the containers in lieu of tin. Case was postponed from Oct. 22 until today.

OWI, Navy Filming Our War with Japs

(Continued from page 1)

a historical picture of the war in the Pacific, which OWI Director Elmer Davis told an appropriations subcommittee "is needed in Europe and throughout the world, where the great achievements of our Navy against Japan are insufficiently known."

Davis said that while this picture will be "exceedingly" valuable abroad and is being produced especially for distribution outside the United States, it is probable that there will be a demand for its exhibition domestically.

U.A. May Roadshow

United Artists sales executives are understood to be mulling the idea of handling "Voice in the Wind," the Ripley-Monter production, as a two-a-day roadshow.

Sanford Roth Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 4.—Sanford Roth, M-G-M assistant production manager, with the studio for 18 years, died here today of a heart ailment.

Union Contracts Apply to Workers Of Acquisitions

(Continued from page 1)

berg is said to have effected a wag slash for Uptown projectionists, an Local 306 sued.

Affirming the decision of the lowe court, Appellate division has held th Strassberg is bound by its Local 3 contract for every new house it a quires and directed the circuit to ar bitrate the wage slash as provided fo according to the terms of the Loca 306 contract. According to a Loca 306 spokesman, this precedent wi facilitate collective bargaining, cor tract observance, and the establish ment of standard rates when change in theatre ownership are affected.

Rodgers on a Goodwill Tou

(Continued from page 1)

luncheon at the Palace Hotel in lin with a plan for talking to theatreme in all key cities between now an Jan. 1.

Topics will be on general exhibi tor-distributor relations, with particu lar emphasis on the consent decre trade practices and the united wa effort, besides getting in a word o M-G-M's dealing with its customer The overall pattern will be a modern ized version of the discussion her with exhibitors in April on the occa sion of Rodgers' introduction of J. E Flynn as new M-G-M Western sale manager.

On Rodgers' immediate itinerar are exhibitor visits in Portland, Seat tle, Minneapolis and Chicago, return ing to New York about Nov. 21, af ter which he will set out for Detroi and other cities through December.

Smith Here on New Process for Parts

(Continued from page 1)

reported application of the process last Monday.

If the process is successful it wil result in an important saving in ma terial and manpower required for th production of projector parts, an also is seen as having wide applicatio in many other fields, besides relie ing a parts shortage.

Isaacs has had the experimenta parts in use over a considerable pe riod and has maintained a close chec on their performance to determin how it compares with that of the ne parts which otherwise would hav been used, the WPB reports here.

Warners, 20th Send Gifts to Servicemen

Christmas checks of $15 will be sen jointly by Warners and the Warne Club to each of 2,700 former mem bers of the company now in the ser vices.

Nearly 1,000 of 20th-Fox staffs als serving will receive $10 in cash fo Christmas in addition to gift parcels it was announced here yesterday b Spyros Skouras, president. National Theatres, Fox affiliate, will also send gifts to approximately 1,400 forme members now in the armed forces.

'antasy' Big n Phila. on a $22,500 Take

HILADELHIA, Nov. 4.—Dearth of openings, coupled with strong atrical attractions in allied fields make for major competition, result- in leveling off business at the ntown houses, except for "Flesh Fantasy," only major opening, ich points to a good $22,500 at the rd.

Estimated receipts for the week ing Nov. 2-5:

ly Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
LDINE—(900) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) ys, 2nd week. Gross: $10,200. (Aver- $10,300)

ank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
RCADIA—(600) (35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, run. Gross: $5,800. (Average, $3,500)

esh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
OYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 s. Gross: $22,500. (Average, $19,000)

oung Ideas" (M-G-M) (6 days)

esh and Fantasy" (Univ.) (1 day)
ARLE—(3,000) (46c-57c-75c) 6 days of deville including Glen Gray's orchestra, genie Baird, Tommy Morgan, Ruthie nes, Rufe Davis and Russ Miller & ine. Gross: $21,400. (Average, $23,900)

ways a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
AY'S—(2,200) (29c-35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 s of vaudeville including Charlie Bar- t's band, Patterson & Jackson, Bunny ggs, Virginia Maxey and Al Killian. ss: $10,500. (Average, $10,000)

alute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
OX—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 s, 2nd week. Gross: $14,200. (Average, 800)

ehind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
ARLTON—(1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,200. (Av- ge, $4,700)

oitfire" (RKO)
EITH'S—(2,200) (35c-41c-46cc-57c-68c-) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,300. (Aver- , $5,300)

rincess O'Rourke" (WB)
ASTBAUM—(4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $23,000. (Av- ge, $22,900)

weet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
TANLEY—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,900. verage, $18,300)

he Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
TANTON—(1,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-) 7 days. Gross: $9,300. (Average, $8,-)

Bell' Terrific on $16,000 Intake

TULSA, Okla., Nov. 4. — "For hom the Bell Tolls" did as was ex- ted in its first week here, grossing 5,000 at road-show prices. "Fired ife" at the Majestic was also a l-ringer with a good $4,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ding Nov. 4:

ired Wife" (Univ.)
AJESTIC—(570) (25c-40c) 7 days. Gross: 00. (Average: $2,500).

Vintertime" (20th-Fox)
ORPHEUM—(1,400) (20c-40c-50c) 7 days. oss: $8,000. (Average: $7,500).

etticoat Larceny" (PRC)

dventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
IALTO—(1,250) (20c-40c) 3 days. Gross: 00. (Average: $1,500).

o This Is Washington" (RKO)

he 7th Victim" (RKO)
IALTO—(1,250) (20c-40c) 4 days. Gross: 250. (Average: $1,900).

or Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
RITZ—(2,000) (75c-$1.12) 7 days. Gross: ,000. (Average: at 55 cent top, $7,750).

20th-Fox Play Tonight

20th Century-Fox Family Club will esent a musical, "I Dream of Genie," ritten and devised during the spare ne of the employees, and produced them under the supervision of Lew ehr, at the Henry Hudson Hotel in ew York tonight.

'Johnny' Leads with $19,500 in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 4.—While business remains good in St. Louis, in comparison with the average of the last six months, box offices are not faring as well as managers think they should. "Johnny Come Lately" at Loew's State paces the week's parade with $18,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 3:

"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(5,038) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average, $15,800)

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $12,500)

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"That Nazty Nuisance" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average, $16,900)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
"Hostages" (Para.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $7,300)

"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
"Report from the Aleutians" (WAC)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average, $6,900)

"The Rains Came" (20th-Fox)
"Under Two Flags" (20th-Fox)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, first two weeks, $6,250)

"Crime School" (WB)
"Girls on Probation" (WB)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (35c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $4,400)

'Let's Face It' Gets Healthy $19,000

BALTIMORE, Nov. 4.—New attractions scored strong and with perfect autumn weather at hand, indications are for a substantial week. Topping the list is "Let's Face It," due for an easy $19,000 at the Stanley.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 4:

"The Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,100).

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (75c and $1.10) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average, at regular prices: $11,900).

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (15c-28c-35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $9,300).

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,280) (15c-28c-39c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,100).

"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
HIPPODROME — (2,205) (15c-28c-39c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage show: Buster West & Lucille Page, Paul Sydell & Spotty, Artie Dann, Lloyd & Willis, Three Hylton Sisters. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $16,500).

"Sleepy Lagoon" (Rep.)
MAYFAIR — (1,000) (20c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,100).

Ampa Committee Formed

Blanche Livingston has been named head of the guest committee for Ampa's "Salute to Heroes of the Industry," to be held at the Hotel Astor Nov. 17 at noon. Other members of the committee are Aileen Brenon, co-chairman, Belle Goldstein, Gertrude Merriam, Tess Michaels, Marguerite Wayburn and Hortense Schorr.

Edwards in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 4.—Steve Edwards, press representative of Republic Pictures, has arrived here from New York to assist in promotion campaigns for "Man From Music Mountain" and "In Old Oklahoma." Both pictures will run at the Fox.

'U's' 'Fantasy' Does $6,200 Over Par at RKO Albee

CINCINNATI, Nov. 4.—Preceded by a heavy promotional campaign, "Flesh and Fantasy," which did $3,163 on the opening day of its world premiere at the RKO Albee here, is heading for an estimated $22,000, highest figure at that house in weeks.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 3-6:

"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $15,800).

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,600).

"Sahara" (Col.)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week, 2nd at this house. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $5,000).

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Albee. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,200).

"Crazy House" (Univ.)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Palace. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,200).

"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,900).

"Mystery of the 13th Guest" (Mono.)
"Prairie Thunder" (WB reissue)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 4 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average: $1,400).

"Larceny with Music" (Univ.)
"Stanley and Livingstone" (20th-Fox)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 days Gross: $900. (Average: $800).

"The Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (33c-40c-55c) 7 days. Gross. $3,500. (Average: $5,200).

'Rosie' on Holdover Does Nice $7,000

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 4.—With holdovers at five first runs, one picture in its fourth week, total gross was relatively low; yet "Sweet Rosie O'Grady," a holdover playing the Esquire, Uptown and Fairway, provided the high figure for the week at approximately $18,000. Weather had been mild, turned cold and included rain.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 3:

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(860) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $5,000)

"Sahara" (Col.)
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
MIDLAND—(3,600) (35c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $14,000)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (75c-$1) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average, on basis of 40c-60c, $10,900)

"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $10,000)

"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
"Revenge of the Zombies" (Mono.)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,400)

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $5,600)

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,750. (Average, $1,450)

Chicago Bans 'Ghoul'

CHICAGO, Nov. 4.—Universal's "The Mad Ghoul" has been banned by the Police Censor Board here for being too gruesome.

During October the board examined 107 pictures, made 11 cuts, rejected one and classified two, "The Case of Ingrid Brensen" and "Son of Dracula," for adults only.

'Johnny' Gets $41,000 at 3 L.A. Houses

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 4.—Exploited with copy based on his Academy-award winning performance, James Cagney's first independent venture, "Johnny Come Lately," did well at the new FWC first runs, getting $14,000 at the Egyptian, $16,000 at the Los Angeles, and $11,000 at the Ritz. "Princess O'Rourke" was some $15,000 over par at the three Warner outlets.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 3:

"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $8,407)

"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $14,052)

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
EGYPTIAN—(1,590) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $12,000)

"The City That Stopped Hitler—Heroic Stalingrad" (Para.)
"Campus Rhythm" (Mono.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average, $5,266)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
FOUR STAR—(900) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $3,250)

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.) (3rd week)
"So This Is Washington" (RKO)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 5 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average, $15,244)

"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average, $20,752)

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $13,000)

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.) (3rd week)
"So This Is Washington" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 5 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $12,810)

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Hollywood)—(1,407) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $10,808)

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Downtown)—(3,595) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average, $19,768)

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
RITZ—(1,376) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $9,416)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(2,100) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 12th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $29,810)

"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
UPTOWN—(1,715) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $10,000)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Hollywood)—(3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $19,262. (Average, $13,651)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Downtown)—(3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $19,918. (Average, $16,094)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Wiltern)—(2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $18,468. (Average, $12,794)

Rule Against Shilkret

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—Court of Appeals decision yesterday denied the claim of Nathanial Shilkret that he was domiciled in California during the tax years 1936-37, affirming a U. S. Board of Tax Appeals decision holding him to have been domiciled in New York during that period. As a result, Shilkret was held not entitled to apply the community property laws of California, under which he would have saved more than $16,000 in Federal taxes.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Oct. 9	DOUGHBOYS IN IRELAND Kenny Baker Jeff Donnell M	(First Block) ABOVE SUSPICION D—90 mins. (402)	BLAZING GUNS Hoot Gibson Ken Maynard 54 mins. O—(258)	(First Block) LET'S FACE IT Bob Hope Betty Hutton M—76 mins. (4301)	LONE RIDER IN RAIDERS OF RED GAP O—(368)		(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C			CRAZY HOUSE Olsen & Johnson Martha O'Driscoll Count Basie & Band M	ADVENTURE IN IRAQ John Loder Ruth Ford D—(304)
Oct. 16	SAHARA Humphrey Bogart Bruce Bennett J. Carroll Naish D—97 mins.—(5003)	BEST FOOT FORWARD Lucille Ball M—94 mins. (405)	OUTLAWS OF STAMPEDE PASS Johnny Mack Brown O—(255)	TRUE TO LIFE Mary Martin Franchot Tone Dick Powell C—94 mins. (4303)		SCREAM IN THE DARK Marie McDonald (229) OLD BARN DANCE (Re-issue) Gene Autry—(2307)	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D	PARIS AFTER DARK George Sanders Brenda Marshall Philip Dorn 85 mins. (409)		HI-YA SAILOR Elyse Knox Donald Woods M	
Oct. 23	THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME Chester Morris George E. Stone Jeanne Bates (1943-'44) D—(5034)	DR. GILLESPIE'S CRIMINAL CASE Lionel Barrymore D—89 mins. (407)	THE UNKNOWN GUEST Victor Jory Pamela Blake D—(309)	HOSTAGES Luise Rainer Arturo de Cordova Paul Lukas D—88 mins. (4305)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN THE RETURN OF THE RANGERS THE UNDERDOG Barton McLane (316)	MAN FROM THE RIO GRANDE John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O—55 mins. (363)	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C			YOU'RE A LUCKY FELLOW, MR. SMITH Allan Jones Evelyn Ankers M—(8033)	PRINCESS O'ROURKE Olivia DeHavilland Robert Cummings D—(305)
Oct. 30	IS EVERYBODY HAPPY? Ted Lewis and his Band M	GIRL CRAZY Mickey Rooney Judy Garland C—99 mins. (409)	BULLETS AND SADDLES A Range Buster O—(268)	THE GOOD FELLOWS Cecil Kellaway Helen Walker James Brown C—70 mins. (4302)		MAN FROM MUSIC MOUNTAIN Roy Rogers Ruth Terry O—(257)	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D	(Re-Issues) IN OLD CHICAGO D—94 mins. (406) BANJO ON MY KNEE M—95 mins. (407)	THE WOMAN OF THE TOWN Claire Trevor Albert Dekker D	FLESH AND FANTASY Edward Robinson Charles Boyer Barbara Stanwyck D—(8062)	
Nov. 6	SILVER CITY RAIDERS Russell Hayden Adele Mara O—(5202)	LASSIE COME HOME (410) Roddy MacDowall D	MYSTERY OF THE 13th GUEST Dick Purcell D—(211)	TORNADO Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—83 mins. (4304)	THE DEVIL RIDERS Buster Crabbe O—(460)	OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY "Wild Bill" Elliott Ann Jeffreys	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C	GUADALCANAL DIARY Wm. Bendix Lloyd Nolan D (412)		SON OF DRACULA Robert Paige Louise Allbritton—D	FIND THE BLACKMAILER Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson D—(306)
Nov. 13	RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE Nina Foch Bela Lugosi D	SALUTE TO THE MARINES Wallace Beery Fay Bainter D—(401)	NEARLY EIGHTEEN Gale Storm Bill Henry D—61 mins. (226)	(Special Release) THE CITY THAT STOPPED HITLER—HEROIC STALINGRAD 58 mins. (4331)		HERE COMES ELMER Al Pearce Dale Evans C—(303)	(Second Block) THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)	BATTLE OF RUSSIA (U .S. Government Feature) 80 mins. (414)		THE MAD GHOUL Evelyn Ankers David Bruce—D	NORTHERN PURSUIT Errol Flynn Julie Bishop D—(307)
Nov. 20		SWING SHIFT MAISIE (404) Ann Sothern C—86 mins.	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43) M—(210)	(Second Block) RIDING HIGH (Technicolor) Dorothy Lamour Dick Powell Victor Moore M—89 mins. (4307)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN BOSS OF RAWHIDE O—(452) HARVEST MELODY M—(402)	MYSTERY BROADCAST Frank Albertson D—(304) DEERSLAYER Bruce Kellogg Jean Parker O—67 mins. (306)	GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)	DANCING MASTERS Laurel and Hardy C—63 mins. (413)		NEVER A DULL MOMENT The Ritz Brotherss Frances Langford Mary Beth Hughes C	
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal D	ADVENTURES OF TARTU (406) Robert Donat Valerie Hobson D—103 mins.	TEXAS KID Johnny Mack Brown O—(351)			DRUMS OF FU MANCHU (Adapted from Serial) Henry Brandon D—(305)	GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)		HIS BUTLER'S SISTER Deanna Durbin Pat O'Brien Franchot Tone D	OLD ACQUAINTANCE Bette Davis Miriam Hopkins D—(308)
Dec. 4		YOUNG IDEAS Susan Peters (408) Mary Astor D—77 mins.	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer) O—(361)	NO TIME FOR LOVE Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Ilka Chase C—83 mins. (4309)		CANYON CITY John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O	GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)				(Re-Issues) CRIME SCHOOL Humphrey Bogart Dead End Kids (327)
Dec. 11		THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER D—103 mins. (411) I DOOD IT D—102 mins. (403)	HONOR SYSTEM East Side Kids D	HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith John Litel C—73 mins. (4306)		HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER Roy Rogers Ruth Terry Bob Nolan and Sons of the Pioneers	THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D				GIRLS ON PROBATION Jane Bryan Ronald Reagan (328)
Dec. 18		WHISTLING IN BROOKLYN Red Skelton Ann Rutherford C—87 mins. (412)	SMART GUY Rick Vallin D	MINESWEEPER Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—67 mins. (4308)			NORTH STAR Anne Baxter Walter Huston Dana Andrews D—105 mins. (451)				

DO NOT REMOVE

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

. 54. NO. 89 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1943 | TEN CENTS

ive Decree Signers Start Re-drafting

eed Clark's Warning To 'Give More'

Decree companies decided late week to revise their proposals changes in the consent decree attorneys for the five com- ics were reconvened immediately began the re-drafting process in all-day session on Friday.

n view of the rejection of the com- ies' first draft by Assistant U. S. orney General Tom C. Clark in shington last week with the ad- ition that the consenting com- ics would have to concede a great more than they appeared willing t that time, it would appear to be ious that the companies' current rts are directed at a liberalization he original proposals.

ndications are that the attorneys' rk will be continued today and sibly, for several additional days. ir Friday meeting was preceded

(Continued on page 5)

AA Leases Face Cancellation Dec. 1

s the industry consent decree's ee-year trial period draws within days of its close, action on the tinuation or relinquishing of leases quarters for arbitration tribunals 31 key cities must be taken by the of this month, it was learned the weekend.

n addition, action apparently is ed for also on the impending ex- ition of the term of Robert M. rsh as a member of the appeal rd of the industry arbitration sys- . Whereas the two other members

(Continued on page 5)

ibre Container Case hrown Out of Court

Magistrate's Court in New York day dismissed the case involving monses issued by Fire Department pectors against several major film ributor exchanges, film labora- ies and freight forwarders for us- fibre containers.

Decision was based on New York y's Bureau of Standards and Ap- ls recent approval of the continued of fibre cases for film prints for duration of the war.

Army and Newsreels In Film Pool to Aid Newsreelers at War

United States Government and the film industry became partners at the weekend in furnishing American newsreel men in theatres of war with raw stock to photograph the story of America in World War II for exhibitors of the world and for military enlightenment and study.

Lt. Colonels Marshall Newton and Curtis Mitchell, Army overseas and motion picture liaisons, respectively, of Washington, and Claude R. Collins, the industry's newsreel representative in the Capital, met in New York on Friday with the heads of the five reels to formulate a plan for assuring a supply of raw film for U. S. newsreel men abroad.

Out of the meeting came a system

(Continued on page 4)

WarnerFearedHarm From Willie Bioff

Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Bros., testifying in the industry racketeering trial in Federal court here on Friday, said that he did not expose William Bioff, former IATSE ruler in Hollywood, before the interim committee of the California Legislature at its investigation of studio labor conditions in November, 1937, because he feared bodily

(Continued on page 5)

Loew's Had 8,987,232 Military Admissions

Loew Theatres reported at the weekend that service men and women have become an important factor at the box office to the extent that between July 7, 1941 and Aug. 31, 1943, the circuit admitted 8,987,232 uniformed persons at reduced prices at its theatres throughout the country. Some theatres state that as high as 40 per cent of the attendance on certain days comprise members of the armed forces.

Circuits Extending Vaudeville Time

Three major New York circuits are expanding their use of vaudeville to supplement screen shows at neighborhood theatres part of each week. Recently RKO inaugurated Tuesday and Wednesday stage shows at the Bushwick, Brooklyn, and the Chester, Bronx. Warners on Nov. 5 began full-week vaudeville plus a feature picture at the Central in Passaic, N. J.

In the Metropolitan area, Loew Theatres now have one or two-day vaudeville bills at the following houses: Coney Island, Fairmount, Gates, Delancey, Orpheum, Yonkers, Willard, Premier, Boulevard, Melba, Oriental, Pitkin, Bay Ridge Hillside and Boro Park.

Heavy Tax Our Reward for Bond Sales?: Kuykendall

The motion picture industry "expects fair treatment at the hands of the very agency (Treasury Department) benefiting mostly from our whole-hearted, voluntary and extensive active cooperation" in selling war bonds and war stamps, declared Edward L. Kuykendall, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, in a statement issued at the weekend from headquarters here, in defending the

Ed. L. Kuykendall

(Continued on page 5)

Services Tomorrow For J. H. Gallagher

Funeral services for Joseph H. Gallagher, 63, veteran trade paper advertising manager, will be held tomorrow at Campbell's Funeral Parlor, Madison Avenue and 81st Street, Manhattan. Gallagher died Saturday at Boulevard Hospital, Queens, following a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Cora; two daughters, Dorothy and Helen, and a son, Joseph H., Jr., in the Navy.

Gallagher was advertising manager for Columbia Pictures and was associated for many years with Box Office and later Showmen's Trade Review, also as advertising manager. He resigned the latter post several months ago because of his health.

Pay Rise for Lowest Paid Theatre Help

Ushers, Charwomen Are Principally Affected

Despite the general impression, literally hundreds of workers in exhibition are receiving less than 40 cents an hour and these stand to be benefited by a Department of Labor directive establishing that scale as an absolute minimum for all workers in this industry.

Union officials in New York admitted that there are many who now receive less than 40 cents, citing ushers, charwomen and other menials, although these are principally located in small towns and in the neighborhoods and outlying districts of some of the large cities.

Wage-and-hour division of the U. S. Department of Labor's New

(Continued on page 5)

Two Films a Year From Theatre Guild

Encouraged by the "freedom" in motion picture production enjoyed by independent producer set-ups in Hollywood, the Theatre Guild has decided to enter film production as an independent releasing through one of the major companies, Lawrence Langner, president of the Theatre Guild here, revealed in an interview with MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

"The Theatre Guild has been asked to take an interest in picture-making for many years," Langner stated, "but until now it has felt that it should devote all energies to the legitimate

(Continued on page 5)

Jeffrey Is Named U.A. Publicity Head

Arthur Jeffrey has been appointed publicity manager for United Artists, effective immediately, it was announced at the weekend by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., U. A. advertising and publicity director. He succeeds Curly Harris, who resigned to enter the Army.

Jeffrey, who has been with United Artists since 1937, has at various times been New York newspaper representative, trade press contact and

(Continued on page 5)

Personal Mention

JACK OSSERMAN, who was recently appointed to a South American sales post by RKO, left here for the Coast Saturday before going to Brazil to assume the new appointment.

•

GERTRUDE MERRIAM, of *Motion Picture Herald's* 'Managers Round Table,' left for a vacation Friday, which she will spend with her son, JAMES, prior to his induction into the Marines.

•

GORDON HALLORAN, with 20th Century-Fox in Omaha and BUDD MERCIER and HOMER DEEVERS, exhibitors of Frederickton, Mo., bagged 160 birds on a South Dakota pheasant hunt, arranged by ALBERT BLAKKALB, Bonesteele, S. D., exhibitor.

•

ALLEN G. SMITH, head of the theatre equipment section of the War Production Board's service division, was in New York at the week-end conferring with LESTER ISAAC, Loew Theatres' projection and sound head.

•

BEN KALMENSON, general sales manager for Warner Bros. will return today from a Southwest trip following the company's recent sales meeting in Chicago.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal Eastern advertising and publicity director, is scheduled to leave for the Coast at the end of the week.

•

LT. COL. ANATOLE LITVAK conferred with WAC officials at the weekend on 20th Century-Fox's release of "Battle of Russia."

•

GEORGE WELSH, manager of the Sterling, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., was recently married to JOAN TIERNEY in that city.

•

GREGORY RATOFF, independent producer-director, is in town from Hollywood.

•

L. W. CONROW, president of Altec Service, has returned from a month's business trip.

•

RICHARD REYNOLDS, manager of RKO Greenpoint, Brooklyn, has been inducted into the Navy.

•

SAMUEL BRONSTON, U. A. producer, arrived here from the Coast Saturday.

Army Readying Film On Foreign Countries

U. S. Army Signal Corps Photographic Center, Astoria, L. I., is readying a series of reels to acquaint soldiers with countries which they are expected to invade, it was learned at the weekend. Signal Corps representatives have been at home office libraries looking at film files on foreign lands for footage to be used in the pictures.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

BEGINNING this week, NBC will launch a 12-week advertising campaign in all Manhattan dailies on behalf of its Station WEAF here, the aim of which is to convince the public that it can do better in the way of entertainment by staying at home tuned in on that station than by going out and spending up to $6.60 in pursuit of entertainment. The $6.60 is a trick figure selected for its advertising value as the numerical position of WEAF on the dial.

The total campaign involved 78,225 lines designed to reach a circulation of 4,915,033. Each piece of copy, NBC states, will draw a parallel between the returns from an expenditure of $6.60 in New York and the extent of free entertainment available to WEAF listeners. Photographs of radio's best known stars heard on WEAF will be used in the ads.

• •

Naturally, it is to be supposed that among those stars will be some currently appearing in motion pictures or on the time tables of future releases. Their names and personalities will be exploited in the campaign to help induce New York's millions to stay away from the city's theatres on whose screens are appearing those personalities and others of filmdom, in order to remain at home to hear them and others on the radio.

This could be really serious except for one often demonstrated fact: The public will stay home just so long and then, bored, weary or what have you, will get up, stretch and yawn, snap off the radio and go to the nearest theatre.

• •

In engaging in this project, however, NBC imperils a somewhat fraternal relationship between radio and the remainder of the amusement world that has existed almost undisturbed for the past several years. In that time, the older entertainment forms came to recognize radio as a blood brother.

The incident recalls the turmoil of past years, rightly originating in exhibition quarters, over the appearance of Hollywood stars on the air concurrently with the appearance of their pictures on the screens of the nation. It also recalls (but perhaps not to NBC officials) the commotion resulting from Lucky Strike's well-aired slogan of other years which admonished the public to "Reach for a 'Lucky' instead of a sweet."

• •

Despite the undeniable increase in attendance and theatre grosses, circuit operators report it as fact that hundreds of theatres are sparsely attended at matinees throughout the week and on nights from Monday through Wednesday.

Recognizing this situation, Loew's Theatres in New York have begun including special appeals for weekday and night patronage. The circuit's ads on Monday emphasized "No waiting; weekend shows at midweek prices" and similar persuaders under the general slogan: "Monday Is Movie Day!" The circuit's Tuesday ads led off with the caption: "Tuesday Tip! Go to Loew's on Tuesdays. Prompt Seats. Low Prices."

Similar efforts have been made recently by West Coast theatres to divert the heavy weekend attendance to the much thinner matinee and midweek shows.

• •

Industry observers in Washington are still hopeful that a further revision of the admission tax may be made when the new revenue bill is taken up by the House. Many of them envision a reduction of the present 20 per cent tax rate to 15 per cent as a distinct likelihood. All of them, it appears, have abandoned hope of getting a "sliding scale" tax rate; one keyed to admission scales and graduating from a low rate for low admissions to higher rates for higher scales. Congressmen are not taking to the suggestion. They are not convinced that it would result in an increase in revenue from the admission tax, which is the present objective, of course.

• •

Jim Mason, exhibitor potentate of Cherry Valley, Ohio, in a spasm of patriotism last Fall traded his coal oil stove out of the De Luxe for an anthracite burner. Facing the common dilemma this Fall of all those similarly situated, as the lawyers say, Jim eventually hit upon this solution which he passes along gratuitously to fellow exhibitors: The first 10 couples to appear at the De Luxe nightly are admitted in exchange for one bucket of coal apiece. That's a 24-hour supply for the house. Now, however, he's worrying about that new admission tax. He can't figure out what a 20 per cent tax on a bucket of coal would come to, in case.

Coming Events

Nov. 9—New York Labor W Chest pageant, Madison Squa Garden, New York.

Nov. 9—Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'ri meeting, Hotel Edison, 8:00 P.M New York.

Nov. 10—American Television S ciety and Advertising Club New York joint meeting and di ner, New York.

Nov. 10—20th-Fox birthday di for U. S. Marine Corps wi private screening of *Guadalca Diary*, Chicago and Philadelph

Nov. 11—NEIC Service flag de cation and pledge rally.

Nov. 14—Reelfellows' nomination officers, Blackstone Hotel, Cl cago.

Nov. 16—"Night of Stars" sho United Jewish Appeal, Madis Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 17 — AMPA's "Salute T Heroes of the Motion Picture I dustry," Hotel Astor, New Yor

Nov. 18-19—Annual convention, I dependent Theatres Protecti Association of Wisconsin and U per Michigan, Schroeder Hot Milwaukee. Also, Allied Carav meeting.

Nov. 19—Fall Dinner, Picture Pi neers, Waldorf-Astoria Hot New York.

Haines, Moray Leav On Sales-Drive Tou

Roy Haines, Western and Southe division sales manager for Warn Bros., and Norman H. Moray, sho subject sales manager, left New Yo over the weekend for Chicago, Me phis, Kansas City, Los Angeles a San Francisco, where they will ho meetings for sales staffs of those te ritories in connection with the co pany's forthcoming 21-week sal drive.

Wolfe Cohen, Canadian distri manager for Warner Bros., will pr side at an Eastern Canada sales co ference starting this morning in t King Edward Hotel, Toronto.

Session will be attended by Bran Managers Joe Plottel, Ike Coval a Lewis McKenzie, of Toronto, Mo treal and St. John, respectively; A. Piggins, district booker; Glenn I ton, field man for the Dominion, a members of the sales staff.

Rinzler at Company Meetings for Fun

One hundred Paramount executiv including Adolph Zukor, Barney B aban and Neil Agnew, gathered Paramount on Friday to hear Sa Rinzler talk on behalf of the N tional War Fund. Zukor and Bal ban also spoke and Agnew, chairm of the meeting, introduced Rinzle

Similar National War Fund me ings will take place at Monogra 630 9th Ave., tomorrow morning, a at United Artists' exchange on We nesday afternoon. At both meetin which respective company officials w attend, Rinzler will deliver the ma address.

Fred Schwartz, treasurer for t industry's participation in the drive, accompanying Rinzler to all compa meetings.

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CRAZY HOUSE
TOP MAN
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
FLESH AND FANTASY
CORVETTE K-225
"GET AMPLIFIED BOYS!"
UNIVERSAL PICTURES
BUSINESS IS UNIVERSALLY AMPLIFIED WITH UNIVERSAL EXHIBITORS!

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 7.

FEDERAL Judge Harry A. Hollzer has denied Universal's petition for an order restraining Robert Cummings from making radio appearances pending the outcome of the star's suit against the studio for cancellation of contract, but ruled that Cummings must impound with the Court Clerk any moneys earned from radio in the meantime. Judge Hollzer set the case for trial Jan. 4th.

•

Edward Dmytryk, assigned to direct "Elizabeth Kenny," Rosalind Russell starrer, will arrive in New York tomorrow to meet her and Sister Kenny. He will return here via Minneapolis to visit the Kenny institution.

•

Sid Rogell has left here for New York to spend three weeks looking over plays and other properties. Upon his return, Rogell will devote his full time to supervision and production at RKO.

•

"Song of Bernadette," 20th-Fox production, will open a roadshow engagement at advanced prices at the Carthay Circle and United Artists on Christmas Day.

•

Screen Office Employes Guild-Exchange negotiations on the former's demand of a 15 per cent wage increase is expected to get underway this week.

•

The Hollywood Victory Committee October report shows that 505 players made 1,188 appearances in 213 events during the month.

•

Screen Publicists Guild has officially filed wage increase demands by letter but it is unanswered to date by the producers.

•

Eddie Cantor was appointed radio chairman for the polio fund drive for the sixth consecutive year.

•

RKO has signed Lillian Albertson as chief dramatic coach, succeeding Helena Sorrell, resigned.

Legion Medal to Capra

Press dispatches from London at the weekend reported that Lt. Col. Frank Capra, director, has received the Legion of Merit for his Army orientation films depicting events leading up to America's entry into the war. Capra, who is chief of the motion picture production unit of the Army's special service division, received the award from Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, commander of U. S. forces in the European theatre.

Seeks 'Carmen Jones'

Sid Schlager, Producers Corporation of America president, is reported to be negotiating with Billy Rose and Max Dreyfuss for the screen rights to "Carmen Jones," negro operetta, which he would produce for United Artists release with an all-white cast headed by Nelson Eddy, portraying the roles in blackface.

9 New Columbia Shorts

Columbia will release nine short subjects this month. Heading the list will be "You Dear Boy," first of the new Vera Vague comedies to feature the star of the Bob Hope radio show.

Review

"Never a Dull Moment"

(*Universal*)

Hollywood, Nov. 7.

IN this latest of their pictures from Universal the Ritz Brothers fail to get their best comedy lines and antics across while Frances Langford, the Rogers Dancers, Grace Poggi and Igor, manage to provide amends in the way of entertainment to bolster up a weak script.

Miss Langford is attractive and sings rather well in her role as a night club singer for whom the son of a wealthy family has fallen. The son is Stuart Boyd Crawford, who is not very effective in the part. The Rogers Dancers, with some new additions to their routines and Miss Poggi, as lovely, graceful and full of rhythm as ever, get over very well in night club numbers.

The story concerns a night club owner who unknown to his manager, the entertainers and the police, is a mobster leader. He imports three gunmen from Chicago to rob the socialite guests at the star singer's engagement party. They turn out to be the Ritz Brothers, who receive the call in the Chicago office of a hoodlum masquerading as a theatrical agent. Mary Beth Hughes, as Flo Parker the dip, does well with her part and the chase is on when a fabulous diamond necklace is lifted by Flo and slipped into Jimmy Ritz's pocket. All turns out well when the trio help capture the crooks. Howard Benedict produced and Edward Lilley directed from a screenplay by Mel Ronson and Stanley Roberts based on an original by the latter.

Running time, 60 minutes. "G"*.

JACK CARTWRIGHT

*"G" denotes general classification.

Army and Newsreels In Raw Stock Pool

(*Continued from page* 1)

of pooling whereby the newsreel management here will turn over stock to the Army Signal Corps and the Army in turn will allow the newsreelers abroad to draw upon those deposits from its large film supply at the various war fronts.

Action was necessary, it is understood, because of uncertainties experienced by newsreel photographers traveling with our Armies in obtaining a continuing film supply. Transportation of raw stock by the newsreel companies from the U. S. to foreign fronts has also been a problem. This too has now been corrected, with shipments resting in the hands of the Army continuing in its routine of furnishing stock for Signal Corps usage.

Servicemen at Pioneers

Sons of members of Picture Pioneers who are in the armed forces will be the only non-members present at the annual harvest dinner to be held Nov. 19 at the Starlight Roof of the Waldorf-Astoria. Jack Cohn, head of the organization, reports that advance reservations for the affair have exceeded those of previous years.

'Curie' Tradeshowings

M-G-M will tradeshow "Madame Curie" at the New York exchange and the Los Angeles screening room of 20th Century-Fox on Nov. 18 Tradeshow dates for the film in other exchange centers have not yet been set.

Sinatra in 1-A

Frank Sinatra, who recently completed a picture for RKO-Radio, has been reclassified into 1-A, and faces induction into the armed forces sometime next month.

U.K. to Investigate British Film Markets

LONDON, Nov. 7.—Following announcement last Wednesday that the British Film Producers Association had formed the British Commonwealth Film Corp. to promote overseas distribution of British films, it was learned on the highest authority here today that the government will initiate an inquiry into the whole field of British film marketing. Decision has not yet been made whether to form a "select" committee to make the investigation or to conduct a secret Board of Trade inquiry.

Meanwhile, Sir Walter Monckton, K.C., one of the highest-paid English attorneys, and the Duke of Windsor's abdication lawyer, has been approached to accept the chairmanship of the Film Production Joint Council now in the process of formation at the behest of the Board of Trade, producers and others to consider British post-war production planning.

Cinema Lodge Speaker

Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith yesterday changed its program for the first open meeting of the season, to take place tomorrow evening at the Edison Hotel. Instead of Robert K. Lurie, who will be unable to attend, the speaker will be Louis A. Novins, former assistant attorney-general of Massachusetts and now assistant national director of the Anti-Defamation League.

Frank Capra's "The Battle of Russia" will be shown.

Rogers in St. Louis

Republic's Roy Rogers began a week of personal appearances at the Fox Theatre, St. Louis, late last week in conjunction with the first-run showing of his "Man from Music Mountain." Republic says Rogers attracted the greatest number of paid admissions of any of his theatre appearances.

Sarnoff and Paley Meet with Petrillo

David Sarnoff, RCA president, and William S. Paley, CBS president, met at the weekend with James C. Petrillo, American Federation of Musicians' head, on their differences in the "canned-music" controversy, and reported that "progress is being made."

The trio plans a furth meeting this week to continue discussions, with hearings before the War Labor Board in New York on the controversy continuing tomorrow. Group is understood to have also discussed the matter of agreements between the union and the networks which expire in February.

'Montreal Star' Pa Tribute to Coe, Filn

Address delivered recently Charles Francis Coe, MPPDA vi president, to members of the indus at Montreal and to the Advertisi and Sales Executives' Club of tl city, brought a tribute to both the dustry and to Coe from the *Montr Star*.

"He (Coe) shows us that there a other and far more important ang to the screen than those of mere ca and he places it in its rightful pla as the most international medium expression yet developed by mankin the *Star* editorialized, adding: "T film industry would greatly benefit there were more men of his men calibre and breadth of view in ranks."

Confer on Projector Parts Tests in N. Y

Allen G. Smith, head of the theat equipment section of the War Pr duction Board's service division, a Lester B. Isaac, chief of Loew The tres' projection and sound, who is i dustry consultant to the WPB equi ment section, spent Friday here e amining preliminary results of te run on worn precision projector pa which have been subjected to a n chromium plating treatment to rej venate them.

Results are expected to be a nounced by Smith within two week Isaac will continue testing the pa in New York with the Bureau Standards in Washington runni similar tests.

Appeal Valley Case

Twentieth-Fox and Charles Gordon, Inc., Utica, N. Y., an inte venor, have filed notice of appeal the clearance complaint award ren ered by the Albany arbitrator in fav of the Valley Theatre Corp., opera ing the Liberty Theatre, Herkim N. Y., the American Arbitration A sociation reported here at the wee end.

Classics Gets 'Night'

World reissue rights to "So En Our Night," starring Fredrick Mar and Margaret Sullavan, owned by D vid L. Loew and Albert Lewin, hav been acquired by Film Classics. Fil was originally released through Uni ed Artists in February, 1941.

ive Decree Signers Start Re-drafting

(Continued from page 1)

e day before by a conference of de-e company heads at which, it is rted, Joseph H. Hazen reported Olem on Clark's reactions last week the original proposals. At that nference, it was indicated, the com-ny heads outlined further revisions signed to liberalize the proposals d company counsel were authorized begin preparation of a revised aft. On its completion, it will be esented to Clark, probably early xt week, inasmuch as Clark has heduled a series of conferences with hibitor representatives during the xt few days.

Rotus Harvey of the PCCITO is heduled to meet with Clark in ashington today.

Clark has stated on several occa-ons that his aim is to have a defi-te course decided by Nov. 20, date the expiration of the decree's three-ar trial period. While the decree ill remain in full force and effect ereafter, even though no agreement its continuance has been reached then, the Government will be free proceed with an action for the di-rcement of affiliated theatres at any ne that it might decide to do so.

In view of the fact that next week the final week of the decree's trial riod, company counsel are expected complete a new draft in the short-t time possible.

wo Films a Year From Theatre Guild

(Continued from page 1)

eatre. In order to explore the field heresa Helburn worked with Colum-a Pictures, but we had not felt until ow that the time was ripe to enter otion pictures," he added.

"There are numerous stage proper-es in which we have an interest hich have not been exploited in ctures such as 'Porgy and Bess,' klahoma,' 'Mourning Becomes Elec-a' by Eugene O'Neill, William Saro-n's Pulitzer Prize play, 'Time of our Life' and his play, 'Love's Old weet Song,' 'At Mrs. Beam's,' ata Morgana' and others," Langner ated.

Plans call for the Guild to make vo pictures a year. Other stage prop-rties in which the Guild has an in-rest will be made in collaboration ith major companies, it is contem-ated. Those which the Guild is not a position to produce will be sold other companies. "The Guild will pervise production, cast selection, rection and story treatment of its roperties."

The Guild has subscription audi-nces of 100,000 in 16 key cities be-veen New York and St. Louis, assuring special exploitation and penings" for Theatre Guild pictures, angner reported.

He pointed to the Guild's contribu-on of acting talent to Hollywood uring the past few years, mentioning ene Kelley, William Bendix, Van Heflin, Joseph Cotten, Nancy Cole-an, Alfred Drake, Jane Lawrence nd Joan Roberts.

Heavy Tax Our Reward for Bond Sales?: Kuykendall

(Continued from page 1)

industry against pending Congressional admission tax increases.

Kuykendall charged that after the industry, last month, had turned in "probably the most effective job of any industry in the Third War Loan, in response to urgent pleas from the Secretary of the Treasury," Secretary Morgenthau "immediately turned around and socked us with a huge tax far in excess of that imposed on any other industry. This is hard to explain," said Kuykendall, posing the challenge: "Is this our reward for unhesitating all-out cooperation with the Treasury in its campaign to sell war bonds to individuals?"

Making a strong plea to all exhibitors to communicate immediately with their Congressmen in protest against the proposed 20 per cent levy, Kuykendall warned owners that, "the tax proposed puts a four cent tax on a 15 cent children's matinee ticket, now generally priced at 13 cents admission and 2 cents tax. You can either get 11 cents admission and four cents tax, thereby giving up an additional 15.4 per cent of your gross receipts for the new tax, or you can charge 15 cents admission and four cents tax for a total charge of 19 cents, which certainly doesn't help to keep prices down.

"Likewise on a 40 cent admission (which you may have discovered is the most your community will pay, because when you try to get more, they stay away from your theatre) your dilemma is whether to collect 40 cents and eight cents or 32 cents plus eight cents. Will your patrons pay 48 cents or will they come less often if you charge that price, so that your gross receipts drop instead of increase with the advanced price? Or can you stand giving up 12½ per cent of your present net receipts (assuming that you now charge an even 40 cents including the present tax of four cents?

"You will note," he added, "that no even 50 cent charge, so desirable in making change during the rush hour, is possible, as it works out at 48 cents (40 cents and eight cents) or 51 cents (41 cents and 10 cents) when the tax is two cents on each 10 cents or fraction thereof."

House Ways and Means Committee's reduction of the original 30 per cent tax proposal to 20 per cent will save exhibitors $163,500,000 annually, but the latter still threatens a burden of $327,000,000 a year, which, said Kuykendall, "is more than twice the annual production cost of all the feature pictures made in Hollywood."

"When we are singled out for a terrific sales tax while most other businesses get no tax at all, it is patently unfair and discriminatory," Kuykendall charged. Reason for this, he said, is because the industry is an "easy mark" and a "soft touch."

After the House acts upon the tax bill it will go to the Senate Finance Committee and meetings will then be held between House and Senate committees to adjust any difference before a Senate vote is taken. Exhibitors should protest strongly to the members of the Senate committee, Kuykendall advised.

AAA Leases Face Cancellation Dec. 1

(Continued from page 1)

of the appeal board, George Putnam and George W. Alger, were appointed to three-year terms starting Feb. 1, 1941, and expiring next Feb. 1, Marsh was named to fill the unexpired term of the late Van Vechten Veeder, whose appointment was made Nov. 20, 1940, and consequently will expire 12 days hence.

Leases on the arbitration tribunal quarters throughout the country were made starting Feb. 1, 1941, for the most part, and ending Dec. 31, next.

The leases carry the usual provisions for renewals on 30 days' notice. Thus, notice of renewal is due on most of the leases at the end of this month. Should the leases go by default, the American Arbitration Association might encounter great difficulty in securing new quarters because of crowded wartime conditions in most key cities, leaving space either at a premium or not to be found.

Dramatists Elect

Composer Richard Rodgers has been elected president of the Dramatists Guild of the Authors League of America, to serve for a term of two years, with playwrights Philip Barry and Victor Wolfson being elected vice-president and secretary, respectively, it was announced here at the weekend.

Pay Rise for Low Paid Theatre Help

(Continued from page 1)

York branch disclosed at the weekend that a notice of hearing on the minimum wage recommendation of a special investigating committee is being issued and all interested parties will be heard on Nov. 23 in Room 1001 of the department's local headquarters at 165 West 46th Street. No objections are expected.

Recommendation of the special committee comes from conferences and hearings held at the Victoria Hotel here last month. The organized industry was not represented, having previously informed the committee that an overall high standard of wages prevailed in the ranks of its workers.

Regardless, theatre union officials insist that there are many receiving less than 40 cents per hour and the Labor Department is expected to establish that minimum after the hearings on Nov. 23.

Jeffrey Is Named U. A. Publicity Head

(Continued from page 1)

handled New York and out-of-town exploitation, national magazines, syndicates and special events. Before going to United Artists, Jeffrey was publicity director for Warner Bros. New York theatres and was with Warner Bros. Pictures and Paramount-Publix. He was in the banking business prior to the film industry.

WarnerFearedHarm From Willie Bioff, So He Kept Silent

(Continued from page 1)

harm would be done him in consequence.

Warner took the stand at the conclusion of testimony by his brother, Major Albert Warner, and Samuel Carlisle, Warner treasurer. He is expected to continue on the stand when the trial is resumed today.

Under questioning by defense counsel, Warner said that he "wouldn't take the chance," when asked whether he could not have gotten rid of Bioff and Browne and their demands for money by exposing them before the committee.

"Then you considered Bioff above the legislature of California?" asked Murray.

"I would say as far as my life was concerned," said Warner grimly.

He readily admitted, in response to Murray's questions, that he feared Bioff and the damage to the industry that might have been inflicted by Bioff. He explained, when asked why he did not go to law enforcement authorities for protection, that he provided his own protection by carrying a gun in his car and having a studio policeman assigned to guard him.

Warner Describes Payment

Warner described how he paid $7,500 to Bioff in December, 1936, when Bioff insisted that the boys want "the money for Christmas presents." Questioned by Assistant Attorney General Boris Kostelanetz, he testified that he first met Bioff in November, 1937, when the latter visited him on the West Coast.

"He came to the bungalow, which I used for an office," said Warner. "He didn't want to talk to me in the office and we walked outside. Bioff said my brother, Major Albert Warner, ' still owes me $20,000.' He said 'it's not all mine, some of it is for the boys in Chicago, and I must get it right away.' I told him that I had nothing to do with it, that he was getting money in New York and that I wanted nothing to do with it. He said I had better think it over.

"A few days before Christmas, Bioff came to see me again. He said that he had to have the money before the holidays and that the boys in Chicago wanted the money for Christmas presents. I issued a check for $5,000 and took $2,500 out of the petty cash fund and gave Bioff the $7,500 a day or two before Christmas."

Looking For a Show-Woman?

Miss Executive Secretary in Person! Direct from the Pacific Coast. Many years with major theatre circuit and studio. Experienced in all phases of showmanship—general theatre operation, good statistical background, advertising, etc.

Full of pep and personality—fit well in "Never a Dull Moment" office.

Reasonable but not cheap. Box 223, Motion Picture Daily.

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TO THE SALES MANAGERS OF THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY:

Select the outstanding suspense drama of your entire year's program to be run with "The Unknown Guest" before a jury of exhibitors and newspapermen. If they do not judge "The Unknown Guest" to be the more exciting film, MONOGRAM PICTURES will pay the sum of $500.00 to the Red Cross.

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MONOGRAM PICTURES
A SUREFIRE BET SAY THE TRADES!
"Gangway, Mr. Hitchcock! This does for its audience in 65 minutes precisely what the mystery master's productions do in 90. Excellent."
— MOTION PICTURE HERALD
★ ★ ★
"Rates with the best suspense movies Hollywood has turned out."
— FILM DAILY
★ ★ ★
"First class thriller. Builds suspense from the first frame."
— HOLLYWOOD REPORTER
★ ★ ★
"Will keep you on edge of your seat. Worthy of top spot."
— SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW
★ ★ ★
"A triumph of sustained suspense and action."
— MOTION PICTURE DAILY
Directed by KURT NEUMANN • Screenplay by PHILIP YORDAN

'Lady' Hits Neat $28,500 at Two

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 7.—With four out of seven downtown houses playing holdovers and rainy weather also holding over from last week, "The Lady Takes a Chance" headed for a neat $28,500 in its "double-take" at the Stanley and Warner theatres.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 2-5:

"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
FULTON—(1,700) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,-700).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,300).
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
PENN—(3,400) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average at regular prices: $16,800).
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after 2 weeks at the Stanley. Gross: $2,300. (Average: $2,800).
"Two Senoritas from Chicago" (Col.)
"Passport to Suez" (Col.)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,200).
"The Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
STANLEY—(3,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,200).
"The Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $6,900).

Canada Likes Our 'This Is the Army'

TORONTO, Nov. 7.—"This Is the Army" looked good for $11,300 in its third week at the Imperial, while at Shea's Theatre, there was a promise of $11,700 for the second week of "The Constant Nymph." Grosses were on the weak side, generally.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 4:

"Unpublished Story" (British)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,300. (Average, $4,300)
"This Is the Army" (WB)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,300. (Average, $12,300)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $12,400. (Average, $11,400)
"The Constant Nymph" (WB)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,700. (Average, $12,200)
"Background to Danger" (WB)
"Campus Rhythm" (Mono.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,600. (Average, $4,600)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,800. (Average, $9,800)

'Rosie' in 2nd Week Grosses $7,000

OKLAHOMA, CITY, Nov. 7.—"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" led this week with $7,000 on a second week's run at the Criterion while other films were at or just above average. Most promotion was focused on the premiere of "In Old Oklahoma."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 3:

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
CRITERION—(1,500) (25c-40c-50c) 7 days. Second week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,500).
"Salute For Three" (M-G-M)
"Quiet Please, Murder" (20th-Fox)
LIBERTY—(1,200) (20c-25c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,250).
"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
MIDWEST—(1,500) (25c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,250. (Average: $5,600).
"Destroyer" (Col.)
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
STATE—(1,100) (25c-45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,500).
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
TOWER—(1,000) (20c-25c-40c) 7 days, moveover. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,500).

'Army' Marches Into 5 Denver Houses

Denver, Nov. 7.—Unique booking into five local theatres without interruption, with a repeat in one house, for a total run of 12 weeks to date, has been set here by Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army." The picture made its bow at the Denver and Esquire. Then for two weeks it played three houses simultaneously: Denver, Esquire and Rialto, followed by another two weeks in the Rialto and Aladdin, after which it moved to the Broadway for another week. Now "Army" is back at the Broadway.

'Rosie' Goes S.R.O., Grosses $24,750

DENVER, Nov. 7.—The S.R.O. sign is in front of the Denver with "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" expected to hit $24,-750. "Let's Face It" at the Denham will do $20,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 1-5:

"Sahara" (Col.)
"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (30c-40c-50c-60c) moveover. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000).
"This Is the Army" (WB)
BROADWAY—(1,040) (30c-40c-50c-60c) moveover. Gross: $3,125. (Average: $2,500).
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (30c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $6,500).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
DENVER—(2,600) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $24,750. (Average: $11,000).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th Fox)
"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,750. (Average: $3,000).
"The Strange Death of Adolf Hitler" (Univ.)
"Doughboys in Ireland" (Col.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
RIALTO—(900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) moveover. Gross: $5,250. (Average: $3,500).

'Lady' with 'Amigos' Has a $9,000 Week

NEW HAVEN, Nov. 7.—"A Lady Takes a Chance" and "Saludos Amigos" at the Roger Sherman took $9,000, over par by $2,800. At the College, second week of "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" and "Chance of a Lifetime" took $4,500, over by $1,300. Total first run business was $32,700; average is $28,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 4:

"Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
"West Side Kid" (Rep.)
BIJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $3,600).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
COLLEGE—(1,563) (40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,200).
"The Iron Major" (RKO)
"Gildersleeve on Broadway" (RKO)
LOEW-POLI—(3,005) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,300).
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
"Buckskin Frontier" (UA)
PARAMOUNT—(2,373) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,200).
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
ROGER SHERMAN—(2,037) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,200).

Myers Gets Promotion

Robert P. Myers, senior attorney in the NBC legal department since 1935, has been named assistant general counsel of the Radio Corporation it was announced by John T. Cahill, general counsel, at the weekend.

'Claudia' High on Gross of $22,500

CLEVELAND, Nov. 7.—"Claudia" hit the jackpot with weekend audiences at the Hippodrome, indicating a $22,500 take for the seven days. "Top Man" with Bob Allen on a combination program at the Palace made a $29,000 estimated showing.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 4:

"Destroyer" (Col.)
ALLEN—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,300).
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $17,100).
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,100).
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(3,300) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $15,000.
"Top Man" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c and 85c Saturday and Sunday) 7 days. Stage: Bob Allen & orchestra with Marion Hutton. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $25,800).
"The Man from Down Under" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,800).
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,600).

'The Princess' in Providence: $15,000

PROVIDENCE, Nov. 7.—All downtown theatres did fancy business this week and holdovers are the rule. RKO-Albee, aided by Ruth Warrick's personal appearances on opening day, was headed for $16,400 with "The Iron Major," while "Princess O'Rourke" captured a nifty $15,000 at the Majestic.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 4:

"The Iron Major" (RKO)
"Mexican Spitfire's Blessed Event" (RKO)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $16,400. Average: $10,800).
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
STRAND—(2,200) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $9,500).
"Sahara" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,400).
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
"Murder on the Waterfront" (WB)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,700).
"Thank Your Luky Stars" (WB)
"Women at War" (WB)
CARLTON—(1,526) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Majestic. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $4,100).
"Adventure in Iraq" (WB)
GAY'S—(1,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. On stage: DeWitt & Gilbert, Paul McWilliams, Richard Darnell, Bill Marvel & Co., Frankie Brooks, Flo Nickerson. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,400).
"The Thirteenth Guest" (Mono.)
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (40c-65c) 3 days. On stage: Joe Howard and "Gay 90's Revue." Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,800).

Ban Meets Approval

MEMPHIS, Nov. 7.—Exhibitors are expressing approval of the ban on midnight shows put into effect here by Police Chief Seabrook. Grosses derived from the midnight performances did not compensate for damage to theatres caused by the late-hour patrons, it was said.

New F-WC Moveover

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 7.—Fox-West Coast, which recently leased the Alcazar to roadshow "For Whom the Bell Tolls," is now using the theatre as its second moveover house for first runs from the Fox, Warfield and Paramount. The circuit's St. Francis also takes moveovers.

'Petticoat' and the Andrews Sister Hang Up $26,40

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 7.—"Pe coat Larceny" and the Andrews S ters on stage raised the Golden G to $26,400, with general averages e where off slightly. "For Whom Bell Tolls" switched from the P mount to St. Francis for a ninth and turned in a neat $15,500.

Estimated receipts for the w ending Nov. 2-3:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (85c-$1.10) week, moveover from Paramount. Gr $15,500. (Average, $8,300).
"Return of Dr. X" (W. B., reissue)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (20c-35c-55c-75c days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $19 (Average, $18,500).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"West Side Kid" (Rep.)
FOX—(5,000) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days, week. Gross: $21,500. (Average, $21,1
"Johnny Come Lately" (U. A.)
"Yanks Ahoy" (U. A.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (20c-35c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross, $11,000. (erage, $10,100).
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (20c-35c-55c-75c days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Aver $12,700).
"Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
"Here Comes Kelly" (Mono.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (20c-35c-55c-75c days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $15,700
"Petticoat Larceny" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (35c-44c-75c days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $26, (Average, $24,500).

J. P. Hogan Dies; Was Para. Directo

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 7.—James Hogan, 52, who directed many p tures for Paramount and Columb died here at the weekend of a he attack.

Hogan entered films in 1916 property man for Famous-Players New York. In 1921 he became a dir tor and was continuously active various phases of the industry u his death. In 1925 he made four fil for B. P. Schulberg. He direct the "Bulldog Drummond" seri "Last Train from Madrid," "E Tide," "The Texans," "The Farme Daughter" and the "Ellery Quee series, among others.

He is survived by his widow and daughter, Kathleen.

H. C. Weaver, 63; Was Film Produce

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 7.—Harvey Co Weaver, 63, veteran film produc who has been credited with starti directors Frank Capra and W. S. V Dyke on their careers, died recently his home here.

Weaver, who was born in Ne York, produced pictures at the c Christie Studios here in 1918 bef building his own plant. He leaves widow, Mrs. Anna L. Weaver, and sister, Mrs. Anne Creesy.

Herman Rohs Dies

LOUISVILLE, Nov. 7.—Herman Rohs, 72, veteran exhibitor of Cy thiana, Ky., died recently at a hospit in Cincinnati.

Hamilton Incorporates

NEW HAVEN, Nov. 7.—Hamilt Theatre Co., Inc., which operates t Hamilton in Waterbury, has filed certificate of incorporation. nami Philip Sherman, former Vitagra manager, as president-treasurer, a Gertrude Sherman as secretary.

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

OL. 54. NO. 90 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1943 | TEN CENTS

J.A. Down for Delivery of 26 to May 31

n Best Product Spot in Many Years

With 26 features definitely heduled for delivery between now d next May 31, United Artists is its best position in years with reect to both product supply and finite commitments, company ofials point out here.

The product lineup consists of four completed and unreeased pictures; four now in work, five definitely scheduled o start between now and Jan. 6 and 13 others scheduled to start between Jan. 6 and May 31. These are exclusive of Harry Sherman's Hopalong Cassidys.

The four completed pictures are: muel Bronston's "Jack London," egor Rabinovitch's "Three Russian rls," "Voice in the Wind," a Ripley-

(*Continued on page* 40)

ecree and U.S. Tax n Allied Agenda

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—Milwaukee ard meeting of Allied directors on v. 17 and 18 will bring out a full endance, National Allied headarters reported here today. Not ly will all directors be present but st territories are planning to send e or more observers who may paripate in the discussion but cannot te. Rotus Harvey of San Francisco d L. O. Lukan, Seattle, will act observers for the Pacific Coast nference of Independent Theatre vners. It is expected that Al Steffes o will attend. On his retirement iew years ago, Steffes was made an norary national councilor for life.

(*Continued on page* 40)

homas to Preside at -City Mono. Meeting

CHICAGO, Nov. 8.—A meeting of onogram franchise holders and sales rsonnel from Chicago, Milwaukee, es Moines, Minneapolis and Inanapolis will be held here on Satury, Nov. 13, with Harry Thomas esiding.

"Where Are Your Children?" and Vomen in Bondage" will be reened.

'Claudia's' $111,000; 'North Star' $63,000 At 2 B'way Houses

Four major openings on Broadway houses during the past week resulted in excellent over-all returns at box-offices. Leader was "Claudia" at Radio City Music Hall, which, with a stage show, is headed for a $111,000 gross in its first week. "North Star" is being well received at two houses along the Rialto, with first week grosses of $47,000 at the Palace, and $16,000 at the Victoria in sight. "Old Acquaintance" grossed an estimated $41,000 at the Hollywood for its initial stanza. "Princess O'Rourke" and a stage show headed by Shep Fields and his band at the Strand are expected to get $55,000 in its initial week.

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" and a stage

(*Continued on page* 40)

Chicago Theatres Paid Tax to Mob

The Chicago racketeers who for several years controlled the IATSE levied a five per cent payroll tax against the owners of Chicago theatres as their charge for betraying the projectionists seeking a 20 per cent wage increase in 1936, James Coston, Chicago zone manager for Warners, testified in Federal court yesterday.

Coston described how Willie Bioff, in 1940, was so excited over the prospect of being brought back to Chicago to serve out an old sentence

(*Continued on page* 39)

Schenck Now a Mexican Producer

Mexico City, Nov. 8—Joseph M. Schenck, following reports that he would enter Mexican film production, has done so. He and Carlos Galvan, general manager of the Banco Cinematografica, the industry's own bank, have signed Julio Bracho, outstanding Mexican director, to direct "Cantaclara," based upon the book of that name of Romulo Gallegos.

Tom Clark to Texas Tonight for Week

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—A conference tomorrow between Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark and representatives of the California exhibitors expectedly will be the only consent decree development in Washington this week, since Clark will leave tomorrow night for Dallas and will not return to the Capital until next week.

Justice Department officials today said they were without word from the distributors as to when new decree proposals would be submitted to meet Clark's demand last week that the original offer be markedly liberalized, and since there is no certainty as to the status of the negotiations when the present decree expires next week, no decision can be reached at this time as to the course the department will take after Nov. 20.

Because of the uncertain situation, it was said, no thought has yet been

(*Continued on page* 40)

Crescent Files for Gov't Case Dismissal

NASHVILLE, Nov. 8.—George H. Armistead, Jr., chief counsel, has filed a petition in the U. S. District court here asking for the dismissal of an appeal by the Government in the Crescent anti-trust suit as filed last Oct. 27. In the petition Crescent and affiliated exhibitor defendants, Anthony Sudekum and Kermit C. Stengel, move the court to dismiss the appeal on the grounds that (1) the court had no jurisdiction to grant the appeal (2) plaintiff's appeal does not raise a substantial question.

Defense petition for dismissal on "no jurisdiction" grounds is based on the fact that the first Government ap-

(*Continued on page* 40)

20% Admission Tax Is Going to House

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—The new 1943 revenue bill with its doubled admission tax of 20 per cent is expected to be sent to the House by the Ways and Means Committee by Thursday, but since the chamber usually recesses over the weekend on that day it is not probable that the measure will be taken up for debate until next week.

The committee today reversed its position on the liquor tax for the second time, again raising the rate to $10 per gallon, but took no action on

(*Continued on page* 40)

Gen. Fleming Envisages Big Building Boom

Theatres, Equipment and Studios Are Cited

BOSTON, Nov. 8.—Major-General Philip B. Fleming, Federal Works Administrator in Washington, here for a war conference of Massachusetts contractors, expressed the belief based upon conversations "all over the country" that following the war there would be a tremendous surge of building on the part of the motion picture industry.

New theatres will be constructed, new studios built, new equipment installed and there will be many changes and improvements made, he declared.

General Fleming told members of the film industry who attended the meeting and members of the press who attended a press conference today that there would be a great deal of private enterprise in building after the war

(*Continued on page* 40)

Rodgers Urges Use of Government Films

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 8.—William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution, today told a gathering of exhibitors that it is of the most importance to use all Government wartime films. He urged local exhibitors' committees everywhere to expend every effort in bringing reluctant or uncooperative exhibitors into line for using such films.

Metro's sales chief had invited about 50 exhibitors to a luncheon-meeting in the first of a series of similar gatherings which he will conduct in virtually all key cities through No-

(*Continued on page* 40)

C. R. Rogers Forms New Film Company

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—Charles R. Rogers has formed Filmusical Productions, with himself as president-treasurer, and Joseph Tushinsky as vice-president, to make two features annually, separately from Rogers United Artists set-up. No release has been set as yet.

Personal Mention

PAT CASEY, studio labor representative, left the Coast for New York yesterday.

•

PHIL ABRAHAMS, head of the Warner print department, became a grandfather Sunday with the birth of a girl to MRS. HAROLD J. ABRAHAMS in United Israel Zion Hospital, Brooklyn.

•

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M's studio managing director in London, returned to his post in England over the week end, after several months waiting for transportation accommodations.

•

EDWIN SILVERMAN, president of Essaness Theatres, Chicago, is the father of a son born to MRS. SILVERMAN Saturday at Michael Reese Hospital in that city.

•

TED SCHLANGER, Warner Philadelphia zone manager, and SAM SCHWARTZ, of the company's real estate department in that city, were in New York yesterday.

•

DAVID HEMPSTEAD, RKO producer, and EDWARD DMYTRYK, RKO director, will leave here Friday for Hollywood.

•

MARTIN BENNETT, Warner Theatres sound and projection department head, is on a tour of circuit houses.

•

SOL SCHWARTZ, RKO Theatres Western zone manager, is scheduled to leave today for Cincinnati.

•

MARTIN JUROW, Warner Eastern talent head, will leave for Chicago today.

•

AL FINESTONE, Paramount trade press contact, was home ill yesterday with a cold.

•

LOU LIFTON, Monogram advertising and publicity director, is expected to arrive from the Coast today.

•

EDWARD SCHNITZER, United Artists Western division manager, returned yesterday from a tour of exchanges.

•

MAX FINN, E. M. Loew's circuit general manager, visited Hartford late last week.

•

A. H. BLANK and G. RALPH BRANTON, of the Tri-States circuit, Des Moines, are in town.

•

HERBERT CALL, Columbia manager in Calgary, was a recent Vancouver visitor.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, left yesterday for Minneapolis.

•

EVE SIEGEL of the Warner home office publicity staff is back from a New Mexico vacation.

500 Players for 'Night of Stars'

"The greatest number of stars ever to perform in a single show" will take part in the 10th annual "Night of Stars" at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday evening, Nov. 16, proceeds of which will go to the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine.

Some 500 of stage, screen and radio will entertain 20,000 and Robert M. Weitman, chairman of the producing committee, states that many will come from various parts of the country where they now are filling stage and radio engagements or are entertaining at service camps.

Weitman announced another list of players who already have promised to be on hand, including Phil Baker, Berry Brothers, Carol Bruce, Nadine Connor, Marta Eggerth, Jan Kiepura, Benny Fields, Jay C. Flippen, Harry Hershfield, Jerry Lester, Ted Lewis, The Merry Macs, Ethel Merman, The Ritz Brothers, Ethel Waters, Barry Wood and Yvette.

Among those previously announced are Milton Berle, Joan Blondell, John Boles, Buck and Bubbles, Perry Como, Tommy Dorsey, Morton Downey, Katherine Dunham, Jack Durant, Frank Fay, Woody Herman, Marion Hutton, The Ink Spots, Beatrice Kay, Danny Kaye, Joe Lewis, Bert Lytell, Lucy Monroe, Georgie Price, Paul Robeson, Frank Sinatra, Mary Small, Danny Thomas, Fred Waring, Bert Wheeler, Ed Wynn and Henny Youngman. In addition there will be former mayor James J. Walker and columnist Ed Sullivan, who will be masters of ceremonies, and Quentin Reynolds and George Hamilton Combs.

Services Today for Joseph Gallagher

Funeral mass for Joseph H. Gallagher, veteran trade paper advertising manager, who died at his home in Queens Saturday, will be held at 10 o'clock this morning at St. Ignatius Loyola Church at Park Avenue and 84th Street. Interment will be at Calvary Cemetery in Queens.

Gallagher was formerly advertising manager for Columbia Pictures and was associated for many years with *Boxoffice* and later *Showmen's Trade Review*, also as advertising manager. He resigned the latter post several months ago because of ill health.

Silverstone, Harley Tour Great Britain

Murray Silverstone, vice-president in charge of foreign sales for 20th Century-Fox, has returned to London following a tour of all of the company's branch offices in Great Britain, the company reported yesterday. Francis L. Harley, managing director in the United Kingdom, accompanied Silverstone, and so did Sutton Dawes, British sales manager.

The tour was Silverstone's first trip abroad since he left London in 1939.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 8

FOLLOWING his performance in "Voice in the Wind," Francis Lederer has been signed to a two-picture deal by Arthur Ripley and Rudolph Monter. Same producer also made "Voice in the Wind" which will shortly be released by United Artists.

•

Class B members of the Screen Actors Guild rejected autonomy by 16 to one in a 30-day balloting which closed Friday midnight, auditors revealed on the completion of the count today. The vote was 1,672 against the autonomy proposal and 103 in favor. Proposal, which would have separated extra players from Class A membership of SAG, was submitted following long agitation by leaders of minority groups among extras.

•

Vanguard announced today the resignation of Raymond A. Klune, production manager, effective on the completion of "Since You Went Away," to accept an unannounced post elsewhere. Richard L. Johnston, formerly associated with David O. Selznick, succeeds him.

•

Harry Sherman today confirmed reports that William Boyd will terminate his Hopalong Cassidy portrayal after completion of the 54th in the series over a nine-year period; UA has five completed unreleased copies with the final Boyd film making six.

•

In "Santa Claus Airmadas" comprising what the Hollywood Victory Committee calls the "biggest single wartime entertainment program to date," all available film and radio stars will visit troop installations between Christmas and New Year's.

•

At a Superior Court hearing in the Olivia de Havilland suit seeking a ruling that her Warner contract had expired, Judge Charles S. Burnell took the case under advisement, but set no date for a decision.

•

James R. Grainger, Republic president, left here today by plane for the East. He plans to make a stopover in Chicago.

•

Dore Schary today resigned his M-G-M producership after being with the studio for seven years.

Seeks Answer to War Dep't Directive

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—Ulric Bell, Hollywood administrator of the Office of War Information's overseas bureau, is awaiting clarification of a directive issued by the War Department to company heads in New York banning films' depictment or reference to Jap atrocities.

Informed sources say the directive formalizes a general suggestion of long standing, against overemphasizing enemy brutality due to the possibility such films may tend to aggravate treatment of American prisoners.

Sign Major Manning For 'White Fury'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—Major Kno Manning, radio-screen commentato recently returned from Italy, has bee signed by Edward Finney Prod. to d the narration for "White Fury, Swedish-made film of life and adver ture in Lapland.

The picture, directed by Tho Brooks, now an Air Corps intelligenc division lieutenant, has an all-nati cast with the exception of Peter Fre chen, author of "Eskimo," which wa filmed by M-G-M. Distribution a rangements for the feature lengt "White Fury" have not been com pleted yet. Office of War Informa tion, according to Finney, is intereste in seeing the picture exhibited widel in this country.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
"CLAUDIA"
with DOROTHY McGUIRE
ROBERT YOUNG INA CLAIRE
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Gala Stage Show Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

EXTRA!
WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR CHILDREN TODAY?
YOUTH IN CRISIS
LATEST MARCH OF TIME
A 20th Century-Fox Release
RADIO CITY MUSIC HAL

Mary MARTIN . Franchot TONE . Dick POWELL . Victor MOORE
"TRUE TO LIFE"
IN PERSON
THE INK SPOTS
TONY PASTOR and His Orchestra
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—CI 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
ON SCREEN
Claudette COLBERT
Paulette GODDARD
Veronica LAKE
"SO PROUDLY WE HAIL"
In Person
BENNY FIELDS
JEAN PARKER

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The most unusual and important announcement ever made by a film company . . . the hits from

20th CENTURY-FOX

20

ENTURY-FOX presents its product line-up to the showmen of the nation! Far more forceful than any claim are the facts on the pages that follow! The titles — the stars — the production values — the pre-selling that has gone back of attractions already completed or delivered—these are token of 20th's intent to surpass its own proud record of the past! Never have there been hits conceived and produced with such inspiration—never any pictures with so mighty a prestige and profit potentiality—never in the history of our industry, so many great attractions from *one* company!

PRE-SOLD!
The novel: over 300,000 copies! The play: 728 sensatianal perfarmances an Braadway! Magazine staries: running since 1938 in Redbaok with a readership af aver 7,000,000! On the air: heard over 110 statians! Full page ads: In national publicatians illustrated by famed Arthur William Brown!

This is the profit-starter!
And never has a new season been launched so auspiciously!
It's rolling up records and sweeping the nation . . .
as we go to press!

Claudia

"CLAUDIA" with DOROTHY McGUIRE • ROBERT YOUNG • INA CLAIRE
Reginald Gardiner • Olga Baclanova • Directed by EDMUND GOULDING
Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG • WILLIAM GOETZ In Charge of Production
Adapted for the Screen by Morrie Ryskind • From the Play by Rose Franken as
Produced for the Stage by John Golden

A 20 CENTURY-FOX Hit

Sonja Henie

in

Wintertime

PRE-SOLD!

What a mighty boxoffice figure it's cutting! In key cities—small towns—and situations in between! And what a natural for extending playing time!

Jack Oakie

Cesar Romero

Carole Landis

and Woody Herman

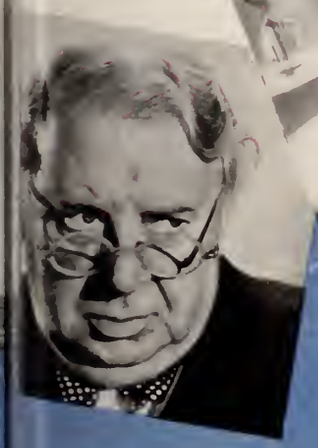
and His Orchestra

Sonja...surrounded by stars

...in the outstanding

screen success of her sen-

sational career!



time

SONJA HENIE • JACK OAKIE • CESAR ROMERO • CAROLE LANDIS in "WINTERTIME"
with S. Z. Sakall • Cornel Wilde • WOODY HERMAN and his Orchestra • Directed by JOHN BRAHM
Produced by WILLIAM LE BARON • Screen Play by E. Edwin Moran and Jack Jevne and Lynn Starling • Story by Arthur Kober • Lyrics and Music by Leo Robin and Nacio Herb Brown • Musical Sequences: Supervised by Fanchon
Staged by Kenny Williams

A 20th CENTURY-FOX Hit

BETTY GRABLE

ROBERT YOUNG

ADOLPHE MENJOU

IN

SWEET

R

PRE-SOLD!

No. 1 Pin-Up Girl of the Armed Forces,
Betty Grable given greatest publicity
campaign ever put behind a single star!
Layouts in LIFE, LOOK, National fan
magazines, terrific breaks in hundre
of newspapers through the na

You know how sweet it is!

Smashing **R**ecords **O**ver the entire country . . . Another big one in 20th's big box office tradition!

And What Song Hits!

Lyrics and Music: "My Heart Tells Me," "Goin' To The County Fair," "The Wishing Waltz," "My Sam" by Mack Gordon and Harry Warren Musical Sequences: Dances Staged by Hermes Pan. Musical Numbers Supervised by Fanchon

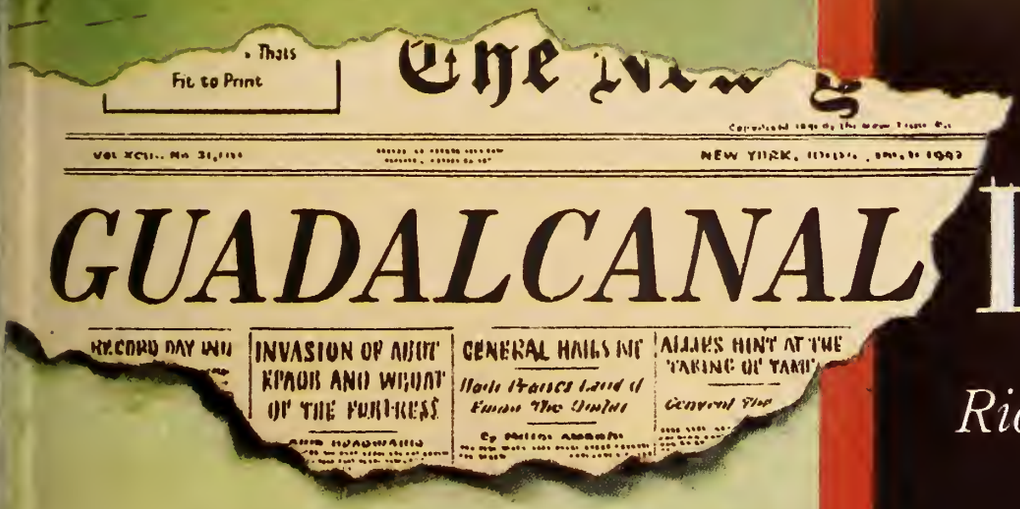
ROSIE O'GRADY

BETTY GRABLE • ROBERT YOUNG • ADOLPHE MENJOU
in "SWEET ROSIE O'GRADY." and Reginald Gardiner
Virginia Grey • Phil Regan • Sig Ruman • Alan Dinehart
Hobart Cavanaugh • Frank Orth • Jonathan Hale.
Directed by IRVING CUMMINGS • Produced by
WILLIAM PERLBERG • Screen Play by Ken Englund
Based on Stories by William R. Lipman and
Frederick Stephani and Edward Van Every
WILLIAM GOETZ in Charge of Production

A 20 CENTURY-FOX Hit

CHEERS.
PRE-SOLD!
400,000 books sold! Book-of-the-Month! 100 newspapers ran Picture Strip Serialization . . . 25,000,000 reader circulation! Backed by one of 20th's greatest selling campaigns!
P-9-2

om the heart of America for the men of Guadalcanal! They could laugh with the odds against them . . . and turn the tide toward Victory!



DIARY

by

Richard Tregaskis

Richard Tregaskis' "GUADALCANAL DIARY" with PRESTON FOSTER • LLOYD NOLAN WILLIAM BENDIX • RICHARD CONTE • ANTHONY QUINN and Richard Jaeckel • Roy Roberts • Minor Watson • Ralph Byrd • Lionel Stander • Reed Hadley • John Archer • Directed by LEWIS SEILER • Produced by BRYAN FOY • WILLIAM GOETZ in Charge of Production Associate Producer Islin Auster • Screen Play by Lamar Trotti • Adaptation by Jerry Cady

A 20th Hit
CENTURY-FOX

"IF I HAD BUT ONE G
TO EVERYONE IN TH
OR POOR, MILITARY

HAPPY

Those are the words of William Allen W

PRE-SOLD!

to more than 30,000,000 readers! As a book! In the Saturday Evening Post! In Reader's Digest where, for the first time in its history, the title and cast of a picture is mentioned together with the fictionization!

AT I COULD GIVE
ND, HIGH OR LOW, RICH
VILIAN, IT WOULD BE . . .

LAND

eaking of MacKinlay Kantor's great story!

A 20 CENTURY-FOX Hit

MacKinlay Kantor's "HAPPY LAND" with DON AMECHE · FRANCES DEE · HARRY CAREY · ANN RUTHERFORD and Cara Williams · Richard Crane · Henry Morgan · Minor Watson · Dickie Moore
Directed by IRVING PICHEL · Produced by KENNETH MACGOWAN · Screen Play by Kathryn Scola and Julien Josephson · From the Novel by MacKinlay Kantor

ALICE FAYE
CARMEN MIRANDA
PHIL BAKER

and the King of Swing
BENNY GOODMAN
AND HIS ORCHESTRA

in

The Gang's

ALICE FAYE • CARMEN MIRANDA • PHIL BAKER • The King of Swing BENNY GOODMAN and his Orchestra
in "THE GANG'S ALL HERE" with Eugene Pallette • Charlotte Greenwood • Edward Everett Horton • Tony
De Marco • James Ellison • Sheila Ryan • Dave Willock • Directed by BUSBY BERKELEY • Produced by WILLIAM LE BARON
WILLIAM GOETZ In Charge of Production • Screen Play by Walter Bullock • Based on a Story by Nancy Wintner, George Root, Jr.
Tom Bridges • Lyrics and Music by Leo Robin and Harry Warren • Dances Created and Directed by Busby Berkeley

PRE-SOLD!

Queen of Screen Musical stars, Alice Faye boasts longest record of consistent hits!

King of Swing Benny Goodman and His Orchestra, America's favorites!

Millions vote Phil Baker's "Take It Or Leave It" radio's top quiz show!

The Million-Dollar Personality, Carmen Miran

A boxoffice bonanza of song stars . . . romance and fun amidst Technicolor splendor . . . exciting, breathtaking, a musical unsurpassed!

All Here!

A 20th CENTURY-FOX Hit

PRE-SOLD!
to the world! Best-seller for a century! Book-of-the-Month Club! Dividend Book! National tie-ups galore with leading stylists and manufacturers! And the most extensive national magazine advertising campaign that ever launched a motion picture!

ORSON WELLES

as "Edward Rochester"

JOAN FONTAINE

as "Jane" in

Jane Eyre

by Charlotte Bronte

The greatest love story of all time! The picture property of the year! Made for every heart that ever found romance! With the two stars who were born to play it.

ORSON WELLES • JOAN FONTAINE in "JANE EYRE" by Charlotte Bronte with MARGARET O'BRIEN • PEGGY ANN GARNER • JOHN SUTTON • Sara Allgood • Henry Daniell • Agnes Moorehead • Aubrey Mather • Edith Barrett • Barbara Everest • Hilary Brooke • Directed by ROBERT STEVENSON WILLIAM GOETZ in Charge of Production • Screen Play by Aldous Huxley, Robert Stevenson and John Houseman

A 20th CENTURY-FOX Hit

FRANZ WERFEL'S The SONG of BERN

PRE-SOLD!

Book-of-the-Month! Read by *over half million!* All Hearst papers ran Picture Strip Serialization . . . *over* 25,000,000 reader circulation! America's most widely publicized illustrator, famous "Four Freedoms" Artist, Norman Rockwell, obtained to do series of paintings as feature of greatest promotional campaign ever put behind a picture! Layouts in LIFE and other leading national magazines and newspapers!

The mightiest emotional impact the screen has ever known! In all the years of entertainment making, there has never been a greater picture!
FRANZ WERFEL'S "THE SONG OF BERNADETTE"
with JENNIFER JONES • WILLIAM EYTHE
CHARLES BICKFORD • VINCENT PRICE • LEE J. COBB
GLADYS COOPER • Anne Revere • Roman Bohnen
Mary Anderson • Patricia Morison • Aubrey Mather
Charles Dingle • Edith Barrett • Sig Ruman • Blanche
Yurka • Ermadean Walters • Marcel Dalio • Pedro De
Cordoba • Jerome Cowan • Directed by HENRY KING
Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG • WILLIAM GOETZ
In Charge of Production • Screen Play by George
Seaton • From the Novel by Franz Werfel
DETTE
A 20th CENTURY-FOX Hit

BETTY GRABLE

CHARLIE SPIVAK

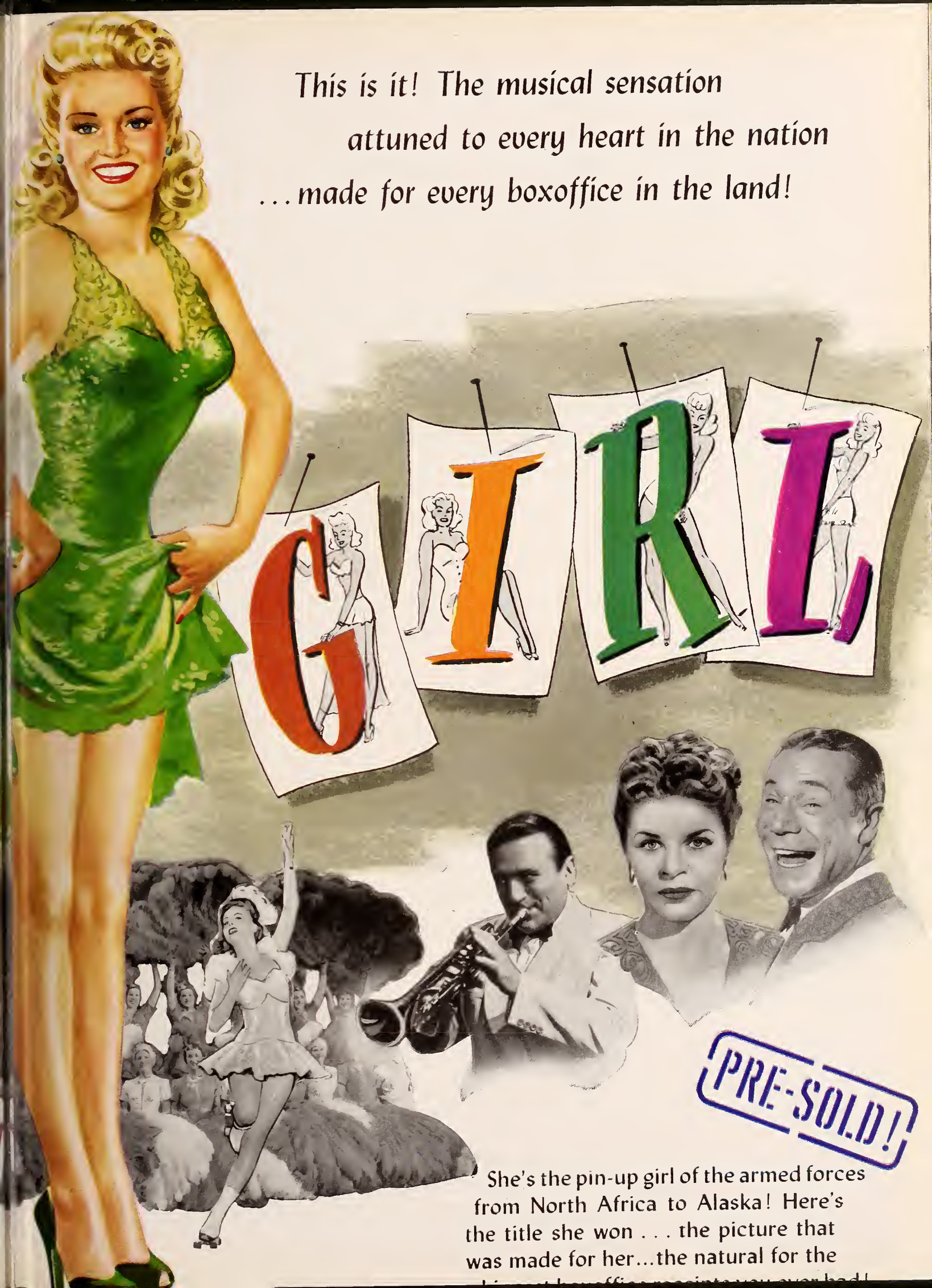
and his Orchestra

in Technicolor

BETTY GRABLE in "PIN UP GIRL" with JOHN HARVEY • MARTHA RAYE JOE E. BROWN • Eugene Pallette • Skating Vanities • Dave Willock • Condos Brothers and CHARLIE SPIVAK AND HIS ORCHESTRA • Directed by BRUCE HUMBERSTONE • Produced by WILLIAM LE BARON • Screen Play by Robert Ellis, Helen Logan and Earl Baldwin • Based on a Story by Libbie Block • Lyrics and Music by Mack Gordon and James Monaco Musical Sequences: Dances Staged by Hermes Pan • Military Number Staged by Alice Sullivan • Musical Numbers Supervised by Fanchon

A 20 Hit

This is it! The musical sensation
attuned to every heart in the nation
...made for every boxoffice in the land!



She's the pin-up girl of the armed forces from North Africa to Alaska! Here's the title she won . . . the picture that was made for her...the natural for the

The stirring glorification of the blazing West
and its most famous and colorful hero!
Spectacularly produced...with a mammoth cast!

Buffalo Bill

JOEL McCREA • MAUREEN O'HARA in "BUFFALO BILL"
with Linda Darnell • Thomas Mitchell • Edgar Buchanan • Anthony Quinn • Moroni Olsen • Frank Fenton • Matt Briggs • George Lessey
Directed by WILLIAM A. WELLMAN • Produced by HARRY SHERMAN • Screen Play by AEneas MacKenzie, Clements Ripley and Cecile Kramer • Based on a story by Frank Winch

PRE-SOLD!

Based on a story by Jerry Cady dramatizing young American valiants in the South Pacific war area! As technical adviser . . . Otto Tolischus, New York Times correspondent in Tokyo before Pearl Harbor!

Darryl F. Zanuck's

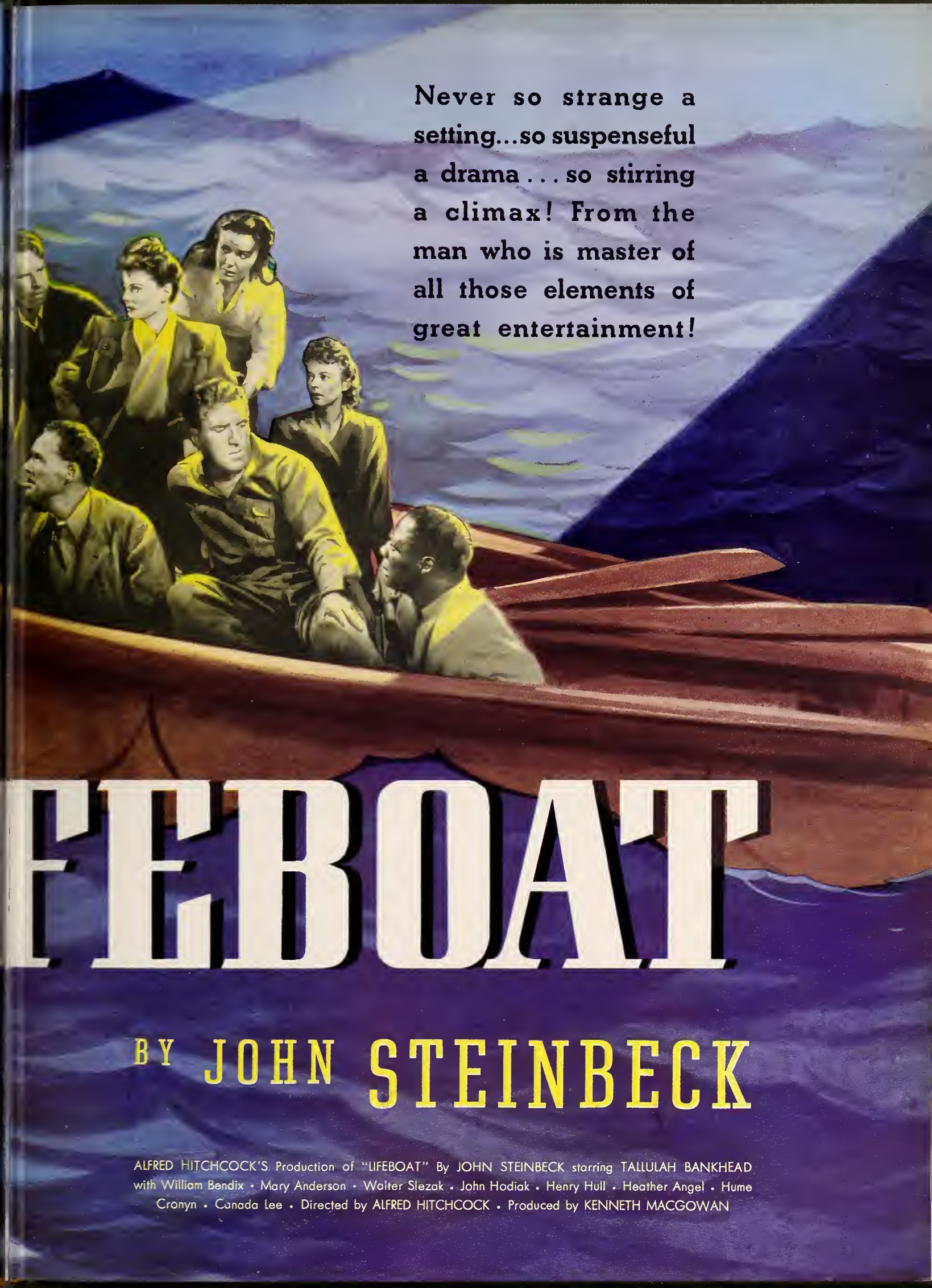
production

PURPLE HEART

As great as its title! Vital and colorful and thrilling of theme —a mighty property assured of that big-scale handling it merits!

A 20th CENTURY-FOX Hit

Alfred Hitchcock's
PRODUCTION OF
PRE-SOLD!
The directorial genius of this generation! The writer who gave us "The Grapes of Wrath!" And a cast that includes the star whose stage success won a nation's acclaim!
A 20 CENTURY-FOX Hit


Never so strange a setting...so suspenseful a drama . . . so stirring a climax! From the man who is master of all those elements of great entertainment!
FEBOAT
BY JOHN STEINBECK
ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S Production of "LIFEBOAT" By JOHN STEINBECK starring TALLULAH BANKHEAD with William Bendix • Mary Anderson • Walter Slezak • John Hodiak • Henry Hull • Heather Angel • Hume Cronyn • Canada Lee • Directed by ALFRED HITCHCOCK • Produced by KENNETH MACGOWAN

Produced by

DARRYL F. ZANUCK

in Technicolor!

The towering, dramatic story of Woodrow Wilson, great American ... human ... heroic ... assured of its place in the screen's Hall of Fame!

Wilson

SOLD!

America's president in World War I! His amazingly dramatic life—the excitement and color of his times—the glamor of its people! An epic that will be hailed as the greatest success story ever brought to the screen!

A 20th Hit

WENDELL WIL

NE

Produce

Neve

of more vito

given eve

by every nev

KIE'S WORLD

GREAT BEST-SELLER

y DARRYL F. ZANUCK

as there been a picture
gnificance . . . its greatness
ore powerful impact
orld-shaking event of the day!

PRE-SOLD!

Fastest-selling book in publishing history! Sold 1,000,000 copies in first 6 weeks! Has passed 1,600,000 mark at this writing! Editorialized and commented on by the greatest names of today! Its record is token of its boxoffice potentialities!

A 20 CENTURY-FOX Hit

AND 20th CENTURY-FOX HAS THESE COMING UP!

EDWARD G. ROBINSON
LYNN BARI
VICTOR McLAGLEN in

TAMPICO

•

MERLE OBERON
GEORGE SANDERS
LAIRD CREGAR in

THE LODGE

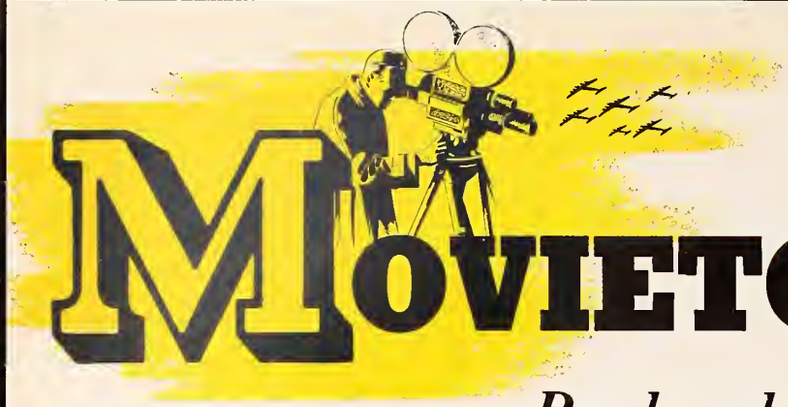
•

FOUR JILL
IN A JEEP

co-starring

CAROLE LANDIS · MARTHA RA
KAY FRANCIS · MITZI MAYFA

HOME IN INDIANA
In Technicolor
•
The SULLIVANS
starring THOMAS MITCHELL
ANN BAXTER
•
MAXWELL ANDERSON'S
THE EVE OF ST. MARK
•
GREENWICH VILLAGE
In Technicolor
A. J. CRONIN'S
The KEYS of The KINGDOM
•
ALL-OUT ARLENE
BY H. I. PHILLIPS
•
Phil Stong's
STATE FAIR
Musicalized by RICHARD RODGERS
and OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
•
WING AND A PRAYER
In Technicolor
AND OTHER PROPERTIES EQUALLY GREAT
OR GREATER!



MOVIETONE NEWS

Produced by Edmund Reek

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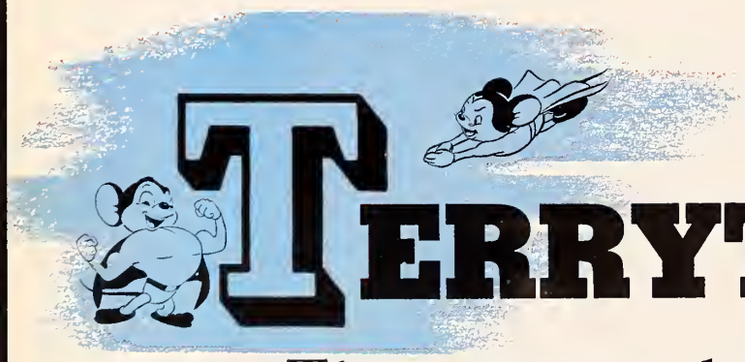

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The cartoon that's different! Laughter to make the world brighter! Produced with the showmanship of Paul Terry! Every release in Technicolor!

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Produced by the Editors of Time

Sensational boxoffice! Scoops the field! Acclaimed by press and public alike for its dramatic exposition of "inside news"! POWERFUL!...INDIVIDUAL...PRE-SOLD!

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SHORT SUBJECTS

Entertainment par excellence! The perfect "pick-up" for any program! Every one of the variegated series is sure-fire in subject matter and audience appeal!

20th Century-Fox

is proud of these attractions... and the others that will be produced in the same great tradition... to make 1943-44 memorable for the industry and the movie-going millions!

Now More Than Ever—WAR BONDS!

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Chicago Theatres Paid Tax to Mob

(Continued from page 1)

for pandering, he demanded some overdue extortion payments and, simultaneously, demanded that Coston act as a character witness for Bioff in his mounting legal difficulties. Coston also testified, under direct examination by Boris Kostelanetz, Federal prosecutor, how a $30,000 shakedown payment to Bioff by Warners in 1935 was cleared through the law offices of Chapman and Cutler, Chicago attorneys.

Kostelanetz elicited from the witness the information that the Chicago operators are the highest paid in the country.

Subsequently, Bioff told Coston he had been assigned to California and that all future transactions would be handled in Chicago by Nick Dean, testified Coston.

Summoned to Chicago

Coston said in 1940 Bioff summoned him to a Chicago hotel, highly excited about the "heat" which was then being turned upon him. Bioff told Coston that the payments from Warners' Chicago office were overdue and that he wanted the money. "He said that if he went to jail some big men would go with him," said Coston. He specifically named Joseph Schenck. He said, "I'm too big a shot, too big a man for those fellows to see me go to jail."

Asked by Murray about the conversation he had had with Bioff on the train, Coston said, "Bioff told me that Will Hays would no longer be the head of the nation's movie industry, that he (Bioff) was."

During the negotiations to take the extra projectionists out of the Chicago booths, Coston said, he would get a call from Jack Miller saying that three or four more men had been eliminated and that he (Miller) needed the money, $1,060 per man, to take care of expenses.

Miller Labor Liaison

Miller was identified as the labor relations man for the corporate theatre owners in Chicago.

"I would get the cash from Chapman and Cutler," Coston said, "for Miller would call Mr. Farrell, one of the senior partners, to have the money ready and then get it from the cashier. Miller collected the money himself a number of times."

In 1932 Chicago theatre owners told Tom Maloy, former boss of the operators' union in Chicago, $1,060 (10 weeks' pay) for every projectionist Maloy put out of work. This was brought out by James D. C. Murray, chief defense attorney, in cross examining Coston. This money was not directly related to the defendants on trial, who allegedly moved in on the film industry in 1933, but was elicited to support the contention of the defendants that the money paid out by producing companies was for bribing labor fakers.

The testimony today indicated that Chicago theatre corporations paid Maloy about $100,000 during 1932 to withdraw about 100 operators who were "second men" in the booths, and that the companies thereby saved themselves about $400,000 in salary expenses.

Reviews

"His Butler's Sister"

(*Universal*)

Hollywood, Nov. 8.

"HIS Butler's Sister" is 13th in the series of Deanna Durbin vehicles and is a worthy box-office followup of "Hers to Hold," in which the star's following will find pat an attraction keynoted in a foreword describing it as "A Fable of the Day Before Yesterday." Its purpose was clearly escapist and the objective was clearly achieved.

The original by Samuel Hoffenstein and Betty Reinhardt scooped deeply into the tradition of Cinderella and came up with that basic yarn about the country girl with a voice and theatre ambitions, her adventures in the big city and how she found love and success. The ingredients will be recognized at once as old friends, mellowed by association and experience ranging back over many years. Franchot Tone is a successful composer, Pat O'Brien is his butler and both reside on Park Avenue. Durbin is Pat's sister who installs herself as maid and from that vantage point passes through situations climaxing with a happy ending with Tone willingly on the receiving end.

Involvements include misunderstandings as to the motive and confusions as to the identity as well as devices incorporated into the story which allow Miss Durbin to sing, which she does four times. She is at her best with "Russian Melody" and an aria from Puccini's "Turandot" and her best in these two numbers is very good. Comedy overtones slow down matters at intervals and become occasionally labored but the overall results are pleasing. Performances are good in the standard key. Akim Tamiroff, highly important in "For Whom the Bell Tolls," is unimportant in support but does what he has to do competently as usual. Frank Borzage's direction is in keeping. Felix Jackson produced with Frank Shaw as associate.

Running time 93 mins. "G."*

MAURICE KANN

"No Time for Love"

(*Paramount*)

GRAND, hilarious, top-flight escapist entertainment is Paramount's rollicking new romantic comedy starring Claudette Colbert and Fred MacMurray. Produced and directed by Mitchell Leisen, "No Time for Love" dishes up a squirrely romance between Miss Colbert, as a sophisticated "arty" ace photographer of a picture magazine, and MacMurray, a tough, brawny, conceited sandhog, with the construction of an East River tunnel as an interesting background. Ilka Chase, Richard Hayden, Paul McGrath and June Havoc deliver handsome assists in this mirthquake which should get top grosses and plenty of holdovers.

Claude Binyon's neat screenplay is based on Warren Duff's adaptation of an original story by Robert Lees and Fred Rinaldo. The action revolves around Miss Colbert's sudden, uncontrollable infatuation with MacMurray, a hunk of muscle with a preponderance of conceit dubbed "Superman" by his sandhog associates. Miss Colbert's initial brushoff whets MacMurray's appetite and hilarious complications ensue when he is suspended from his job because of her "shot" of a brawl in the tunnel in which he was involved. Deciding that the best way to "cure" herself of her ridiculous infatuation is to have the nice big hunk of boor around, Miss Colbert offers MacMurray a job as her assistant. She really leads with her chin since she is practically engaged to McGrath, publisher of the magazine. Too late does her sister, Miss Chase, realize that the prescribed "cure" is not yielding the hoped-for results. She does succeed in wresting her sister from MacMurray's clutches, but after the usual complications with MacMurray being revealed as an important engineer in his profession, the sandhog and his lady make off together.

Leisen's direction never permits the romance to interfere with his primary object which is farce comedy. The performances by Miss Colbert and MacMurray are tops. Credits go also to Charles Lang's photography, to Gordon Jennings' special photographic effects and to Hans Dreier's and Robert Usher's art direction for the clever "Superman" sequence and realistic tunnel construction operations. Fred Kohlmar was associate producer.

Running time, 83 mins. "G."*

MILT LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

Monarch Loses 1st Run

YOUNGSTOWN, Nov. 8.—Following court litigation, lease of the Palace Theatre, first-run downtown here, has passed from Monarch Theatres to Dalmar Theatre Corp. No change in policy is planned.

Entertain at Canteen

John Kirby and his band, and the Deep River boys, currently at the New York Capitol Theatre will headline entertainment at SOPEG's Silver Screen Canteen at the Fraternal Clubhouse here tomorrow night.

Three Arbitration Awards are Entered, One by Consent

Arbitrators' awards have been entered at the Atlanta and Washington tribunals and a consent award entered at Detroit, the American Arbitration Association announced here yesterday.

At Atlanta, James C. Shelor, arbitrator, dismissed the combination some-run and designated-run complaint filed by W. F. Roth, operator of the Palace Theatre, Gallatin, Tenn., against Loew's, Paramount and Crescent Amusement Co. The complaint alleged that after having bought Loew's and Paramount product for 18 years, the two distributors sold away from him in recent years. During the hearing, Roth withdrew his claim for relief under Section six, and the arbitrator dismissed the charges filed under Section 10, stating that complainant's claims were not established by the evidence presented. Costs were assessed against Roth.

Sefton Darr, arbitrator at the Washington tribunal, dismissed the clearance complaint filed by the Harford Theatre Co., operator of the Harford, Baltimore, against 20th-Fox, the Grand Co. and State Theatre Co. The arbitrator found that the clearance of 14 days held by the Boulevard and Waverly, Baltimore, over the Harford is reasonable.

A consent award by stipulation was entered at the Detroit tribunal in the complaint of Bernard L. Kilbride and Leland G. Hillier, co-partners of the Beverly Theatre, Detroit, against Loew's, Paramount, 20th-Fox and Tower Operating Co. Stipulation states that the maximum clearance of the Tower over the Beverly shall be seven days after Tower's first playdate, provided that Beverly's admission prices shall be the same as the Tower's and in addition shall not engage in the practice of giveaways, premiums or gift nights.

It further provided, that if the Beverly did not comply with the above provisions, then the clearance of the Tower over the Beverly shall be seven days after the Tower's last playdate. It added that if the Tower failed to maintain admission prices on a parity with a majority of key run houses, then the maximum clearance over the Beverly shall be seven days after Tower's first playdate. Costs were borne equally by all parties.

Bernie Fortune Goes To Widow and Son

Ben Bernie's will, filed here yesterday in Surrogate's Court, bequeaths the bulk of his large legacy to his widow, Dorothy Wesley Bernie, and to his son, Pvt. Jason Bernie.

Will specifies that a $50,000 trust fund be set up for Mrs. Bernie from which she may draw $5,200 a year for the rest of her life, and a $75,000 trust established for Pvt. Bernie, which he will receive in installments. Real estate and personal property will be divided equally between Bernie's widow and son. Other beneficiaries are Bernie's lawyer, Max Levine; Jewish Theatrical Guild, Catholic Charities of New York and the Federation of Jewish Charities. Executors are Levine, Bernie's brother, Herman, and the Bank of Manhattan.

U.A. Down for Delivery of 26 to May 31

(Continued from page 1)

Monter production, and Harry Sherman's "The Woman of the Town," co-starring Claire Trevor and Albert Dekker.

The four now shooting are: Vanguard's "Since You Went Away," Ben Bogeaus's "The Bridge of San Luis Rey," Producers Corp. of America's "Knickerbocker Holiday" and Arnold Productions' "It Happened Tomorrow."

Those with definite starting dates are: Edward Small's "Up in Mabel's Room," "Seymour Nebenzahl's "The Moon Their Mistress," Charles R. Rogers' "Song of the Open Road," Andrew Stone's "Sensations of 1944," and Jules Levey's "The Hairy Ape," the latter being the last of the group to start, with shooting scheduled for Jan. 6.

In the group of 13 productions scheduled to go between then and May 31 are the following: Mary Pickford's "Junior Miss," Selznick's (Vanguard) "So Little Time," Sol Lesser's "Three's a Family," several from Charles R. Rogers, several from Small, several from Hunt Stromberg, two from Lester Cowan, a Fred Allen picture from Jack Skirball, an additional picture from Bogeaus and one from Producing Artists.

Rodgers Urges Use of Government Films

(Continued from page 1)

vember and December. The meeting was held at the Palace Hotel.

Rodgers did not mention the consent decree, but he did discuss trade practices and distributor-exhibitor trade relations, also his company's sales policies and relations with theatre owners.

Among those attending the session were L. C. Wingham, local M-G-M exchange chief and Al Sturdivant, Herman Hersken, Joseph Blumenfeld, George and Al Nasser, Bob McNeill, Roy Cooper, Lee Dibble, Harry Shipero, George Mann, Mike Naify, Laurence Borg, Bill David, Ben and Jess Levin, Sid Schuster, Eric Wilson, Charles Thall, Ed Mix, Harry Weaverling, and others.

Gen. Fleming Sees Big Building Boom

(Continued from page 1)

and that every encouragement would be given by the Government.

He suggested that by carrying out the program proposed by the Associated General Contractors of Massachusetts, of whom Murray Weiss, leading member of the Variety Club of Boston, is one of the originators and prime movers, would result in furnishing employment to thousands of men returning from wars. He placed his unqualified approval upon the postwar planning of Bay Staters who are the first in the field with a program of postwar building.

Allen to Montreal

WINNIPEG, Nov. 8.—I. W. Allen of the Esquire has left for Montreal to manage the Monogram office.

Crescent Files for Gov't Case Dismissal

(Continued from page 1)

peal petition was filed July 16, 1943 and that Judge Elmer D. Davies granted this appeal and cited the defendants to the Supreme Court. Several Supreme Court cases were cited by Armistead to sustain the defense contention that "after an appeal has been granted by the district court and citations issued the district court loses jurisdiction until the appeal is dismissed or abandoned by the higher court. Petition points to the fact that on Oct. 27 a second Government appeal petition was filed and granted by Judge Davies.

With reference to the defense's contention that the Government's appeal "does not raise a substantial question," the petition cites the "acquisition clause" in the amended and modified decree filed by Judge Davies on Aug. 30 which provides "that each exhibitor defendant may acquire additional theatres if no coercive or predatory practices are used" and claims "the injunctive remedy granted is wholly adequate and it would be outside the scope of the decision to require the court to pass upon the acquisition of other theatres where the sale is purely voluntary."

Cites Case of Small Circuits

It continues: "If such an injunction is appropriate in the case at bar, it would be appropriate in the case of every small independent chain of theatres in the United States and would simply mean that the district courts of the country would be giving approval or disapproval to transactions of an ordinary business nature without any rule or standard to guide them. It would appear from the statement of jurisdiction filed by plaintiff that the idea is to prevent defendant exhibitors from purchasing competitive theatres. The assignment of errors (Government's) contains no such limitation and the decree presented to the court by the plaintiff contains no such limitation."

Filing of the petition was acknowledged by Assistant U. S. District Attorney Horace Frierson in the absence of Judge Davies who is in Washington presiding over a term of District Court there.

20% Admission Tax Is Going to House

(Continued from page 1)

other excise levies. Some days ago it cut back the admissions tax from three cents on each ten cents paid to two cents, and has not again discussed that feature of the measure.

In a move to prevent the hiking of postage rates on second, third or fourth class matter, Rep. Knutson of Minnesota is seeking the adoption of a motion to refuse changes in those rates to the house post office committee.

'Dood It' Opens

"I Dood It" will have its New York premiere tomorrow at the Paramount Theatre, the first M-G-M feature ever to play that Broadway house. Red Skelton and Eleanor Powell are co-starred.

Decree and U.S. Tax On Allied Agenda

(Continued from page 1)

Herman A. Blum, who was similarly honored, is also expected.

Most of the Allied leaders are planning to remain in Milwaukee throughout the week beginning Nov. 15. The Caravan Committee, composed of Rosenberg, Ainsworth, Cole, Harvey and Samuelson will be in session on the 15th and 16th. The Allied board will meet on the 17th and 18th. And the Independent Theatre Owners Protective Association of Wisconsin & Upper Michigan will hold its annual convention on the 18th and 19th. All events will take place in the Schroeder Hotel.

Among Allied leaders who are going to Milwaukee are W. L. Ainsworth, Maxwell Alderman, Ray Branch, Harry Chertcoff, H. A. Cole, Irving Dollinger, Dr. J. B. Fishman, Louis Gold, Roy E. Harrold, Thornton Kelley, Jack Kirsch, Meyer Leventhal, Harry H. Lowenstein, Abram F. Myers, M. A. Rosenberg, Don R. Rossiter, Sidney E. Samuelson, Martin G. Smith, Harry Walker, P. J. Wood.

Allied Board's Agenda

Allied board's agenda follows, the highlights being:

Report by Abram Myers on consent decree developments since the Baltimore meeting and consideration of further steps to be taken; report on anti-30 per cent tax campaign which led to the halving of the proposed increase and formulation of a definite policy with respect to the measure when it reaches the Senate. Plans for perfecting and perpetuating Allied field organizations in the several territories for legislative work; while the Caravan Committee functions independently of the board, the committee will make a progress report for the information of directors; the board will give further consideration to the various contract provisions and trade practices contributing to the high price of films, especially those dealt with in the recent (Oct. 4) report of Allied to Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark.

Dembow, Rodgers to Speak

The annual convention of the Independent Theatre Owners Protective Association will take on the appearance of a national gathering, it was said. Executives of a number of distributing companies, including George Dembow of National Screen, have indicated that they will address the convention. William F. Rodgers, M-G-M, has signified his intention of going if business will permit. Among Allied leaders who will appear before the convention are Rosenberg, Myers, Cole, Samuelson and Kirsch.

Two Join Allied

CHICAGO, Nov. 8—The Apollo Theatre, owned by Harold Abbott, has joined Allied Theatres of Illinois, and the Harmony Theatre of the Banowitz Circuit has joined the Allied buying and booking circuit.

'Claudia's' $111,000; 'North Star' $63,000 At 2 B'way Houses

(Continued from page 1)

show headed by Danny Kaye and Tommy Tucker and his band are expected to gross an estimated $97,000 in a third week at the Roxy and holds over. "Phantom of the Opera" and Lena Horne and Duke Ellington and his band on the stage at the Capitol are expected to gross $58,000 in the fourth and final week. "True to Life" and Tony Pastor and his band on the stage at the Paramount in the fourth and final session will get an estimated $45,000.

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" in the fourth week of a continuous run at the Rivoli is expected to hit $42,000. "Corvette K-225" will do an estimated $20,000 in a third week at the Criterion, despite the fact that the theatre was closed most of election day due to a fire. It remains for a fourth week. "The Iron Major" should gross about $15,000 in its second and final week at the Globe. "Thousand Cheer" did an estimated $14,000 in the eighth week at the Astor and holds over.

Tom Clark to Texas Tonight for Week

(Continued from page 1)

given to the status of arbitration appeal board members whose terms will shortly expire, but it was indicated they would be continued in office as long as the decree remains operative. While the decree "expires" Nov. 2, it was explained, it does not necessarily follow that it will be wiped off the books then, but can be kept in effect until new court action is completed without any formalities whatever.

Similarly, it was said, nothing can be decided regarding the renewal of leases on arbitration offices until the fate of the decree is determined. While it was admitted that the uncertainty surrounding the situation is undesirable, it was pointed out that nothing could be done at this juncture to clear up these various questions. The Department itself will take no action until it has a clear indication of the distributors' position, which probably will be given in the amended proposals for revision of the decree, expected next week.

Decree company officials reported are canvassing possibilities of successfully meeting the Government's expectations in the way of consent decree revisions and, pending consideration of that effort, have not yet begun a revision of their original draft, it was learned yesterday. When specific proposals are ready, the actual drafting will be undertaken, it is indicated.

Rockefeller Center Rai

Rockefeller Center service un and Hugh S. Robertson, execu manager of Rockefeller Center, yes day signed a renegotiated con stipulating wage increases for employes. The new wage pact vised the existing contract, which not terminate until the end of 194

'Rosie' Does A Rosy $19,500 for Albee

CINCINNATI, Nov. 8.—Although weekend attendance at all houses was on a satisfactory basis, "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" attracted the biggest crowds at the RKO Albee, where a gross of $19,500 is promised. Weather was cold and raining.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 10-13:

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average, $15,800)
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,600)
"Hostages" (Para.)
RKO SHUBERT — (2,150) (33c40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $4,800. (Average, $5,-00)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week (moveover from Alice). Gross: $7,200. (Average, $6,200)
"Crime School" (WB reissue)
"Girls on Probation" (WB reissue)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average, $5,-000)
"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week (moveover from Capitol). Gross: $4,000. (Average, $3,900)
"Mystery Broadcast" (Rep.)
"Banjo on My Knee" (20th-Fox)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 4 days. Gross: $1,200. (Average, $1,400)
"The Seventh Victim" (RKO)
"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 days. Gross: $800. (Average, $800)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week (moveover from Palace). Gross: $5,500. (Average, $5,200)

'Hitler' and 'Tornado' Blow Big $14,600

BUFFALO, Nov. 8.—"The City That Stopped Hitler" and "Tornado" at the Hippodrome are drawing well and are expected to do $14,600. "Wintertime" and "They Came to Blow Up America" will do $18,500 at the Buffalo.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 13:

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"They Came to Blow Up America" (20th-Fox)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Dr. I. Q. on stage Monday night. Gross: $18,500. (Average, $16,500)
"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $16,400)
"The City That Stopped Hitler" (Para.)
"Tornado" (Para.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,600. (Average, $9,500)
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000 (Average, $10,600)
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
"Get Going" (Univ.)
LAFAYETE—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days. 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $10,-500)

Francis Henderson Dies

INTERLAKEN, N. J., Nov. 8.—Francis E. Henderson, 75, former owner and operator of theatres in Northern New Jersey, and onetime public relations counsel for Warners, died today at his home here. He is survived by a widow, Sara C. Henderson; two daughters, a son and three grandchildren.

Film Magazine Quits

Guide Magazines has suspended publication of *Movie-Radio Guide* for the duration, according to A. L. Reinitz, Eastern advertising manager.

Reviews

"Gangway For Tomorrow"

(RKO-Radio)

FIVE dramatic unrelated stories of five war workers who share a car pool, correlated through the flashback medium of Arch Oboler's interesting screenplay, make RKO-Radio's "Gangway for Tomorrow" better than average entertainment; it should do well at the box-office. Heading the fine cast are Margo, John Carradine, Robert Ryan, Amelita Ward and James Bell. William Terry, Wally Brown, Alan Carney, Harry Davenport, Erford Gage and Warren Hymer are in support in this varied group of sequences which was produced and directed by John H. Auer. Aladar Laszlo provided the original story for Oboler's screenplay.

Since it is no secret that it is sometimes difficult to judge people by their appearances, Charles Arnt, driver of the car and the sixth passenger, manages to misrepresent the backgrounds of every one of his five passengers when his wife evinces interest in them and requests Arnt to invite them for Sunday dinner. Margo is a French refugee who escaped certain death by a ruse when the Germans in Paris closed in on her group of French underground patriots. Robert Ryan was an American auto racer who lost his big opportunity to win the Indianapolis classic and get into the U. S. Air Force when his car crashed with a faulty tire. James Bell was a prison warden who cracked under the strain of having to execute his own brother as a murderer. Amelita Ward was a "Miss America" beauty contest winner who forsook the love of a boy in her home town for the glamour of the stage, but who managed to pick up the pieces before it was too late. John Carradine was a hobo until some small town judge showed him the errors of his loafing in time of war. They become five fellow workers turning out planes for our fighters overseas.

Auer's direction sustains interest throughout, smoothly fusing the unrelated sequences of the story.

Running time, 69 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

"The Falcon and the Co-Eds"

(RKO-Radio)

RKO-RADIO's latest "Falcon" is an interestingly-told mystery melodrama set against the lively background of a girls' exclusive finishing school. Tom Conway as the Falcon in "The Falcon and the Co-Eds" delivers a first rate performance surrounded by a competent cast which includes Jen Brooks, Rita Corday, Amelita Ward, Isabel Jewell and George Givot in a straight role as a professor of psychology.

The screenplay which Ardel Wray and Maurice Geraghty have derived from an original story by Wray, based upon the character created by Michael Arlen, is psychological in treatment. Conway is summoned by Amelita Ward when one of the popular professors at the Bluecliff Seminary dies. The school authorities call it death by heart failure, but the girls insist that it was murder. Rita Corday, one of the students gifted with psychic insight, had predicted the murder. Despite the obstacles strewn in his path, Conway establishes the fact that the professor died from an overdose of sleeping tablets. But the murder of the headmistress of the school further complicates matters. Discovering the secret marriage of Givot, a refugee, Conway begins to understand the strange conduct of Jean Brooks, dramatic and fencing instructor at the school. Slowly but surely Conway unravels the mystery exposing Isabel Jewell, the drab music instructress, as the wife of Givot, and the murderer. Miss Jewell's plans to involve Miss Brooks, her rival for Givot's affections, in the sordid murder, have miscarried, and she saves everyone a lot of trouble by plunging to her death.

Maurice Geraghty produced. Direction by William Clemens sustains interest throughout and Falcon fans will be pleased. It also packs appeal for all types of audiences.

Running time, 68 minutes. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Legit Shows Gaining In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 8.—Legitimate stage shows are bidding for patronage here for the winter season. Coming events include the annual opera season. "Waltz King" at the Curran is to be followed by "Kiss and Tell," "Mother's Day" at the Geary, "Bowery Follies" at the Music Hall, three burlesques and Nancy Carroll in "Mr. and Mrs. North" at the Tivoli.

Reissue Pays Cagney

New grosses being rolled up by Warners' "Oklahoma Kid" reissue, now playing mostly first runs in a revival, are understood to be a boom for James Cagney, who collects a ten per cent cut from the picture. This applies to any Cagney starrer which the company reissues.

Bette Davis, also a Warner star, has a similar arrangement on reissues as a result of her new contract.

'In Oklahoma' On Single Bill Does $22,000

CHICAGO, Nov. 8.—"In Old Oklahoma" is the first single feature bill of the season at the Woods Theatre where a big advertising campaign is helping it to a gross of $22,000. Matinee and midweek business in general is dipping slightly. "Top Man" and "Frontier Badmen" is headed for a good $25,000 at the Palace Theatre.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 4.

"This Is the Army" (WB)
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 5th week in Loop. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $10,000).
"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Stage: B. & K. Pan-American Revue. Gross: $50,000. (Average, $43,000).
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $8,500).
"Spitfire" (RKO) 1 day.
"The 7th Victim" (RKO) 1 day.
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.) 6 days, 2nd week in Loop.
"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.) 6 days, 2nd week in Loop.
GRAND — (1,150) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) Gross: $10,000. (Average, $8,000).
"Nobody's Darling" (Rep.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average, $22,000).
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.) 1 day.
"You're a Luky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.) 1 day.
"Top Man" (Univ.) 6 days.
"Frontier Badmen" (Univ.) 6 days.
PALACE—(2,500) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) Gross: $25,000. (Average, $19,000).
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $17,000).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average, $23,000).
"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $18,000).
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
WOODS—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average, $7,500).

'Let's Face It' Gets $21,000 in Capital

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—Stand-out box-office grosser in a disappointing week is "Phantom of the Opera," which looks headed for $17,000 at RKO-Keith's. "Let's Face It" in its second week at Warners' Earle should do an approximate $21,000, which is better-than-average for the Bob Hope-Betty Hutton co-starring vehicle.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 11:

"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (28c-39c-44c-66c) 7 days. On stage: Tommy Riggs and Betty Lou. Gross: $20,000. Average, $22,-000)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (30c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $6,900)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (30c-40c-50c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. On stage: Walter Dare Wahl, Rolly Rolls. Gross: $21,000. (Average, $18,800)
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (40c-50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $11,400)
"Sahara" (Col.)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (30c-44c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $6,900)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (28c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $17,600)

Reviews

"Minesweeper"

(*Paramount*)

Hollywood, Nov. 8

LATEST of the Pine-Thomas productions, starring Richard Arlen, Jean Parker and Russell Hayden, is a stirring tale of Navy men who keep our harbors cleared of submarine-laid enemy mines.

William Berke directed "Minesweeper" from a screenplay by Edward T. Lowe and Maxwell Shane, providing plenty of love interest in the usual P-T formula. The story gains from Berke's apparent attention to authenticity aided by technical help from the Navy. Arlen plays a Naval officer, once disgraced, who enlists under another name with the aid of another's birth certificate. He and Hayden vie for the love of Miss Parker, who effectively plays the role of Guinn ("Big Boy") Williams' sister. The latter is an old Navy man who re-enlists, persuading Arlen to join up with him. Arlen's deception is uncovered by his commander, Frank Fenton, who allows him to go on a dangerous diving mission to locate a new type magnetic mine laid by Jap submersibles. One of the "pig-boats" had blown up a minesweeper, taking Williams to his death in place of Arlen, who had been A.W.O.L. and for whom Williams was covering up.

Through a ruse, Arlen sends his diving mate, Hayden, to the surface, reports description of the mine and the way it operates to his commander over the diving phone, but is blown to his death as he apparently wished rather than further disgracing the service. The harbor is cleared of mines and the transports awaiting clearance sail.

Running time, 68 minutes. "G."*

"False Colors"

(*Harry Sherman-UA*)

Hollywood, Nov. 8

IN this 49th of the Hopalong Cassidy series Harry A. Sherman continues William Boyd in his standard role of a Western sleuth, ably supported by his partners Andy Clyde and Jimmy Rogers from the Bar-20 ranch.

Hopalong and his buddies have befriended a wandering cowhand who is mysteriously shot after he has secretly had an attorney make out partnership papers giving his benefactors a two-thirds interest in a ranch. On the trail of the killers Hopalong and the boys ride to Poncho where they meet Claudia Drake, sister of the murdered lad. An impostor has been sent as her long missing brother by a crooked banker and the lads wise up right away. Playing their hands against threatened mob violence engendered by the crooks, Hopalong and his buddies solve the mystery, wring a confession from the impostor and save the ranch for the girl.

Boyd is his usual Hopalong, not deviating a horse hair from the characterizations of the past while Miss Drake does nicely as the winsome sister facing disaster. George Archainbaud directed with Lewis Rachmil as associate producer. Bennett Cohen wrote the original screenplay based on characterizations suggested by Clarence E. Mulford stories.

Running time, 65 minutes. "G."*

JACK CARTWRIGHT

"Henry Aldrich Haunts a House"

(*Paramount*)

Hollywood, Nov. 8

NEWEST of the Aldrich family series, produced by Michel Kraike with Hugh Bennett directing Jimmy Lydon and other members of the family, stands up well with preceding ones. Henry manages to get himself comically involved in the disappearance of his school principal, finally extricating himself and capturing a band of counterfeiters.

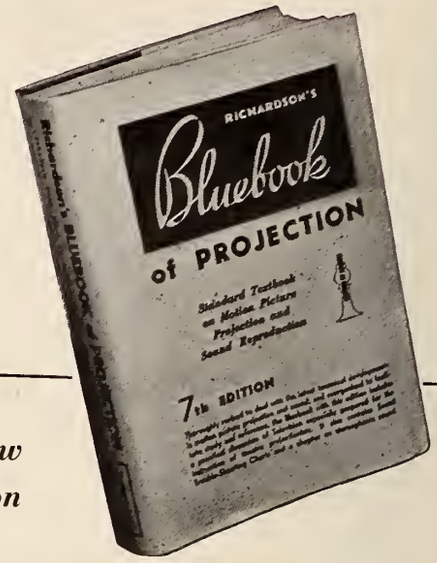
Henry, Dizzy and the former's newest romantic interest, Elise Towers, played by Joan Mortimer, become involved when Henry swallows a vial of a new drug which he and the girl believe triples human strength. When the police refuse to believe Henry had anything to do with the disappearance, he, Dizzy, and Elise go to the old Creep house, a mansion full of fantastic collections from all parts of the world. They find the principal bound up as a mummy in a secret cellar of the old house, liberate him, and trap the band of crooks manufacturing fake bonds. In addition to Lydon's excellent performance as Henry, Charles Smith, John Litel, Olive Blakeney, Joan Mortimer, Vaughn Glaser and others measure up well in their roles. Val Burton and Muriel Roy Bolton wrote the original screenplay.

Running time, 73 minutes. "G."*

JACK CARTWRIGHT

*"G" denotes general classification.

THE BOOK FOR THE TIMES!



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QUIGLEY BOOKSHOP

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ix Companies Are corporated in N. Y.

LBANY, Nov. 8.—Six motion pie- companies have been granted pa- s of incorporation in New York, rding to Thomas J. Curran, Sec- ry of State. They include: ma, Donovan & Corcoran, Inc., w York; directors: Frances Har- Mary Monahan and Sylvia m, 152 W. 42nd Street, New rk, with O'Brien, Driscoll and Raf- as filing attorneys. Robbins Art- Bureau, Ltd., Manhattan, talent ncy for actors; directors: Julien Abeles, who filed the papers; Leo- l Bleich and William Lieber. The e directors also filed for Robbins ernational, Inc.

remont Operating Co., Inc., by e Lyman, Jacob Schachter and on Schachter, Bronx, and Lyman l Tenenbaum, New York, filing. fton Playhouse, Inc., formed by omon Kleinman, who filed the pa- s, and Bernard Shapiro and Shir- Kleinman, all of New York. La- ve Productions, Inc., by Bernard nzer, Newark; Ida Perlin and ldred Glick, both of Brooklyn; pa- rs were filed by Tenzer, Greenblatt, llon and Kaplan.

andalism at New High in Tennessee

NASHVILLE, Nov. 8.—With Mem- is authorities threatening to refuse e of buses and street cars to high ool football games because of re- nt rowdyism, vandalism in Tennes- e has reached a new high. A spe- l agent from the FBI is calling on ools and churches in an effort to rb juvenile delinquency. Move has sulted in the formation of a Junior hamber of Commerce welfare com- ittee which has called for a general eeting of all youth, welfare and law forcement agencies in two weeks to nsider action. Local theatre men e cooperating.

Hearings Start on Goldman Case Nov. 15

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 8.—Prelimi- ary hearings on the anti-trust suit William Goldman, independent cir- it head, against Warner Theatres d all of the major distributors will art Nov. 15 in United States District ourt here.

The first of such actions against the Varner circuit involving the center ity first-run theatres, Goldman's suit as filed Dec. 8, 1942, and seeks triple amages of $1,350,000 because of al- ged inability to secure suitable first- un product for his Erlanger Theatre.

M. White Gets Isaac Libson Post

CINCINNATI, Nov. 8.—Ben L. Heidingsfeld, president of United The- tres, operating Keith's and a number f other houses here and in the Mid- vest has appointed Maurice White s general manager to succeed the ate Isaac Libson.

Libson's Will Filed

CINCINNATI, Nov. 8.—Bequests to elatives, charities and religious insti- utions were included in the will of Isaac Libson, late circuit operator ere, filed for probate in this city. No estimate of the value of the estate was given.

Off the Antenna

ALLEN B. DuMONT television interests expect to have a new tele-station operating in the Washington, D. C., area on channel one by Jan. 1, and plan a third for the East in addition to W2XWV here. Use of W2XWV facilities are available to radio stations in this area desiring to experiment with television, for weekly 15-to-20-minute periods. Samuel Cuff, assistant to DuMont, who heads television exploitation for commercial purposes, reveals that DuMont is using the war period to build up good will with advertising agencies. Joint meeting between ATS and Advertising Club of New York set for Wednesday is in line with DuMont's present efforts. . . .

"CBS has always been able to achieve unbiased news reports and news analyses. We utterly reject the idea that free speech means free bias on the air for a few people. We grant no one the right to distort the news in order to further any private interest," CBS executive vice-president Paul W. Kesten told a luncheon meeting of the Radio Executives Club at the Hotel Shelton in New York at the weekend in restating CBS policy on news broadcasts. "We will keep factional opinion and crusading fanaticism out of the news, and we will make room, as we always have made room, for special pleading and controversy in their appropriate place—which is not, according to our policies on news programs," he added in outlining future CBS policy.

• • •

Purely Personal: *Blue sports commentator Harry Wismer is the winner of this year's "Sporting News" award to the outstanding sports announcer of the year. Trophy presentation was made at the weekend in the presence of some of the country's leading sports writers, radio editors and officials, at Toots Shor's Restaurant. . . . Frank Dahm, Ruth Taylor, George Brengel and Rhea Diamond will be associated with the radio division of the 1944 "March of Dimes" campaign headed by Robert Clark Coleson. . . . Rod Erickson has joined NBC as a program director. . . . Douglas Coulter is a new CBS vice-president, heading programs. Robert White, Hollywood writer and dialogue director, is now a member of the Blue production staff. . . . Richard Kunstman is the new trade news editor of Mutual.*

• • •

Program Notes: Paramount is plugging "Miracle of Morgan's Creek" via NBC's "Hollywood Theatre of the Air" program this week. . . . "Lighted Window," institutional program sponsored by the Aluminum Co. of America with Fulton Oursler as consulting editor, makes its bow on NBC Dec. 4. . . . "Soldiers in Grease Paint," sponsored jointly by NBC and USO-Camp Shows and featuring Bob Hope, Jerry Colonna, Frances Langford, Kay Francis, Carole Landis, Jack Benny, Pat O'Brien, Andy Devine, Mitzi Mayfair, Merle Oberon and others, will be a 45-minute Thanksgiving Day broadcast. . . . Sister Elizabeth Kenny, whose life is to be the subject of a forthcoming Rosalind Russell film, will be a guest on RCA's "What's New" on the Blue, Nov. 13. . . . Fulton Oursler's "People's Reporter" five nights a week WOR-Mutual program sponsored by M-G-M gets underway Nov. 15 instead of Nov. 8 as reported in this column Oct. 27. . . .

RKO Shifts Siegel, Lists Other Changes

Carl Siegel, manager of the RKO Grand, Columbus, O., has been transferred to a similar post at the Greenpoint, Brooklyn, replacing Richard Reynolds, who has been inducted into the armed forces. W. S. Briscoe succeeds Siegel at the Grand.

Other RKO Theatres changes include: the appointment of Wallace R. Folkins as manager of the Palace, Rochester, replacing James J. Kelly, on leave of absence because of illness; the resignations of E. Eckstein as assistant manager of the Marble Hill, and Lew Lewis, who was relief assistant manager for the Brooklyn and Queens division.

Three Companies Dissolve in N. Y.

ALBANY, Nov. 8.—Pam-O Film Exchange, Inc., Buffalo, independent film distributor, has filed dissolution papers through Eleanor M. Paradeis, its manager. Pam-O Films has operated in both Buffalo and Albany territories.

Cinema Advertising Agency, Inc., originally incorporated through Irving Winter, New York and Ben Studios, Inc., incorporated by Meyer Tobias, New York, have also been dissolved.

Five Openings on B'way in Few Days

Broadway houses will get five openings within the next ten days. "I Dood It" will open at the Paramount tomorrow with Woody Herman and his band heading the stage show. "Sahara" opens Thursday at the Capitol with vaudeville featuring Lawrence Welk and his orchestra. Saturday, "Battle of Russia" will start at the Globe.

Two openings are set for Wednesday, Nov. 17. "Guadalcanal Diary" and the Ritz Bros. on the stage will have its opening performance that day at the Roxy, while Universal's "Flesh and Fantasy" will have its New York premiere that day at the Criterion.

New Theatre Tax Up in Chicago

CHICAGO, Nov. 8.—An annual tax of $1.00 per seat or three per cent of the gross has been proposed as a substitute for the present amusement license fees here. It would greatly increase revenue from this source although in varying amounts for each theatre. Present license fees are based both on admissions and seating capacity.

The proposal was made before a revenue committee of the city council by Walter J. Orlikoski, alderman.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Nov. 8

M-G-M is making another bid aimed at those thousands who have shown marked approval of "Thousands Cheer" to date. The studio has assigned Producer Joe Pasternak and Director George Sidney, the pair on the "Cheer" job, to produce and direct, respectively, "Anchors Aweigh," a musical comedy with a Navy background As in "Thousands Cheer," it's very possible, they'll stage a big show in the Navy Training Station to bring in plenty of M-G-M's stars.

•

Pamela Blake, who received excellent notices for her work in King Brothers' "The Unknown Guest," is back for picture work after two months working in an Army Canteen to be near her husband, Lieut. Michael Stokey. . . . Francis Dee will romance Donald Cook in "Patrick the Great," starring Don O'Connor and Peggy Ryan at Universal.

•

Producer George Sherman has Richard Arlen, Vera Ruhba Ralston and Eric von Stroheim before the cameras at Republic in "Lady and the Monster" adapted from "Donovan's Brain." . . . It wouldn't surprise those in the "know" in Hollywood to hear that Willie Bioff wins leniency from the government when he gets through testifying against the Chicago gangsters in the extortion case now going on in New York. . . . Producer Carleton Alsop is considering the radio play "Baby" for his first stint at Republic. . . . Publicity stillmen at Warner's like to shoot Cheryl Walker, recently of Sol Lesser's "Stage Door Canteen," because she's photogenic from every angle. Plans for rapid advancement to stardom are indicated in Warner's handling of the young player to date.

'B' for 'North Star' And 'Acquaintance'

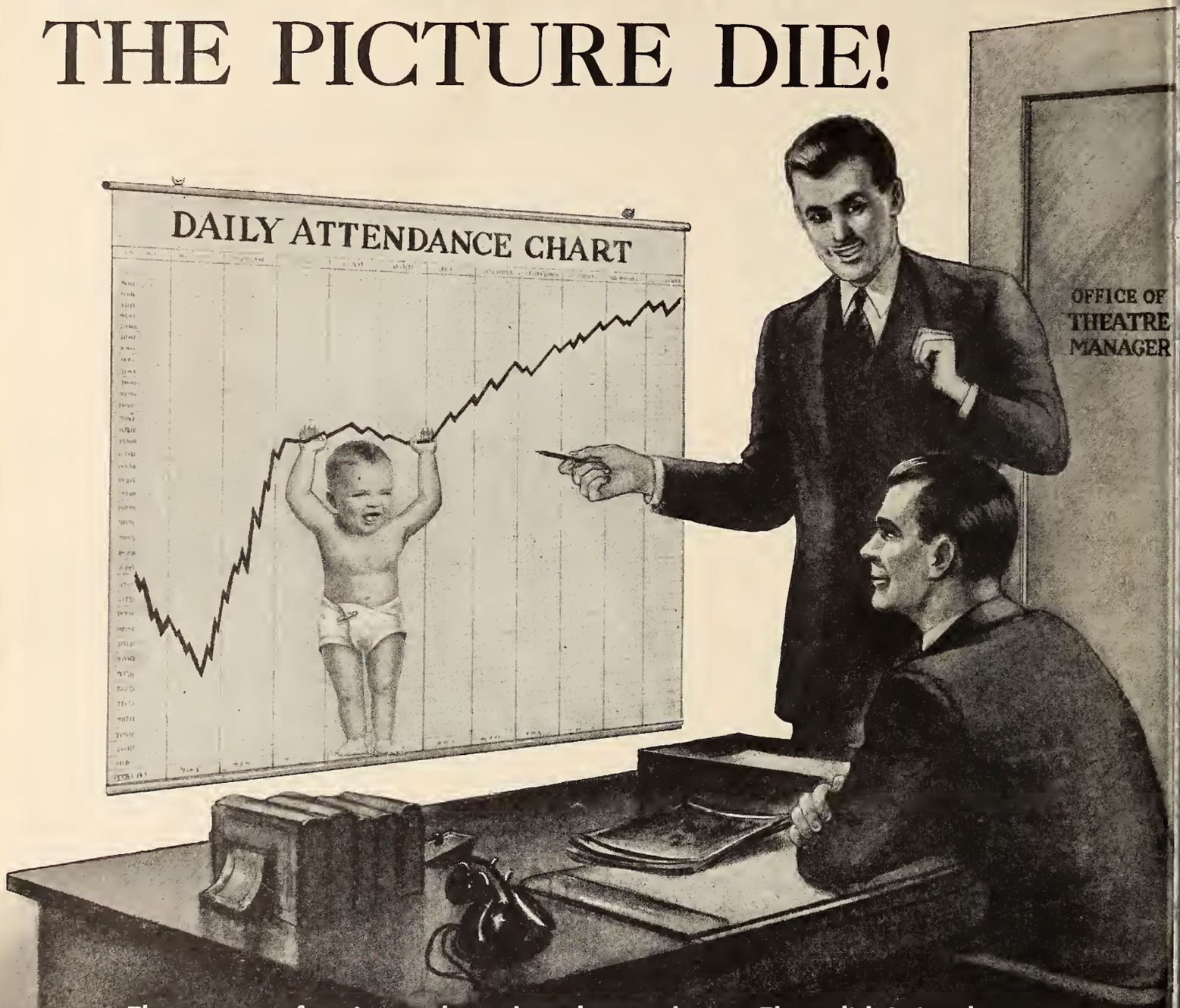
National Legion of Decency rates Warners' "Old Acquaintance" and the Goldwyn-RKO "North Star" in Class B, "objectionable in part." The former is charged with reflecting the acceptability of divorce and the latter with tending "to present as ethically justifiable the deliberate killing by doctors."

Listed as Class A-1 for general patronage are "Cowboy in the Clouds," Columbia; "The Deerslayer," Republic; "Lost Angel," M-G-M; "Mystery of the 13th Guest," Monogram, and "So's Your Uncle," Universal. Warners' "Find the Blackmailer" is listed as Class A-11, unobjectionable for adults.

L. A. Variety Elects

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 8.—Variety Clubs Tent No. 25 board of directors has named the following committee chairmen to serve during 1944: Dave Bershon, welfare and charity committee; Jack Berman, finance; Al Gaston, membership; Earl Collins, entertainment; Bernard Wolfe, house; William Parker, publicity; John Bertero, constitution and by-laws; Dr. Marcus Rabwin, medical, and R. M. McCullough, building and furnishings.

THEY DIDN'T LET THE PICTURE DIE!



They went after it . . . they shot the works . . . They didn't insult a great picture . . . and its marvellous star cast . . . by giving it absent treatment . . . They were out to make Mazumah . . . and they did . . . Their ace in the hole . . . was the kid in the three-cornered pants . . . the kid who sells the stuff that brings in a fifth of all theatre business . . . with trailers and lobby stuff alone . . . not counting all that other stuff in his bag of tricks . . . and all of it the lowest priced theatre advertising there is . . . They knew what all other smart showmen know . . . that this kid is the strongest influence for uplift there is in this industry—on sagging attendance lines . . . He never lets anybody DOWN!

Let every American GIVE so the National War Fund may LIVE!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert,
Intelligent
and
Indispensable
to the Motion
Picture
Industry

. 54. NO. 91 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1943 | TEN CENTS

arners Have ig Post-War British Plans

clude Interchange of Talent, Technicians

By PETER BURNUP

ONDON, Nov. 9.—Warner Bros. ns as a strong potential competi- to the J. Arthur Rank interests the race for position in produc- in the post-war, for which nk himself has already started cing an out-front bid.

Max Milder, Warner British eneral manager, today dis- losed that the company is well long on a survey of the large lstree studio, currently occu- ied by the Government, with a iew to establishing the plant s a second anchor for extensive ost-war British production long with its Teddington stu- ios here.

Varners, with a 25 per cent inter- in Associated British Cinemas,

(*Continued on page 6*)

AC Exhibitors Meet Tomorrow

Meeting of the executive committee the War Activities Committee atres division will take place to- rrow afternoon at New York head- arters, with subjects varying from passing of a formal resolution noring the memory of Ike Libson the airing of a report on manpow- it was announced here yesterday S. H. Fabian, chairman.

The meeting will be attended by seph Bernhard, E. V. Richards, Ar-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Contents Received And Duly Noted

Film company home office officials yesterday received word from North Africa, Eng- land and Iceland that Christ- mas packages sent by the com- panies and workers to former employes now on duty on those fronts have already been received and are being distributed. Many recipients opened their packages as soon as they got them—for ob- vious reasons.

Extorters Holler 'Mistrial' After Keough Epithet

The "trade name" of the Chicago defendants in the film extortion trial, "The Capone Gang," was slipped into Government evidence yesterday, and brought a demand for a mistrial from the defense. The mention of the "Capone Gang," as well as a designation of the defendants as "desperate men," was allowed to stand by Federal Judge John Bright, however.

Austin C. Keough, Paramount vice-president and general counsel, was the witness who contributed the reference. Keough, like other executives who preceded him on the witness stand, told of paying tribute to William Bioff, convicted labor racketeer, at the rate of $50,000 a year for the years 1936 and 1937.

Keough's introduction to Bioff

(*Continued on page 6*)

Leo Meehan Dies After Heart Attack

San Francisco, Nov. 9.—Leo Meehan, for years a writer and production executive, died here yesterday afternoon from a heart attack suffered last Thursday. Two sons, James, 18, a Paratrooper now overseas and John, 16, Loyola High School student in Los Angeles, and Jeanett Porter Meehan, divorced, survive. Burial will be in San Francisco, probably on Thursday.

Meehan had recently been on the

(*Continued on page 6*)

28,205 Stars Are in Ampa's Service Flag

Howard Dietz, Loew-Metro advertising-publicity director, will dedicate the service flag for members of the film industry which is to be spon- sored by the Associated Mo- tion Picture Advertisers at its "Salute to Film Heroes" industry luncheon at the Ho- tel Astor on Nov. 17.

The flag will contain 28,205 service stars and will meas- ure 16 by 20 feet, Vincent Trotta of National Screen and Ampa president reported yesterday.

Clark Talks Decree With Lukan, Harvey

Washington, Nov. 9.—L. O. Lukan and Rotus Harvey of the PCCITO talked consent decree matters over with Assistant Attorney-General Tom C. Clark today as he prepared to leave Washington for Dallas for the rest of the week.

The meeting with the representatives of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors was planned some days ago when it was expected that the decree distributors' proposals would be in the Justice Department's hands for study, but Clark is understood to have acquainted them with developments to date and to have explained what he is trying to get in the way of a revision of the decree.

As Clark left for Dallas no definite arrangements had been made for an-

(*Continued on page 6*)

"Happy Land"

[20th Century-Fox]

MacKINLAY KANTOR'S story dealing with the simple, human tragedy that descends upon an average American family in a typical Midwestern town when a son and only child is killed in action has been translated into a stirring, heart-warming film that packs a terrific emotional wallop. "Happy Land" is definitely one of 20th Century-Fox's big pictures of the year.

It serves to bring the war home to the American people more effectively than a hundred heroic battle scenes, since in its sympathetic, poignant projection of his son's loss to Don Ameche as the popular druggist of Hartfield, Iowa, and his wife, Frances Dee, this film has encompassed the grief of every family that is experienced in a similar tragedy. It is a picture that is certain to appeal to every type of audience, telling a realistic, human interest story. There can be no question of its box-office potentialities.

Full credit goes to Irving Pichel's superb direction and Kenneth Macgowan's production. They both contribute handsomely in making a living document from the Kathryn Scola-Julien Josephson lucid screen-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Production in Air Over U.S. Jap Directive

Several Films May Need Revision

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 9.—Facing the possible necessity of revising and re-shooting a dozen or more pictures in various stages of production, studios are clamoring for clarification of the War Department's about-face on permitting the depicting of Jap atrocities, communicated telephonically last weekend by Allyn Butterfield to Ulric Bell, of the OWI Overseas Bureau here, and telegraphically yesterday to studio censorship executives.

Bell told Motion Picture Daily his instructions were to counsel producers generally against filming Jap atrocity sequences pending the receipt of a detailed statement on policy now being worked out in conferences be-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Leo in Treasurer's Post at Nat'l Screen

Jack G. Leo, one of the industry's pioneers, was elected treasurer of National Screen Service at a special meeting of the company's board of directors, it was announced yesterday. Leo's election was forecast in Motion Picture Daily Oct. 27.

The new National Screen treasurer entered the industry in 1909 with Greater N. Y. Film Rental Co. He became one of the chief executives of Fox Film Corp. upon its organization, serving successively as vice-president, director and treasurer. He resigned from Fox in 1930 and, in 1933 at the invitation of Herman Robbins, National Screen president, became associated with the latter company on

(*Continued on page 6*)

No Paper Thursday; Distributors Close

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Armistice Day, a legal holi- day.**

All distributors' home of- fices, except Republic and PRC, will close for the holi- day at one o'clock.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM J. KUPPER, 20th-Fox general sales manager, has returned from California.

•

JACK LEVEL and ARTHUR BRILLANT, RKO home office nimrods, bagged enough game on a weekend foray to feed a dozen hungry trade confederates. The feast is scheduled for this noon at a Times Square restaurant.

•

ENSIGN PAUL LUDWIG LEWIS, son of P. MORT LEWIS, JR. of the Weill-and-Lewis circuit in Atlantic City, and LANETE MARGUERITE HEISER, were married recently.

•

GUSTAVE AMSTERDAM, son of BEN AMSTERDAM, head of Atlantic Theatres, independent circuit in the Philadelphia territory, has been commissioned a captain.

•

GEORGE LAWSON of the advertising department of Warner Theatres, Philadelphia, is confined to his home in Merchantville, N. J., with a heart ailment.

•

HUGH OWEN, Paramount Eastern division manager, will leave today for a visit to exchanges in Washington, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

•

DAVE HARRIS, Quigley Publications' circulation manager, and MRS. HARRIS will begin a vacation at Atlantic City on Monday.

•

MAXWELL GILLS, Republic district manager in Philadelphia, is receiving congratulations on the bar mitzvah of his son DONALD.

•

FRED BULLOCK, head of the 20th Century-Fox still department, this week will celebrate his 20th year with the company.

•

GEORGE BALKIN, manager of Warners' Stanley, Philadelphia, is recuperating from an illness in Atlantic City.

•

EARLE W. SWEIGART, Paramount Philadelphia district manager, is a New York visitor.

•

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, Paramount advertising and publicity director, has returned from Hollywood.

•

WILLIAM ERBB, Paramount district manager with headquarters in Boston, is here for home office conferences.

•

PAT MURPHY, editor of *Movie Stars Parade,* is en route to Hollywood for two weeks.

•

SYLVAN KATZ, 20th Century-Fox booker in Philadelphia, is recovering from illness.

•

LOU BROWN, Loew's Poli New England publicity manager, was a recent Hartford visitor.

•

BOB O'DONNELL, Interstate circuit executive, is expected here today from Dallas.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 9

THE De Havilland-Warner set-to over contracts is interesting because there appears to be shaping up precedental values no matter which way the court rules.

Miss De Havilland is seeking to end her association with her producer, claiming her seven-year pact by the calendar had expired. She is eyeing other pastures, thinks them greener.

Warner maintains she owes the studio 26 weeks of undelivered employment. That could mean one more picture, minimum.

■

The player has gone through several suspensions during the contract period. She rests her strike for full freedom on the ground the agreement ran out as the calendar ran out; that she made a deal for seven years and the seven are up.

The studio asserts the suspensions pile on the additional half year, in actual result sending the total period of service to seven years and a half, again by the calendar.

The Screen Actors Guild is interesting itself in this situation to the extent of a legal representative who has turned up a provision in the California labor laws which presumably indicates contracts run simultaneously with calendars. If he is sustained by the court, it would mean seven years equal seven years, regardless of suspensions or any other mitigating circumstances.

It's up to the judge.

■

Removed from the court and its deliberations, however, are speculations. For example, the SAG attitude pretty obviously reflects concern over circumstances in which a given player, if in disfavor with his or her employing studio, may be kept off the screen and thus out of circulation. Theoretically, this might come about provided suspension periods are added cumulatively to the contract and assuming any studio consciously plotted penalties as discriminatory as action of this character suggests.

■ ■

In October, 691 individual appearances of players were chalked up at military camps, bases and hospitals. Mileage: in excess of 100,000.

Variety show units made 50 one-night stands in the Southern California area. Broadcasts totaled 19, transcribed radio shows for men overseas, 92.

From December 10, 1941, to October 31, 1943, the record shows 18,765 appearances by 2,613 players in 6,032 events for men in uniform, arranged by the Hollywood Victory Committee.

There are many in production who know it's a war in which we are engaged.

■ ■

"Uncertain Glory," starring Errol Flynn, is a Thompson Production. Maybe not on the screen, but financially and bookkeeping-wise that's what it is.

This is according to plan buttoned up a couple of months ago when Warner made a new deal with Flynn providing for one of his own a year.

Thompson is drawn from the T. in Errol T. Flynn.

■ ■

Leo pins 1943 Academy hopes on "Madame Curie." Under rules and regulations governing the annual awards, candidates must have played a minimum of seven days in a Los Angeles theatre at year's end.

This is all the information required to explain why "Madame Curie" will have started its run, if not necessarily completing it, by December 31.

■ ■

Not only has Metro drawn upon certain of the highlights in William Knudsen's career for "America," which King Vidor has just completed; the studio reputedly took a look at Walter P. Chrysler and Henry Ford as well.

■ ■

He's off the roster, of course. Yet Warner continues to think well of Jimmy Cagney. Well enough to reissue "The Oklahoma Kid" and thereby give the market two Cagneys at the same time. The other is "Johnny Come Lately," Jimmy's first on his own.

■ ■

Casting note from Columbia: "To 'Nine Girls' — Lester Mathews."

Cutting him pretty thin, isn't it?

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov.

KENNETH THOMSON, for years executive secretary of t Screen Actors' Guild, has resign to join the William Morris Agen on or about Jan. 1. SAG comm tee composed of Edward Arno Porter Hall, Franchot Tone and Ca Grant has been named to recomme a successor.

•

Distributors' representatives, head by C. J. (Pat) Scollard of Par mount's New York office as spoke man, conferred here today with t regional War Manpower Commissi relative to Los Angeles exchang having been denied exemption fr a 48-hour work-week ruling. Th will meet further in an effort to wo out related problems of this branch the industry.

•

T. H. Richmond, former public and writer, has been signed by U versal as an associate producer a assigned to three productions 1944-45, as follows: "Jungle Gir "Mystery of the River Boat" a "Return of the Mummy."

•

Results of the election of offic and board members of the Scre Actors' Guild, in progress by m balloting this week, will be revealed the Guild's annual meeting of Cl A members on Sunday night.

•

Eugene Frenke is preparing "T Brothers Karamazov" as his n United Artists production.

600 at 'Guadalcanal' Dinner, Show Tonigh

About 600 guests from Washingt New York and Philadelphia will tend the banquet and screening 20th-Fox's "Guadalcanal Diary" to held tonight under the sponsorship the city of Philadelphia at the Bel vue-Stratford Hotel on this 168th niversary of the founding of Marine Corps. Mayor Bernard Sa uel will be host. Simultaneously w the event the world premiere "Guadalcanal" will be held at nearby Fox Theatre, where guests include state, civic and military c cials. Editors of leading trade pers will be guests of the city of Pl adelphia at the banquet.

47 Enter 'U' Short Subject Promotic

Forty-seven contestants have tered Universal's second annual sh subject exploitation contest, the co pany announced yesterday, to comp for $3,300 in prizes and a $500 sil trophy. Prizes will be awarded b committee of circuit and independ heatre executives and trade paper e tors at a luncheon in the Hotel As on Friday. R. J. O'Donnell of the terstate Circuit, Texas, will be speaker at the luncheon.

In addition, prizes of $100 and will be given for the best exploitat on a Walt Lantz "Cartune." The ver trophy will be awarded for best campaign on "Roar, Navy, Ro

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TRADE VIEWS by W.R. WILKERSON

BILL RODGERS, sales head of MGM, in town on one of his frequent visits the studio to look at new product. odgers' visit at this time is of interest this column, due to the fact that, uring the past ten days, eleven letters om that many exhibitors scattered roughout the country have reached is desk, applauding MGM's distribu- on methods and the "absolutely fair eal" they have always gotten from at company.

In addition to the letters referred to ove, Pete Wood, Secretary of the ndependent Theatre Owners of Ohio ts up the Bill Rodgers crowd for eir "ethical business methods" in the andling of MGM pictures.

The letters and Pete Woods' com- ents are nothing new. We have been ld by many, many exhibitors over a eriod of years that it's pretty tough to nally make a deal with MGM, but nce you do, you can sit back in the rotection of the contract and bank on very promise made by that company.

All of which makes MGM what it is nd wins it an exhibitor confidence at is not shared by many releasing rganizations. It's a big feather in MGM's cap and in the hat of Bill odgers.

"Gosh, Mister Wilkerson!"

Let's all give to National War Fund—which gives to all!

WHERE
YOUR C

The
FIRST Drama of
Juvenile Delinquency
to reach t

ARE
ILDREN

creen!

A *Monogram* PRODUCTION

Extorters Holler 'Mistrial' After Keough Epithet

(Continued from page 1)

came in the Spring of 1936, when the racketeer, who now claims he acted as a stooge for the Capone mob, summoned Keough to the Warwick Hotel in New York and told him that an arrangement had been made for each of the major companies to pay Bioff $50,000 annually. Bioff told Keough that he could verify the details by calling either Nicholas Schenck or the late Sidney Kent, then president of 20th.

Keough testified that he talked with Kent and that the latter told him that Bioff and George E. Browne, former head of the IATSE, had demanded $2,000,000 from the industry.

"Kent described Bioff as a member of the Capone Gang," Keough said, "and added that we were dealing with desperate men."

At this point Otto Christensen, of Los Angeles, one of defense counsel, moved for a mistrial because of this description, but the statement remained in the record.

Bioff gave Keough the number of a room in a Chicago hotel to which the money should be delivered. Keough said he obtained $7,500 of Paramount money and gave it to an assistant to carry to Bioff in Chicago. Keough next saw Bioff in September, 1936, when he delivered $20,000 in cash to Bioff at the Warwick Hotel in New York he said. All told, the Paramount company paid approximately $100,000 to Bioff, Keough testified.

He said he was motivated in his transactions with the labor leaders not only for fear of what might happen to Paramount in the event of a nationwide strike of projectionists, but by personal fear.

WAC Exhibitors Meet Tomorrow

(Continued from page 1)

thur L. Mayer, E. L. Alperson, A. H. Blank, Harry Brandt, Herman Levy, representing Ed Kuykendall, Sam E. Morris, Charles Moskowitz, R. J. O'Donnell, Dan Michalove, R. B. Wilby and Nathan Yamins. Sam Rinzler and Harry Lowenstein, exhibitor heads in the New York area, will also be present.

Fabian announced the following agenda: treasurer's report, by Arthur Mayer; introduction of a resolution paying tribute to the memory of Ike Libson; report on the exhibition of war information films with special emphasis on "Chief Neeley Reports to the Nation," around which exhibitors will center a campaign to recruit WAVES, to be followed by a discussion of "Battle of Russia"; a special events report, which will find the group making tentative suggestions for Fourth War Loan plans, as well as a theatre collection for the Red Cross scheduled for next year; a report from Lou Metzger, who is handling theatre division manpower problems; and a discussion of the new admission tax for the purpose of considering a possible statement of WAC position.

The session will then be opened for general discussion following the completion of the formal agenda.

"Happy Land"

(Continued from page 1)

play of Kantor's best-selling book and *Saturday Evening Post* serial. The story starts in the present, flashes back to the end of the last war, and gradually returns to World War II. Ameche loses all interest in his work and his life when he and his wife receive word that their son has been killed in action. Attempts by friends to rouse him from his bereavement are futile. It remains for his grandfather, Harry Carey, dead for more than 20 years, to return in spirit to help him. Carey convinces Ameche that his son's life had not been snuffed out before he really had a chance to live. The boy led a rich, full life as an American boy, the flashbacks reveal. Ameche gains courage to go on, deriving some comfort from the visit of one of his son's buddies and hearing how his son died helping others.

Ameche and Miss Dee deliver first rate performances as the parents. Carey is a likeable old codger as the grandfather and Ann Rutherford and Cora Williams are wholesome girl friends of Richard Crane, who portrays the role of the son. Kenneth Macgowan has provided a handsome production.

Running time, 75 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

"The Cross of Lorraine"

(M-G-M)

REALISTIC, highly dramatic story of the untold hardships endured by an intrepid group of French soldiers interned in a Nazi prison camp after the fall of France, and their eventual escape to join the Free French movement to work for the liberation of their beloved country provides the material for M-G-M's latest war film, "The Cross of Lorraine." Headlining the fine all-male cast are Jean Pierre Aumont and Gene Kelly, with Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Richard Whorf, Joseph Calleia, Peter Lorre, and Hume Cronyn all turning in swell performances. Produced by Edwin Knopf and directed by Tay Garnett, it is definitely one of the better war films and its box-office potentialities can be gauged accordingly.

The screenplay by Michael Kanin-Ring Lardner, Jr., and Alexander Esway-Robert D. Andrews is based on a story by Lilo Damert and Robert Aisner and Hans Habe's popular novel, "A Thousand Shall Fall." The Frenchmen who are tricked by the Nazis into surrendering when France falls come from every walk of life. Instead of being allowed to return to their homes, they are shipped to a Nazi prison camp. The Nazis are determined to break their spirit, but the Frenchmen develop a fierce determination to resist. They endure every indignity heaped upon them rather than submit to the Nazi new order. Several die defying the Nazis. Eventually, their patience is rewarded and they escape. Aided by the French underground they reach a small French village. Here they participate in a rebellion against the Nazi attempt to conscript men for forced labor in Germany. Prevailing upon the villagers to apply the torch to their homes, they flee to join the Free French to continue their struggle against the Nazis.

Tay Garnett's direction achieves a moving sense of realism in depicting the viciousness of the Nazis and the indomitable spirit of the French without indulging in the usual histrionics. Sidney Wagner's camera work is good throughout. Aumont delivers a neat dramatic performance as a former lawyer, and Kelly is commendable in his first dramatic motion picture role.

Running time, 90 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

"G" denotes general classification.

Leo Meehan Dies After Heart Attack

(Continued from page 1)

staff of the McCarthy Advertising Co., following a period with North American Aircraft, both in Los Angeles. He was born in Illinois and after college spent ten years as a newspaper and magazine writer, entering motion picture production as a writer and later becoming a director. He was assistant production manager for RCA Photophone Studio in New York and from 1929 to 1933 was general manager of the Hollywood office of Quigley Publications, resigning to reenter production. Meehan later became California manager of public relations for the Works Progress Administration, then served as an executive of the WPA's theatre project.

Clark Talks Decree With Lukan, Harvey

(Continued from page 1)

other conference with the distributors, but it is expected that they will bring in sometime next week the "liberalized" decree proposals demanded by Clark at the Nov. 2 meeting with Joseph Hazen, chief Warner Bros. counsel, representing the distributor decree signatories.

'London' Opens Nov. 25

United Artists plans a world premiere for Samuel Bronston's first release, "Jack London," at the United Artists Theatre, San Francisco on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25. Details are now being worked out by Bronston, now in New York and U. A. executives.

Warner Bros. Ha Big Post-War Plan For U.K. Productio

(Continued from page 1)

and with Milder serving in joint mar agement of the circuit, with E. Ligh foot, recently gained ground c Rank's British theatre expansion whe ABC purchased 44 theatres. No Warners and the ABC-related Asso ciated British Pictures are negotia ing to proceed with reciprocal ar rangements whereby Warner stars an technicians would be used at Elstre

Elstree would be built up as "th most modern plant outside of Amer ca under Warner Brothers-Associate British Pictures' plans.

It is understood here that Wa ners is interested in the control Associated British Pictures, but it learned on good authority that th post-war-Elstree development does no itself provide for such an arrangemen

For several years before the wa Warners was quite active in Britis production, turning out between eigh and ten features a year at Tedding ton, where Warner production no is running about four a year, und direction of Irving Asher. Con pany rents part of the plant to oth producers.

Rodgers Names Tw More for MGM Bloc

With a possibility of ten pictur comprising the second block M-G-M's 1943-44 program, W. Rodgers, vice-president in charge distribution, prior to leaving Los An geles Nov. 6 on a tour of exchang in the West and Midwest, selected tw new films, "Heavenly Body" and " Guy Named Joe," to supplement th five already mentioned for this grou namely, "Thousands Cheer," "Lo Angel," "Cry Havoc," "The Cross Lorraine" and "Swing Fever."

"Madame Curie," tentatively sche uled for a December opening at th Music Hall here, may be the eight picture in the group. It is reporte that home office sales executives ar considering the idea of selling "Ma dame Curie" separately, as we "Random Harvest" and "Mrs. Mi iver" last season. Naming of the ba ance to complete the 10-block is ex pected shortly.

Leo in Treasurer's Post at Nat'l Scree

(Continued from page 1)

special assignment in an advisory ca pacity. Subsequently, he became su cessively a director, vice-president ar secretary of the company.

In his new post as treasurer, Le succeeds Toby Gruen, who withdre from active duty recently because illness.

Goldberg's Father Dies

Simon Goldberg, father of Le Goldberg, studio manager for RK died here this week. He is survive by four sons, Leon, Morris, Mart and Joseph and one daughter, Bess Natelson. Funeral services will b held tomorrow at noon at the Pa Memorial Chapel, Brooklyn. Buri will be in Providence, Friday.

ights Bolster Boston Business

Boston, Nov. 9.—Business at top k over last weekend was the re- t of all deluxe theatres in Boston's atrical district which is once again ted to almost the glory of former rs. Washington Street is again aze with light while Tremont also taken on new life with the light- of marquees.

Not only are picture theatres all ning at top speed but six legitimate atres are playing to capacity while ee burlesque houses likewise are ning away customers nightly. There s a bit of lowered business during past week when stormy weather pt the crowds at home for two or ee days but the average was more n maintained by the big weekend, l the long holiday weekend this ek is confidently expected to bring w high records to all Hub theatres.

ttle Relighting New Haven

New Haven, Nov. 9.—With the ting of the dimout, theatres have led to go back 100 per cent to their rmer pre-war splendor of lights and e almost everywhere cooperating th the warning that power shortage ll dictates economy of light. No t lights are used during the day, arquee lights go on at the latest pos- le time and uprights are not lit at .

Kamber Heads New U. A. Special Events

With a view towards further pro- tion of forthcoming United Artists' leases through varied merchandising hannels, Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., direc- r of U. A. advertising-publicity, sterday announced formation of a pecial events department," with ernard M. Kamber, oldtime public- -exploiteer in charge under super- sion of Lazarus in co-operation with e present advertising, publicity and ploitation staffs.

Prior to Army induction, Kamber d been associated with U. A. where handled campaigns for key city enings. Following honorable dis- arge from the Army, he supervised e recent Eastern "Air Armada" ur for the War Activities Commit- e.

AFM Cites War Aid At WLB Disc Hearing

Correspondence between American ederation of Musicians and the rmy, Navy and other branches of e Government, designed to show at "there is absolutely no interfer- nce on our part with the war effort," as submitted to a War Labor Board anel in New York yesterday by FM counsel.

The letters were offered in evidence uring a hearing at which recording bsidiaries of Columbia Broadcast- ng and RCA are seeking to have usicians ordered back to work to ake records.

Para. Sets 2 for Holidays

Paramount will pre-release "True to ife" on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 5, and "Riding High," Technicolor usical, to important key accounts as Christmas-New Year's release at- raction, Neil Agnew, general sales anager, announced here yesterday.

Production in Air Over U. S. Directive on Japs

(Continued from page 1)

tween Elmer Davis, Byron Price and War Department heads in Washington.

Fox's "Purple Heart," M-G-M's "Dragon Seed," and Universal's "Gung Ho," all in the shooting stage, are among pictures previously approved by the War Department but affected by the abrupt change expressed in the following text:

"Beginning this date and for an indefinite period, the War Department requests no production companies, by the use of picture or dialogue, or any treatment whatsoever, to make reference to any Japanese atrocities; that is, no specific reference to Jap atrocities, including torture of prisoners of war, and any picture or dialogue to this effect will not be passed by the War Department, and letters of export will be withheld.

Watterson Rothacker, director of the Office of Censorship here, said, "No new instruction on this point has been received from Price."

Producers Need Some Answers

Bell said that meagre information supplied him thus far leaves many problems unanswered for producers now well into pictures previously approved by the OWI and the War Department. An example is "Dragon Seed," which shows Jap atrocities against the Chinese but not American prisoners of war as a case not specifically covered by the new instruction. Other examples are pictures showing Nazi atrocities, not covered by the directive. These typify a variety of films suggested by the War Department ban despite the fact that the text limits itself to the Japanese.

A wide question, so far unanswered, is whether the specific on the Japanese may be extended to embrace atrocities at the hands of all enemy nations. Also uncertain is the status of pictures in distribution and awaiting release, to which War Department approval has been given and export license granted.

Speculation is generally rife here over the story behind the change of policy in view of the President's recent declaration, following the beheading of an Allied flyer, that the Japanese thus had placed themselves outside the pale of civilization.

U. S. Seizes Japanese, Italian Copyrights

Washington, Nov. 9.—The Alien Property Custodian today took over the motion picture copyright interests of several hundred Italian and Japanese individuals and concerns.

No indication was given of the number of films taken over but a list of copyright owners and claimants showed 81 Japanese and approximately 400 Italian individuals and companies.

Television Meeting

Dinner-meeting between the American Television Society and the Advertising Club of New York to bring together the technical and commercial interests associated with the future of television, will be held tonight at the Advertising Club headquarters in New York.

Radio Pointing to Post-War Planning

Rochester, N. Y., Nov. 9.—Realistic approach to post-war planning for the entire radio industry is already past the process of organization, according to Dr. W. R. G. Baker, director of engineers for the Radio Manufacturers Association.

Dr. Baker outlined to delegates at the Fall session of the Institute of Radio Engineers and the Association here today what has been accomplished to date. "The radio industry is approaching the problem realistically to do the job of keeping its people employed and provide the best possible instruments for use," he said.

There are 13 planning panels covering all phases of the industry, including television.

Out-of-Towners at Fabian, Mayer Dinner

Although the luncheon on Nov. 16 honoring Si Fabian and Arthur Mayer for their WAC-and-war work is being sponsored by theatre owners of New York, chairman David Weinstock reported yesterday many out-of-town requests for tickets, among them being Jay Jaycocks, Warner zone manager, who reserved a number of tables for New Jersey exhibitors.

James J. Walker will be toastmaster at the luncheon, which will be held at the Hotel Astor.

Two Join Universal To Exploit 'Fantasy'

Al Selig, former RKO exploiteer, and Harry McDonald have joined Universal as field representatives to handle that company's "Flesh and Fantasy," Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising manager, announced here yesterday.

Selig will handle Washington, Baltimore and surrounding territory, while McDonald has been tentatively assigned to New England.

600 at Opening of B'nai Brith Season

Cinema Lodge of the B'nai Brith last night opened its fall season with 600 in attendance at the Hotel Edison. Louis A. Novins, former assistant attorney general of Massachusetts and now national director of the Anti-Defamation League was guest speaker.

Adolph Schimel, president of Cinema Lodge, presided at the meeting during which "The Battle of Russia" was screened.

'Mad Ghoul' Cleared

Chicago, Nov. 9.—Universal's "The Mad Ghoul" which was rejected by censors here has been approved for showing to adults only after a number of cuts were made. Approval was given by the commissioner of police on the recommendation of Sgt. Joseph F. Healy, chief of the crime prevention bureau.

Schine District Men, Executives Meet

Gloversville, Nov. 9.—Problems confronting theatremen in wartime were discussed today at the opening of a two-day year-end circuit meeting of Schine Theatres' district managers and field executives being held here at the Schine home office. More than 50 theatremen were welcomed to the initial session by J. Myer and Louis W. Schine, heads of the Schine enterprises. The meeting was then taken over by zone chief Lou Lazar, who will also preside tomorrow.

A dinner at which the men will be guests of the Schine brothers will close the meeting Wednesday night.

Those in attendance in addition to home office heads include, from New York: Lou Hart, Gloversville; Frank Nolan, Malone; Mill Tubbert, Watertown; Jack Flex, Syracuse; Harold DeGraw, Oneonta; Clint Young, Geneva; Gerry Fowler, Geneva; Col. Harry Long, Rochester; Toby Ross, Corning; Harry Goldsmith, Buffalo; Fielding K. Kelly, Glens Falls; Lou Levitch, Lockport; Abe Cohen, Massena; Sam Shafer, Rochester; Joe Schwartzwalder, Auburn; Gus Depauw, Newark.

From Ohio: Bill Selman, Ashland; Wilbur Eckard, Fostoria; Harold Sliter, Bellefontaine; Harold Raives, Cleveland.

From Kentucky: Eddie May, Lexington; Harry Stearn, Middlesboro; Lew Hensler, Lexington.

From Maryland: Lee Insley and Marsh Gollner, both from Salisbury.

War Fund Rallies At Two Companies

Two special National War Fund rallies will be held this afternoon, at the United Artists' exchange at 3 P.M. under chairmanship of Sam Lefkowitz and at Warner Bros.' home office at 4 P.M., under direction of Ralph Budd.

At both Sam Rinzler, New York chairman of the industry's NWF drive, and Fred Schwartz, treasurer, will be present. Entire personnel and all officers of the companies have been invited to attend.

At Warners, Harold Dunn, W.B. Far Eastern manager, who was a prisoner of the Japs, will be a speaker with a wounded serviceman. Yesterday Rinzler addressed a company meeting at Monogram, at which Ed Morey was chairman.

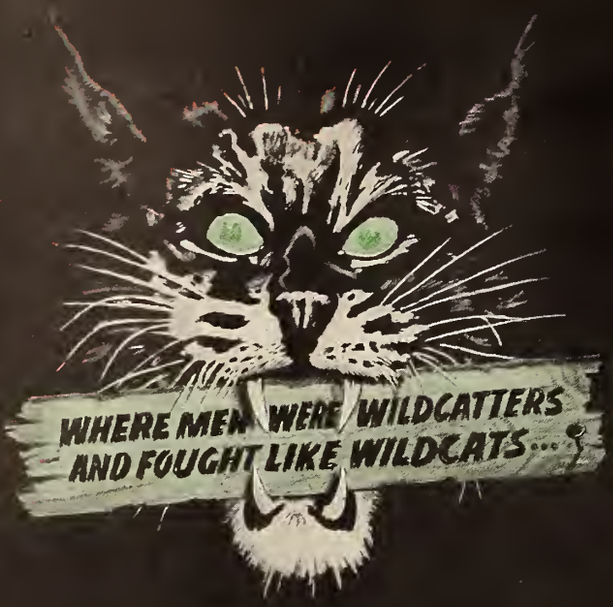
Campeau, Star of Silent Screen, Dies

Hollywood, Nov. 9.—Frank Campeau, noted "villain" of silent pictures, died here this week. He was 79.

Campeau appeared in "Coming Through," "The Golden Cocoon," "The First Auto," "Let It Rain," and "Smokey," among others, in addition to several stage productions. In 1938 he retired to "Country Home," an establishment set up by the film industry here for retired members. He is survived by a brother.

'Oklahoma' Gets $30,000

Republic's "In Old Oklahoma" grossed $30,000 in its first week at the Woods Theatre, Chicago, the company reported here yesterday. The film, which stars John Wayne and Martha Scott, will start its second week today.



ROMANCE HAD A WALLOP!

"IN OLD OKLAHOMA"

Based on THOMSON BURTIS' story "WAR OF THE WILDCATS"

JOHN WAYNE • MARTHA SCOTT

ALBERT DEKKER

MARJORIE RAMBEAU • GEORGE "Gabby" HAYES

DALE EVANS • GRANT WITHERS

ALBERT S. ROGELL, Director

Adaptation by THOMSON BURTIS

Screenplay by ETHEL HILL and ELEANORE GRIFFIN

Associate Producer, ROBERT NORTH

A Picture That Happens Once In Nine Life-times!

It's a Republic Triumph!

TION PICTURE DAILY

...im and ...dio News ...ief, ...curate ...d ...partial

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

...54. NO. 92 — NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1943 — TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

...GM Seeks ...riority Time ...or All Films

...lieves Extended Runs Merited by Most

...-G-M feels each of its releases ...rves preferred playing time on ...best days of the week and, from ... as a base, additional time ...t to be added to exhibit the ma... ...y of its attractions. This is the ...l being passed along to the sales ... throughout the nation, it was ...ed yesterday.

...e distributor maintains it was ...of the first "to see ways and means ...eing each picture from the re... ...nts unposed by guesswork and ...e trading'" and points out this: ...At no point has M-G-M deviated ...its determination to let each pic... ...earn what it proves to be worth ...he theatre's own box office. If ...contract does not provide sharing ...ngements for some pictures, the ...ight rentals for these still bear a ...ite relationship to the earned ...als of the others, based on nation-

(Continued on page 13)

...ary Pickford Seeks ...A. Bylaws Change

...Hollywood, Nov. 11.—A suit to ...erally clarify by-laws of United ...ists Corp., and in particular to ...inate the harassing stricture ...ch requires unanimity on the part ...owner-members before a decision ...be taken, is in the offing by Mary ...kford. Miss Pickford has retained ...orge Wharton Pepper to file a ...ndly suit in a Delaware court ...inst UA. Pepper and George ...gnall, UA vice-president, will is... ...a joint announcement when the ...ion is filed.

...Reshuffling of owner-members is

(Continued on page 13)

...ohen, Renfro Are Promoted by RKO

...Milton E. Cohen, city salesman in ...Detroit branch, has been appoint... ...Detroit branch manager to succeed ...ed E. North, who has resigned to ...er a new activity, Ned E. Depinet, ...sident of RKO Radio, has an...unced.

...A. A. Renfro, city salesman in the ...nsas City branch, has been appoint... ...acting branch manager in place of ...mes Lewis, who has entered the ...my.

Canada to Continue Industry Control

Toronto, Nov. 11.—Continuation of control of the film industry in Canada effected for the war, will be continued thereafter, it has been learned from official sources here. Exhibition and distribution are both included. Length of the control period depends upon post-war developments, a Government spokesman declared.

Any sizeable theatre building race will be prohibited, it was said, despite the fact that many sites for new buildings have already been acquired.

Owners Reaffirm Eagerness to Serve Country in the War

Executive committee of the WAC theatres division met yesterday and reaffirmed the eagerness of theatres to be of service to the country. A resolution to that effect was passed unanimously, with those present pledging to "continue and redouble our efforts as long as the need exists."

S. H. Fabian, WAC theatres division chairman, presided at the session, which was called at WAC headquarters to acquaint exhibitors with reports on finances, distribution of war information films, personnel problems, future plans for cooperation on the forthcoming Fourth War Loan and

(Continued on page 13)

DECREE PROPOSALS UP TO EXHIBITORS

No Halt of Arbitration Is Likely Despite Basic Deadlines

Indications that the industry arbitration system will continue to function without interruption despite approaching deadlines on lease renewals for board quarters, for approval of a new budget for all arbitration operations and for the extension of the appeal board term of Robert McC. Marsh, became manifest yesterday.

Notices of renewal of leases on quarters for local tribunals in some cases are due Dec. 1 and, where necessary, 30-day extensions will be sought, or, as is the case in Minneapolis and one or two other cities now, leases will be placed on a month-to-month basis. The most urgent, and doubtful,

(Continued on page 13)

First Meeting in South Brands Companies' Draft as Unfair

Theatre owners of Mississippi, Arkansas and Tennessee, meeting in Memphis this week in the first of a number of exhibitor conclaves to be held all over the country to obtain reactions to the consenting companies' proposals for revision of the consent decree, branded those proposals as "far from fair" and characterized them as an indication of the companies' unwillingness to deal with the situation "realistically and fairly," it was learned yesterday.

The meeting went on record in favor of inclusion in any "fair revision of the decree" a 20 per cent cancellation right and sales of pictures in blocks of more than five.

Action was taken after the meeting heard a report from Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president, on the companies' proposals as set forth in a brief presented to the Department of Justice in Washington last week by Joseph Hazen of Warners. Kuykendall conferred with Assistant U. S. Attorney

(Continued on page 13)

C.E.A. Attacks U.S. Majors on Grading

London, Nov. 11.—Savage attacks against American distribution companies for their policies on film grading were made at a meeting of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association general council here yesterday.

It was charged at the meeting that trade conditions here are "dictated by a small caucus of American distribu-

(Continued on page 3)

13 Film Leaders at Milwaukee Meeting

Milwaukee, Nov. 11.—Leaders from all branches of the industry have accepted the invitation of William L. Ainsworth, president of the Independent Theatres Protective Association of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan to attend its fifth annual convention at the Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Nov. 18-19.

Included are: William F. Rodgers, M-G-M; Abram F. Myers, Allied

(Continued on page 13)

U. S. Clarifying Order On Jap Atrocity Films

Washington, Nov. 11.—Prohibitions upon the showing of Japanese atrocities recently imposed by the War Department will apply directly only to pictures requiring Army approval for domestic or export distribution, but the censorship office's boards of review will be asked to apply the principle also to other films in which the Army is involved, it was learned today.

The directive, on the subject intended to be communicated confidentially to the producers, is being clarified in the department to clear up any misunderstandings that might arise, although it was declared no specific questions have yet been submitted.

While some days may elapse before

(Continued on page 3)

Phila. Tribute to Skouras and Marines

Philadelphia, Nov. 11.—City of Philadelphia yesterday paid high honor to Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, "in recognition of his distinguished accomplishments in the field of entertainment and his unselfish service to his country."

Occasion was a municipal banquet given at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel on the 168th anniversary of the founding of the U. S. Marine Corps, in Philadelphia, and to which Skouras and his company contributed a print of 20th's "Guadalcanal Diary," pre-

(Continued on page 13)

Extra Paramount Dividend Expected

Increased dividend in the form of either a special year-end distribution or an increase in the regular quarterly rate, which this year has been 30 cents a share, is expected to be declared today at a Paramount Pictures directors' meeting, it is understood.

Rate increase is said to be due to

(Continued on page 13)

Personal Mention

NATE J. BLUMBERG left Fifth Avenue Hospital yesterday after recuperating from a minor operation.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, assistant general sales manager for Warners, and JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager, left Wednesday for a visit to Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Cincinnati.

•

WILLIAM GOETZ, International Pictures executive, is expected to arrive here on Monday from the Coast for a five-day visit, after which he will depart with his partner, LEO SPITZ.

•

HERMAN GLUCKMAN, WAC distribution official, has returned to New York WAC headquarters after several months on the Coast.

•

JACOB WILK, Eastern production manager for Warner Bros., left yesterday for Boston to look over some new play tryouts.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western division sales manager, is expected to return tomorrow from a five-week tour of exchanges.

•

ISABELLE AUSTIN, of the Roxy, New York, publicity department, will spend a week's vacation starting today in Pennsylvania.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal Western division manager, is on a tour of exchanges, and will return to New York late this month.

•

J. WESLEY SMITH of Smith and Aller has returned to Hollywood after a week's visit here.

•

JOEL LEVY, Loew's out-of-town booker, has returned from Baltimore, Richmond and Washington.

•

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK is back at his desk after being confined to his home with a cold.

•

MRS. JAMES R. GRAINGER is here from Hollywood but will return there in a few weeks to spend the winter.

•

NORMAN ELSON, Trans-Lux Theatres vice-president, will be in Boston today.

•

FRED MEYERS, Eastern division manager at Universal, will leave today for Buffalo.

•

HARRY H. THOMAS, Monogram's Eastern division manager, left Wednesday on a mid-West sales trip.

•

CLAUDE LEE, Paramount's public relations director, is expected back from Washington today.

•

HARRY COHN is scheduled to return to the coast over the weekend.

•

EDWARD A. GOLDEN is scheduled to leave for Hollywood today.

Harry Cohn Tells Of Strike at Trial

Harry Cohn, Columbia president, testifying as a government witness in the IATSE racket trial in Federal court here Wednesday, told of the one day strike at the Columbia studios, Nov. 8, 1937, when technicians walked out.

Cohn said he got in touch with John Rosselli, one of the defendants, and the latter arranged a meeting in his Los Angeles home between Cohn and William Bioff.

"Bioff told me 'the strike is over and the men will return to work,'" Cohn said. "I asked him why the strike was called and he said something about the make-up artists having trouble. I said, 'You know that's not true,' and he said, 'What's the difference, the strike is over anyway.'"

Columbia was on the racketeers' list to pay $25,000 a year, according to Bioff's testimony earlier, but no testimony has been introduced at the trial thus far that any part of it was paid. Cohn, who will take the stand again this morning when the trial resumes after the Armistice Day recess, had testified earlier that he and Rosselli were "very good friends."

Exchange Gifts

"We exchanged expensive gifts," Cohn said, and related that he had loaned Rosselli $5,000 and $10,000 on separate occasions, which were promptly repaid, but that a third loan of $10,000 to Rosselli still is owed to the Columbia head.

Harlan Holmden, former IATSE vice-president, completed his testimony before Cohn took the stand on Wednesday. Holmden indicated that Rosselli was on the IA's Hollywood payroll during the Bioff-George Browne regime. He corroborated earlier testimony by Bioff that the IA had ordered and paid for $600 worth of California lawn sprinklers for Frank Diamond, Chicago gangster and one of the defendants.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 11.—Defense has canceled the subpoena originally issued for Joseph Schenck in the Bioff trial, according to the U. S. Marshal's office. The same circumstance is believed to apply to Louis B. Mayer.

Capacity Attendance For Ampa 'Salute'

A capacity attendance appears to be assured for Ampa's luncheon and "Salute to Industry Heroes" at the Hotel Astor next Wednesday as large groups of tables are being reserved by all home offices. Eight tables have been reserved by Paramount, six by RKO and several each by all other companies.

Presidents of all major companies have signified their intention of attending. Postmaster General Frank C. Walker will be the principal speaker at the testimonial affair. Charles F. Coe is toastmaster, and Howard Dietz will dedicate the industry service flag. Distinguished service men from the industry will be present.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 11

SCREEN WRITERS' GUILD last night returned seven members to its directorate, elected eight new ones and, as anticipated, reelected Mary McCall, Jr., to its presidency. Lester Cole was elected vice-president. Talbot Jennings succeeded Frank Partos as secretary, and Hugo Butler is the new treasurer, succeeding Francis Faragoh.

New directors are: Sheridan Gibney, James Hilton, Michael Kanin, Ring Lardner, Jr., Gladys Lehman, Maurice Rapf, Betty Reinhardt, John Wexley. Returned directors are: McCall, Butler, Cole Jennings, Marc Connelly, Jane Murfin and Allan Scott. Alternates are: Emmett Lavery, Waldo Salt, Richard Collins and Adrian Scott.

•

Senator Lodge planes to Washington tomorrow at the conclusion of conferences with Darryl Zanuck relative to the parts of "Wilson" dealing with his grandfather, Senator John Cabot Lodge, and his battle against Wilson's League of Nations advocacy, he told MOTION PICTURE DAILY. Lodge declined to comment on the picture.

•

Hollywood Lane ceremonies from Thanksgiving to Christmas, omitted last year due to the dim-out, will be held again this year due to relaxation of lighting restrictions, the Hollywood Victory Committee revealed following a session which approved nightly appearances of film stars.

•

Screen Players union, claiming as members a majority of extra players, last night filed an NLRB petition asking an order for an election to determine what organization extras want to represent them in collective bargaining with employers.

•

Screen Actors Guild has announced the creation of temporary war memberships to meet the shortage of extras during the present emergency. It provides for termination of membership at the end of the war to protect regular members in the post-war era.

•

W. R. Frank will arrive here Tuesday to supervise final scoring and editing of "Dr. Goebbels" and to prepare his next production, "Springtime in Vienna," starring Claudia Drake.

•

Warners today signed Frederick Faust to develop his own original story, "After April," with Jack Chertok producing.

•

Frank Seltzer has been appointed publicity director of Jules Levey Productions. He will start work Dec. 6.

•

Norman Moray, Warner short subject sales manager, arrived here today for company conferences.

•

Coast Guard Lieut. Rudy Vallee and Bette Jane Greer, actress, will be wed early next month.

•

Universal announced "South of Dixie" today, with Warren Wilson as producer.

Schlank, Pickler to 'U' in Des Moines

DES MOINES, Nov. 11.—Jacob Schlank has joined Universal's sales staff here, succeeding Meyer Monsky who has been named company branch manager in Denver. Ernest Pickler has also joined the Universal sales staff here, replacing Ralph Olson.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
"CLAUDIA"
with DOROTHY McGUIRE
ROBERT YOUNG INA CLAIRE
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Gala Stage Show Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Held Over 2nd Week
EXTRA!
WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR CHILDREN TODAY?
YOUTH IN CRISIS
LATEST MARCH OF TIME
20th Century-Fox Release
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

'I DOOD IT'
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
Red SKELTON
Eleanor Powell
IN PERSON
WOODY HERMAN
Paul Winchell
Marion Hutton
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—Cl 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Screen
MARY MARTIN
FRANCHOT TONE
'TRUE TO LIFE'
In Person
TOMMY RIGGS
and
BETTY LOU
MILT BRITTON
and ORCH.

BETTY GRABLE
ROBERT YOUNG
ADOLPHE MENJOU
Sweet Rosie O'Grady
20th Century-Fox Picture
in TECHNICOLOR!
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Eastman Promotes Sulzer, Chapman

ROCHESTER, Nov. 11.—Albert F. Sulzer, general manager of the Eastman Kodak Co. here since 1941, has been named vice chairman of the board by action of the board of directors. Albert K. Chapman, vice-president and assistant general manager, was named to succeed Sulzer as general manager, and also was elected a director of the company.

The board also voted a wage dividend totaling $2,476,403 to be paid employes in March, the 32nd since the plan was started in 1912. A quarterly dividend of $1.25 a share on common stock, and $1.50 per share on preferred was declared by the directors.

Myron J. Hayes, general manager at the camera works and the Hawk-Eye plant, was elected a vice-president of the company, and Ivar N. Hultman, Edward S. Farrow and James E. McGhee were named assistant vice-presidents.

'U' Shorts Contest Selecting Today

Bernard Kreisler, Universal short subjects manager, yesterday announced the panel of judges who will award $3,000 in cash prizes and a $500 silver trophy for the winners in Universal's second annual "featurette" exploitation contest. Judging will be held in the Hotel Astor at noon today. R. J. O'Donnell of the Interstate Circuit will be the speaker.

The following are scheduled to act as judges: Edward Alperson, RKO; William White and John Benas, Skouras Theatres; Milton Weissman, Telenews Theatres; Si Fabian and Bernie Brooks, Fabian Circuit; Max Fellerman, RKO; Leonard Goldenson, Paramount Theatres; Robert Bernhard, Loew's; Al J. Kearney and John A. Shea, Shea Circuit; Sam Rinzler and Harold Rinzler, Randforce Theatres; Irving Lesser, Roxy Theatre; Stewart Martin, Embassy Newsreel Theatres; Arthur Meyer Lou Metzger, War Activities Committee; Charles Moss, Criterion Theatre; John Nolan, Comerford-Publix Circuit; Harry Rosenquest, Warner Theatres, and the following from trade papers: Chester Bahn, R. W. Baremore, Ralph Cokain, Jay Emanuel, William Formby, Chester Friedman, Mike Wear, Jack Harrison, Sherwin Kane, Tom Kennedy, Gertrude Merriam, George Morris, Terry Ramsaye, Fred Stengel and Mo Wax.

Warners Sets Jurow To Assist Trilling

Martin Jurow, Warners' eastern talent head, is scheduled to go to the Coast at the end of this month to work under Steve Trilling, executive assistant to Jack Warner.

Jurow's duties in New York will be taken over by Marjorie Morrow, formerly of CBS, who has been Jurow's assistant. Zelma Brookov will assume Miss Morrow's duties.

Pre-War Glamour at 'Bell' London Debut

LONDON, Nov. 11.—The opening of Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" at the Carlton here yesterday was surrounded with pre-war glamour and an audience of Cabinet members, ambassadors, high ranking service officers and socialites.

U. S. Clarifying Order On Jap Atrocity Films

(Continued from page 1)

the interpretation is made available to the studios, it was said informally that the directive is not intended to be retroactive and any pictures already in distribution or approved for export will not be affected.

Other points unofficially cleared up related to such pictures as "Dragon Seed" and the scope of the ban. With respect to the former it was said the directive will not apply, since "Dragon Seed" is not being made in cooperation with the Army. As regards the latter, the directive covers only Japanese atrocities and does not apply to any scenes of Nazi acts.

A very definite military purpose underlies the directive, which was sent out confidentially in an effort to avoid arousing general public speculation. A similar ban was recently reported in the press to have been imposed on stories emanating from the fighting fronts. The directive has nothing to do with the relative civilization of Japanese and Nazis, nor is it any indication of a change of policy with respect to the punishment to be meted out to each.

So far as application of the order goes, it was made clear that it is not an effort to intrude into the field of the Office of Censorship, which is charged with the issuance of export licenses. Censorship officials had no comment to make on the directive, but it was indicated none of the authority of the boards of review was to be surrendered.

The War Department ban on Jap atrocities will be applied in the same manner as its other security provisions. Any picture that involves the Army, on which the producer secures department cooperation, must get clearance from the department on its military content before it can be released for showing on export. The review by the department, designed to insure that no military information of value to the enemy be disclosed, will be extended now to cover atrocity scenes.

Pictures with military content not produced with Army cooperation normally are referred to the department by the boards of review for security reasons. Should any such pictures be found to contain scenes of Japanese atrocities, the department will request the board to order their deletion.

The ban applies, therefore only to pictures in which American military forces are shown. It does not cover Nazi atrocities or Japanese atrocities against nationals of other countries. All of these points are expected to be covered fully in a comprehensive statement which shortly will be sent to producers.

Three Teams Named For War Fund Drive

Three teams comprised of Adolph Zukor and Si Fabian, Arthur Mayer and Harry Brandt, and Sam Rinzler and Fred Schwartz, have been formed to address the National War Fund meetings being held by the various companies within the motion picture industry.

The next rally for the National War Fund Drive is being held this afternoon at the 20th Century-Fox home office under the chairmanship of J. Harold Lang with Sam Rinzler, Si Fabian and Harry Brandt as guests. On Monday Bob Wolff will preside at the rally at the RKO Exchange.

This week meetings were held at Monogram with Ed Morey presiding; at United Artists, Sam Lefkowitz, chairman, and at Warner Brothers, where Ralph Budd introduced the speakers.

Rinzler and Schwartz At WB Fund Rally

Samuel Rinzler, head of New York film industry activities in behalf of the National War Fund campaign; Fred Schwartz of the Schwartz Circuit, and John A. Cassidy, press representative of RKO Theatres, were among the visiting participants at the NWF rally held Wednesday at the Warner home office and resulting in more than 90 per cent response from employees. Ralph W. Budd, personnel director and chairman of the Warner home office campaign, was master of ceremonies.

Harmon to Quit Hospital

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11.—Francis Harmon, coordinator of the War Activities Committee, will leave the hospital at the weekend, following three weeks of treatment for an attack of pleurisy.

CEA Attacks U. S. Majors on Grading

(Continued from page 1)

tors, who are taking advantage of war conditions to introduce methods foreign to this country."

Allegations were also made that the Kinematograph Renters Society is a party to a secret treaty involving a list of exhibitors to whom first features are booked on percentage only. The CEA rentals committee, as a result of the charge, was instructed to interview individual distributors on the subject and report back promptly. It was decided by the meeting that the alleged secret treaty list should be published immediately.

U. K. Distributors To Meet on Grading

LONDON, Nov. 11.—Distribution executives, including Sam Eckman, M-G-M; Herbert Smith, British Lion, and S. F. Ditcham, General Film Distributors, have responded to a Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association rentals committee invitation to discuss film grading.

Distributors had consistently refused to meet with exhibitors on this subject.

Empire-306 Merger Faces Court Test

Trial is scheduled to get underway on Monday in Kings County Supreme Court in the action brought by several members of Empire State Projectionist Union to prevent officers of the union from carrying out the provisions of Empire's merger with Local 306, IATSE projectionist affiliate.

Empire members secured a temporary injunction in late September restraining Empire officials, believed to be contingent upon the issues involved in the case being brought to trial.

Eagle, L. A., Files Suit on Clearance

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 11.—In a federal court action charging violations of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, and the refusal of certain distributors to abide by clearances set up by arbitration under the consent decree, the Eagle Theatre, Harry Vinnicof, and the Southern California Amusement Corp. seek an order enjoining Fox-West Coast Theatres, and other defendants named, from such acts and $521,400 damages, specifying $47,000 from each of the eleven firms named. The defendants are FWC, FWC Agency, Far West Theatres Corp., 20th Century-Fox, Loew's, RKO, Paramount, Vitagraph, Columbia, Universal Film Exchanges and United Artists.

The complaint filed by Albert J. Law, counsel for the Pacific Coast Independent Theatre Owners, charges violations of clearance settled by arbitration in the case of Sierra Theatre versus Glen Theatre, alleging the defendants refused to give the Sierra pictures short of 49 days after closing in Los Angeles first runs, and thereby preventing them from operating in competition with FWC. It further charges monopolization of trade in violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, thereby excluding plaintiffs and unaffiliated theatres from conducting business in competition with FWC.

The complaint alleges Vinnicof remodeled the Sierra on basis of the arbitrator's ruling handed down Oct. 17, 1942, that the Glen should enjoy no advantage over the Sierra. When he tried to open, he charged he could not get pictures because of refusal of the defendants to deliver them within 21 or 18 days after first run closing, also alleging FWC had induced the distributors named not to deliver pictures to the Sierra short of 49 days clearance. This is the third such anti-trust action filed by Law on behalf of independents here within as many months.

Joseph M. Levenson, N. E. Exhibitor, Dies

BOSTON, Nov. 11.—Joseph M. Levenson, 59, one of the owners and operators of the Levenson circuit of theatres in New England, including the deluxe Coolidge Corner and Brookline Village theatres in Boston's suburban district, died yesterday.

Levenson, an attorney by profession, was associated in the building of the New York Strand Theatre in 1913 and was a vice president of the Stanley Mark Strand Theatres until the houses were sold to Warner Bros. He is survived by his widow, a daughter, and a son in the Army Air Corps.

John Cowles Rites Today

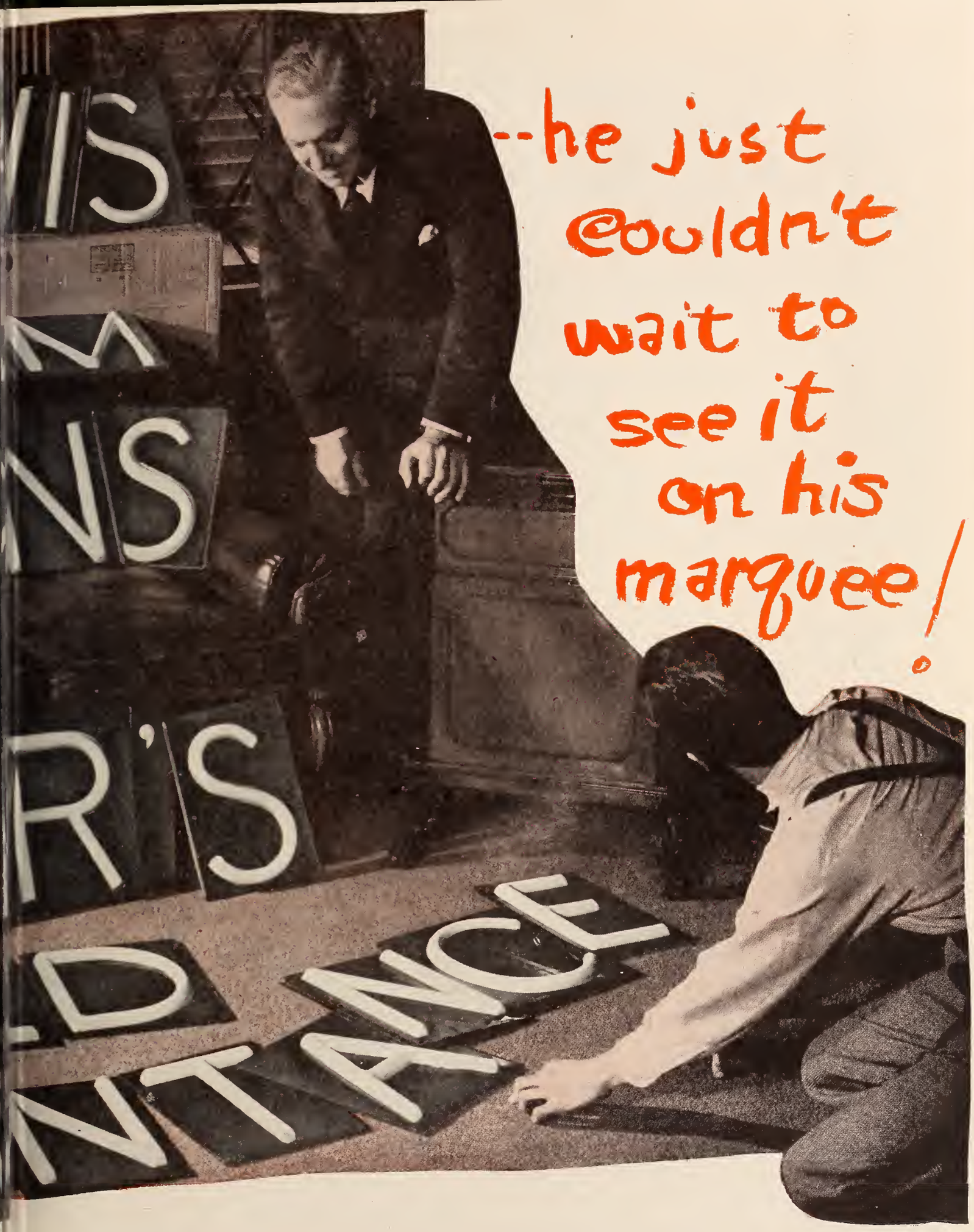
Funeral services will be held today at Riverside Chapel, 76th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, for Norman John Cowles, husband of Rose Lesher Cowles, M-G-M home office cashier. Interment will be at Beth David Cemetery. Cowles died Tuesday.

Mrs. M. Boyd Passes

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11.—Mrs. Margaret Boyd, wife of Leonard Boyd, Republic studio publicity head, died last night following a long illness. In addition to her husband, a daughter, Mildred, also survives.

BETTE DAVIS · MIRIAM HOPKINS
in 'OLD ACQUAINTANCE' with
GIG YOUNG · JOHN LODER · DOLORES MORAN · Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN
Screen Play by John Van Druten and Lenore Coffee · From the Stage Play by JOHN VAN DRUTEN, produced by Dwight Deere Wiman
Produced by HENRY BLANKE

All Give to the National War Fund —it gives to all!



First Report: IT'S UP ON THE MARQUEE AT THE NEW YORK HOLLYWOOD. PRE-RELEASE PROVES IT'S WARNERS' TOPPER FOR "THE OLD MAID"!

'Lady' $52,500; 'O'Rourke' Big In Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, November 11.—"The Lady Takes a Chance" was the standout attraction of an otherwise quiet week, getting $25,500 at the Pantages and $27,000 at the Hillstreet. Best second week business was done by "Princess O'Rourke" at the Warner firstrun.

Estimated receipts for week ending Nov. 10:

"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
"The Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,400)

"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
"The Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. Average: $14,050)

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $12,000).

"The City that Stopped Hitler—Heroic Stalingrad" (Para.)
"Campus Rhythm" (Mono.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,260)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
FOUR STAR—(900) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $3,250).

"The Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $15,240)

"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
"The Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,750)

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross $14,000. (Average: $13,000)

"The Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $25,500. (Average: $12,810)

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (HOLLYWOOD) (1,407) (45c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,800)

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(DOWNTOWN) (3,595) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,760)

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
RITZ—(1,476) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,410)

"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
"The Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
UPTOWN—(1,715) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (HOLLYWOOD) — (3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,170. (Average: $13,650).

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (DOWNTOWN) — (3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,750. (Average: $16,090)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (WILTERN)—(2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,050. (Average: $12,790).

National Caravan Meet in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Nov. 11.—Sidney Samuelson, representing the National Caravan Committee, conducted a Caravan closed meeting here today at offices of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association. Martin G. Smith, Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio president, and secretary Pete Woods were only other out-of-town members present.

Samuelson arrived in Cleveland following a two-day meeting in Akron. Itinerary includes Detroit and Milwaukee and back to Dayton on Nov. 22, and then to Pittsburgh to report his findings to National Caravan Committee chairman M. A. Rosenberg.

Review

"Swing Fever"
(MGM)

Hollywood, Nov. 11

KEYED to the Kay Kayser personality from story to score, this otherwise routine musical is doubtless a natural for his special and numerically consequential followers. He is the particular star of the offering, operating with his band and their music never far away, and the proceedings are for purposes of the Kayser kind of comedy throughout.

In addition to his band—and to the Messrs. Tommy Dorsey and Harry James, who appear in a single sequence and as themselves for the best laugh in the production—Kayser is supported by Marilyn Maxwell, a newcomer of promise, William Gargan, Nat Pendleton, Curt Bois, Morris Ankrum, Andrew Tombes, Maxie Rosenbloom, Clyde Fillmore, Pamela Blake, Lou Nova and Jack Roper (these last two simply as actors, not as themselves), the Merriel Abbott Dancers and, in a song specialty which looks like a left-over from "Thousands Cheer" but clicks no less solidly for that reason, Lena Horne.

The screenplay by Nat Perrin and Warren Wilson, based on a story by Matt Brooks and Joseph Hoffman, brings Kayser to the city as a would-be composer who happens to possess the power to mesmerize people with his right eye. A fight promoter engaged to a cafe songstress persuades her to pretend to fall in love with Kayser so she can persuade him to mesmerize the world's champion boxer in the ring and reap a fortune from the result. The rest of the yarn tells itself.

There is frequent use of bandstand, band, dance and floor show, during the telling of the tale, the numbers varying widely in effectiveness, according to the responses of a Friday night college crowd which habitually roars its approval of this type of show. Irving Starr produced the picture and Tim Whelan directed it. It's for the Kayser clientele.

Running time, 81 minutes. "G."* WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"G" denotes general classification.

Blizzard in Omaha Hits Film Grosses

OMAHA, Nov. 11.—Near-blizzard weather over the weekend took its toll on theatre business this week. However, "Let's Face It" and "Submarine Alert" at the Paramount are expected to hit $12,100. "Stage Door Canteen," one of the few pictures to run three weeks here in recent years, hit $7,000 at the Omaha.

Estimated receipts for week ending Nov. 17-18:

"Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"It's a Great Life" (Col.)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (40c-55c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,100. (Average, $5,500)

"Stage Door Canteen" (UA)
OMAHA—(2,000) (40c-55c) 7 days, move-over from Paramount, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $8,300)

"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Dave Elman's Hobby Lobby Revue on stage. Gross: $14,300. (Average, $14,900)

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average, $6,900)

Alan Ladd in Para.'s 'And Now Tomorrow'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11.—Paramount yesterday announced that Alan Ladd, recently discharged from the Army, will star in "And Now Tomorrow." The picture goes into production Nov. 29. It is understood that the film is slated for earliest possible release.

Rose, Ojerholm Coming

LONDON, Nov. 11.—David Rose, Paramount managing director for Britain, and John Ojerholm of the Paramount laboratories here, will leave for New York early next month for home office visits.

Roth Is Paramount Chicago Manager

Appointment of Max Roth, veteran sales executive, as sales manager at Paramount's Chicago branch was announced here yesterday by G. A. Smith, Western division sales manager. Roth, who will work under J. H. Stevens, branch manager, starts Monday.

Roth entered the business 20 years ago as New York representative for Sol Lesser. Subsequently he was Midwest district manager for Fox and for Columbia, later becoming district manager for Republic in Chicago. For the last four years he was with Warner as Buffalo branch manager.

Browning New Head Of Hub Legion Post

BOSTON, Nov. 11.—Harry Browning, of the M & P Theatres, will be installed as commander of the American Legion, Theatrical Post 270, at a dinner to be held Sunday at the Hotel Statler here.

Harry Smith of RKO, current commander of the post, is general chairman of the event ,and Harry Rosenblatt, of M-G-M, is head of the reservations committee.

To Dedicate NEIC Service Flag Dec. 7

The National Entertainment Industry Council's dedication of an all-industry service flag in Times Square, scheduled for yesterday, Armistice Day, has again been postponed. New date set is Dec. 7 to tie-in with Mayor LaGuardia's plans to mark the second anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

NEIC's flag has over 75,000 blue service stars with the number of gold stars having risen to 55.

'Bell's' $32,300 In Philadelphia; Grosses Good

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 11.—Busines at downtown houses continues high i spite of heavy competition from othe theatrical enterprises. Leading th field is the Aldine with "For Whom the Bell Tolls," where advanced pri are expected to help reach $32,30 "I Dood It" also opened big, pointin to $22,400 for the Stanley.

Estimated receipts for the wee ending Nov. 9-12:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $32,300. (Average, $10,300)

"Yankee Doodle Dandy" (WB)
ARCADIA — (600) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c) days, revival. Gross: $2,800. (Averag $3,500)

"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,400. (Averag $19,000)

"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA) (6 days)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M) (6 days)
EARLE—(3,000) (46c-57c-75c) 6 days vaudeville, including Jan Garber's orche tra, Guy Kibbee, Buster West & Lucil Page with Ernest Goodheart, Dupree Charlo, Liz Tilton and Bob Davis. Gros $21,200. (Average, $23,900)

"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
FAY'S—(2,000) (29c-35c-46c-57c-68c) days of vaudeville including Buddy Joh son's orchestra and Spider Bruce. Gros $10,000. (Average, $10,000)

"The Man from Down Under" (M-G-M)
FOX—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) days. Gross: $15,700. (Average, $17,800)

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
KARLTON—(1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-6 75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (A erage, $4,700)

"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68 75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $10,000. (A erage, $5,300)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57 68c-75c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,30 (Average, $22,900)

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68 75c) 7 days. Gross: $22,400. (Averag $18,300)

"The Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
STANTON—(1,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68 75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,100. (A erage, $8,400)

Low Cost Sets Ke To Television Futur

"The number one problem of t post-war television industry is make an acceptable low cost rad television receiver", Thomas F. Joyc manager of RCA's radio phonograp and television department, told a joi meeting of the American Televisi Society and the Advetrising Club New York at a dinner meeting the Advertising Club on Wednesda

"Television broadcasting cannot b come a substantial, self-supportin profitable advertising medium un television receivers are in millions homes," he stated. "To make telev sion a nation-wide broadcasting ser ice will involve the investment of mi lions of dollars in studios and tran mitters to be located in the key citi of the United States; and more mi lions of dollars for the building network facilities and the producti of suitable television advertising pr grams," he added.

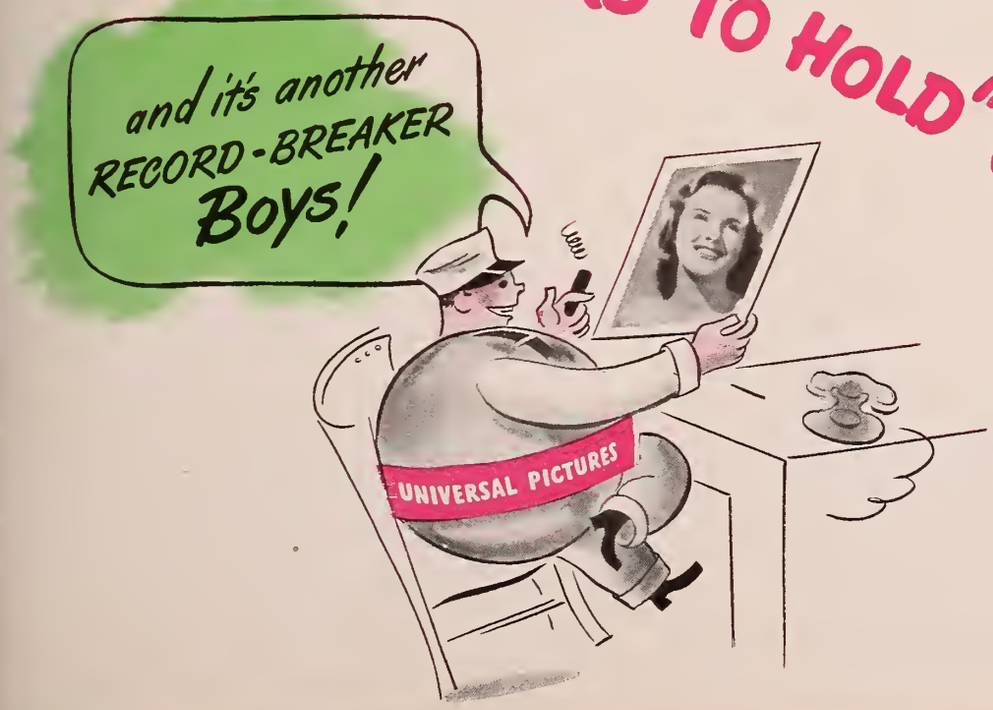
50,000 See Rogers

Republic's Roy Rogers appearing the Fox, St. Louis, with Trigger, h horse, set a new high in attendan for that first-run, playing to 50,0 in the first four days, company he claims.

DEANNA

DURBIN

HERE'S THE "HERS TO HOLD" GIRL AGAIN!



DON'T MISS THE KISS THAT MADE THE WHOLE TOWN GIGGLE!

His Bu

Never mor

Never more

Never mor

Never more

DEANNA DURBIN

Her's Sister

Wonderful

Desirable

Beautiful

Holdable

THE "HERS TO HOLD" GIRL

IN THE YOURS-TO-HOLD OVER

PICTURE!

TONE LOVED HER LIKE A . . . LOVER!

O'BRIEN LOVED HER LIKE A . . . BROTHER!

Hi

Deanna DURBIN ★ *Franchot* TONE ★ *Pat* O'BRIEN

Everybody loves Deanna Durbin

TAMIROFF LOVED HER LIKE A . . . TAMIROFF!

MOWBRAY LOVED HER LIKE A . . . FATHER!

Everybody will love

Butler's Sister

in

A FRANK BORZAGE PRODUCTION

with **AKIM TAMIROFF** • EVELYN ANKERS • ALAN MOWBRAY • FRANK JENKS

WALTER CATLETT • ELSA JANSSEN • Original Screen Play, Samuel Hoffenstein • Betty Reinhardt

Directed by FRANK BORZAGE • Produced by FELIX JACKSON • Associate Producer FRANK SHAW

DEANNA DURBIN

Marve-lovely! That's what you are...

and UNIVERSALLY GREAT FOR UNIVERSAL EXHIBITORS

Deanna DURBIN · Franchot TONE · Pat O'BRIEN

His Butler's Sister

A FRANK BORZAGE PRODUCTION

with

AKIM TAMIROFF · EVELYN ANKERS · ALAN MOWBRAY · FRANK JENKS

WALTER CATLETT · ELSA JANSSEN · Original Screen Play, Samuel Hoffenstein · Betty Reinhardt

Directed by FRANK BORZAGE · Produced by FELIX JACKSON · Associate Producer FRANK SHAW

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

Preferred Time Is Sought by MGM on All Its Releases

(Continued from page 1)

experience in thousands of similar situations."

The company is telling its selling force it feels its first group of 12 for current season includes more in top rental class than ever before and that it expects to maintain "a steady succession of top box-office attractions."

"There's no reason to play down any of the current pictures of that type in the fear that, by and large, we're going to have 'too many' this year. Each should be carefully appraised for what it is worth—and the rentals it earns will be deserved. Then as the next one is released and it earns top bracket consideration, it, too, must be appraised for its true worth at the only place that counts—the boxoffice."

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported Oct. 25 that all M-G-M exchanges have been advised to seek bookings for "Thousands Cheer" for the full Christmas through New Year's week and were asked not to accept split-week playdates on the picture immediately before or after the year-end holidays. This is regarded as an application of the company's overall views on preferred time for its product.

Extra Paramount Dividend Expected

(Continued from page 1)

Paramount's rise in earnings. If a special dividend is voted, it is understood, it may raise the annual profit-sharing to $2 a share. Regular dividend increase is expected to yield $1.50 or $1.75 from the present $1.20. In 1942, $1.05 was voted.

Current Paramount earnings are estimated at $4 a share for the year. For the first six months a total of $1.97 was shown and estimates for the third quarter are $1.10.

Only restraint on still larger melon cuttings is believed to be the desire to further pare outstanding funded debt. Remaining $12,000,000 funded debt of the company may be liquidated by the end of next year. Cash on hand is estimated at about $24,000,000, exclusive of tax reserves.

Agnew Host as Para. Partners See 'Lady'

Neil Agnew, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, was host at a dinner party and special screening of "Lady in the Dark" Wednesday for a large group of Paramount theatre partners now visiting New York.

The dinner, held at "21," was attended by Karl Hoblitzelle, R. J. O'Donnell, E. V. Richards, Maurice Barr, Slim Higginbottom, M. J. Mullin, Sam Pinanski, John Balaban, R. B. Wilby, Frank Rogers, Abe Blank, Ralph Branton, Harry Royster, John Fitzgibbons, and a Paramount home office contingent which included Barney Balaban, Adolph Zukor, Austin Keough, Louis Phillips, Russell Holman, Charles M. Reagan, George Smith, Hugh Owen, Leonard Goldenson, Leon Netter, Sam Dembow, John Hicks, Jr., John Hertz, Sr., Ed Weisl and Maurice Newton.

Exhibitors Act on Decree; No Halt of Arbitration

(Continued from page 1)

lease situation is that on appeal board quarters in the RCA Building, Rockefeller Center, where space is at a premium. The Center reportedly is pressing for immediate action on renewal or cancellation of the lease.

A new operating budget for the entire arbitration system was to have been set up by Nov. 20. However, if the current arbitration budget of $285,000 is exhausted prior to an agreement being reached on a new consent decree, the arbitration system can make use of an auxiliary fund of $25,000, which was authorized at the beginning of the fiscal year to meet contingencies.

Meanwhile, it was learned that a petition for the extension of Marsh's term as a member of the appeal board will be presented to Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard soon, probably within the next week. Marsh's term expires Nov. 20. The terms of George W. Alger and George Putnam do not expire until next Feb. 1. Future of the decree and the arbitration system will be known well in advance of that date, it is to be expected.

(Continued from page 1)

General Tom C. Clark in Washington early this week. At the close of the Memphis meeting Kuykendall said:

"We will do everything possible to get a fair decree. We will not accept any slip-shod, half-way measures from the distributors such as are represented by the proposals they have made up to now. If it must be a fight for fairness, it will be one."

Kuykendall said that similar exhibitor meetings on the decree are being or will be held all over the country during the next few days.

In Washington it was learned that Abram F. Myers, Allied States chairman and general counsel, had a lengthy conference with Clark before the latter left for Texas, at which the decree situation was thoroughly canvassed from all angles, and Myers brought up to date regarding recent developments in the negotiations and the position of the Department. The decree will be a major subject of discussion at the Milwaukee meeting of Allied directors next week.

Officials Non-Committal

Meanwhile, as the Nov. 20 deadline approaches, department officials have adopted a highly non-committal attitude as to what they will do in the event the distributors have submitted no satisfactory proposals for revision of the decree when the trial period expires.

"That remains to be seen," was the stock answer today to all queries as to whether the department would take any immediate action.

A survey of the situation, however, indicated that the department is under no pressure of time. Only the trial period expires next week, and the decree will continue in effect. Accordingly, the department need take no immediate action, but has the choice of continuing negotiations for revision or appealing for re-opening of the case any time it chooses.

Even if the department does ask to have the case revived, such action will not close the door to further negotiations, which might go on even into the trial itself as they did three years ago.

13 Film Leaders at Milwaukee Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

States; David Palfreyman, MPPDA; M. A. Rosenberg, Allied; H. M. Ritchey, M-G-M; George Dembow, National Screen; Rotus Harvey, ITO of Northern California and Nevada; Charles Trampe, Film Service, Milwaukee; Steve Broidy, Monogram; Col. H. A. Cole, Allied; Al Steffes; L. O. Lukan, ITO of Washington, and Sidney Samuelson, Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania.

Shortage of pictures, and tax problems, will be two of the major topics to be discussed at the convention. National board of Allied, of 30 members, will also hold its quarterly meeting here in conjunction with the convention.

Phila. Tribute to Skouras and Marines

(Continued from page 1)

miere of which was held simultaneously at the nearby Fox Theatre.

Mayor Bernard Samuel presented a scroll of tribute for Skouras to W. C. Michel, 20th executive, who accepted in the absence of the company head.

Some 670 high ranking military, government, business and film industry leaders attended, with a dais of 30 flanking 40 Marine heroes who went through the Guadalcanal battle. Philadelphia, Washington and New York press and radio were both largely represented, including trade paper representatives from here and New York.

Mary Pickford Seeks U. A. Bylaws Change

(Continued from page 1)

expected as a result of Miss Pickford's proposed suit. One instance of how unanimous action can stifle a realignment of owner-members is that of Alexander Korda's failure to sell his one-quarter UA interest to David O. Selznick when Charles Chaplin refused to approve of the sale.

Sarnoff Envisages Fantastic Radios

LANCASTER, Pa., Nov. 11.—"Tiny electron tubes may make it possible to design radio receivers and transmitters no larger than a fountain pen, a cigarette case, a billfold, or a lady's powder-box. Some day people may carry television screens on their wrists as they now carry watches," David Sarnoff, RCA president, said in an address before the Lancaster Chapter of the American Association for the Advancement of Science here today in outlining post-war radio possibilities.

'Irish Rose' First for Rogers' New Firm

Charles R. Rogers' newly-formed Film Musical Productions will inaugurate its two pictures yearly schedule with "My Wild Irish Rose," a musical to be released through United Artists. MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 9 announced the formation of the new company.

Owners Voice Eagerness to Serve Nation

(Continued from page 1)

the theatre collection next year for the Red Cross.

A standing tribute to the memory of Ike Libson, recently deceased WAC theatre chairman for Cincinnati, was given, with a formal resolution passed lauding his works and honoring his memory.

Arthur L. Mayer, treasurer and assistant coordinator, reporting on the status of the WAC exchequer, stated that only six exchange areas had not paid them assesments in full, a defection which he anticipated would shortly be remedied.

Mayer Reports on Films

Mayer also reported on the war information film program, which provides for 26 short subjects, as well as 26 bulletins not exceeding 250 feet in length, to be attached to newsreels and then to receive supplementary distribution to theatres not playing newsreels. Greatest number of bookings since the last report was totalled by "Wings Up," two-reeler made by the Air Corps, with narration by Capt. Clark Gable.

"At the Front," distributed through Warners, with 677 prints available, rolled up 12,848 bookings in seven months, Mayer noted. "The Battle of Russia," being distributed for the WAC by 20th Century-Fox, on a minimum film rental to return cost of 450 prints and advertising accessories, Mayer declared an "extremely important job." He complimented Tom Connors and Hal Horne, 20th-Fox executives, for "the vigor and enthusiasm with which their organization has thrown itself into the distribution of the picture."

Discuss Fourth Loan

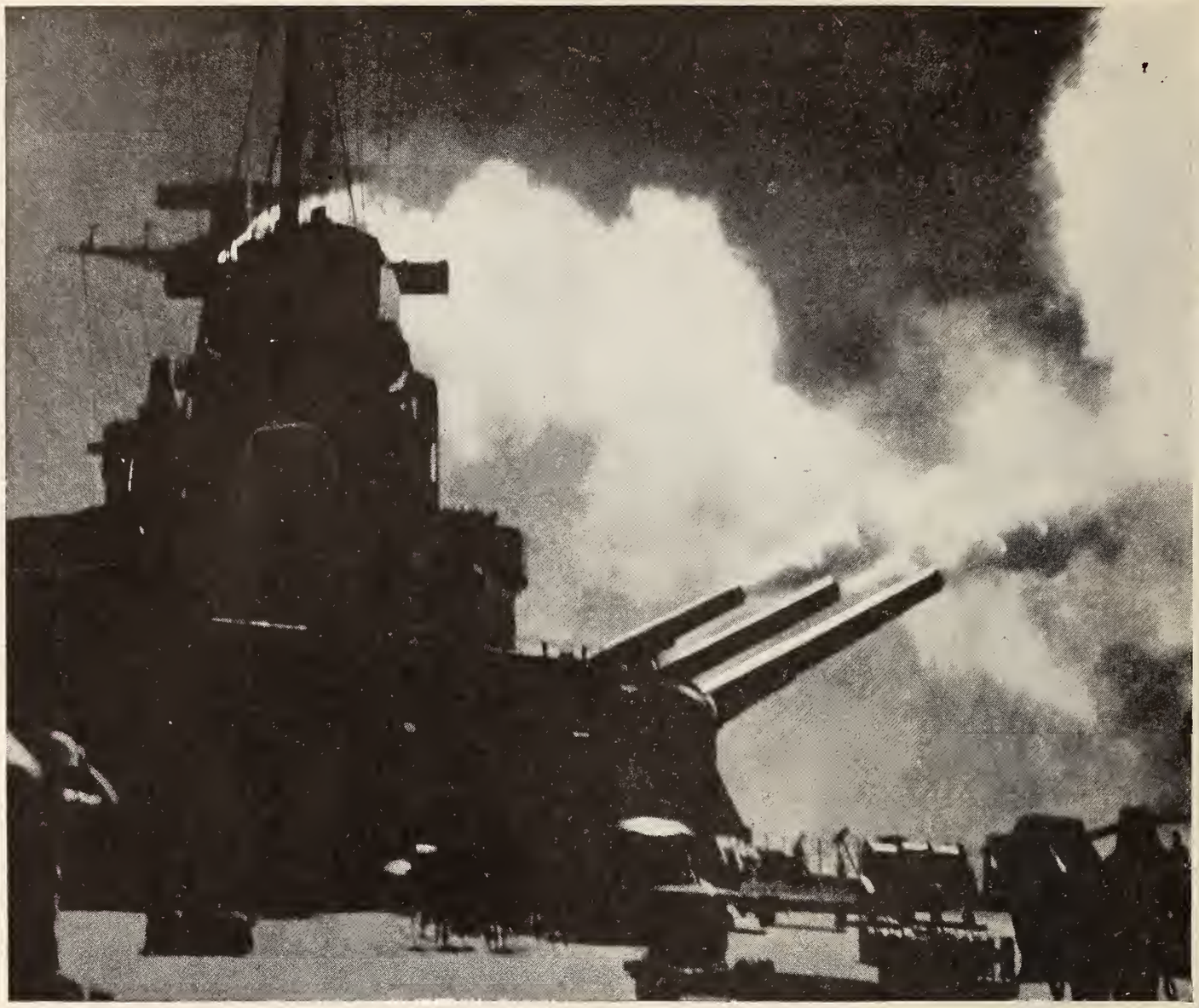
Discussions on the Fourth War Loan, scheduled to begin in mid-January, were conducted by Fabian, who relayed the "urgent request" from the Treasury's War Finance Committee that theatres, "one of the best outlets for small bonds," again cooperate.

It was decided that WAC division chiefs would confer with Theodore R. Gamble, WFC director, on final procedure. Among the methods of cooperation to be considered are Hollywood Victory Committee cooperation, bond premieres and another free-movie day, with the Treasury advancing the possibility that the President might be available for a Fourth War Loan "film bulletin."

The Red Cross theatre collection, scheduled for March 19-25, was discussed, with Edward L. Alperson, RKO, chairman of the WAC special events committee, to hold further conferences with the Red Cross.

Lou Metzger was appointed formally to the post of assistant chairman, WAC theatres division.

Attending the meeting in addition to those already mentioned were: M. J. Mullin, G. Ralph Branton, John Balaban, Sam Rinzler, Sam Pinanski, Harry H. Lowenstein, Karl Hoblitzelle, Sam Dembow, Sam E. Morris, Leon Netter, Leonard Goldenson, Stanton Griffis, Joseph E. Bernhard, Herman Levy, A. H. Blank, E. V. Richards, Edward L. Alperson, R. J. O'Donnell, R. B. Wilby, C. C. Moskowitz and Dan Michalove.



U. S. Navy Official Photo

SOUND...*in war and peace*

Strange as it may seem, the same principles learned in recording and reproducing sound for motion pictures are today being applied by scientists to speed the winning of the war.

Naturally the engineers at Bell Telephone Laboratories and Western Electric—who gave the screen its voice—are actively engaged in the development of these new weapons.

Many of their new discoveries and improved techniques—hastened by the pressure of war—will be utilized in the development of equipment to provide still finer sound in post-war pictures.

Electrical Research Products Division
OF
Western Electric Company
INCORPORATED
195 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y.

★ SPEED THE DAY OF VICTORY BY BUYING WAR BONDS—MORE WAR BONDS—AND STILL MORE! ★

FILE COPY
DO NOT REMOVE

...and Radio News
Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

T. F. PRODUCERS &
DISTRIBUTORS OF AM., INC.
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK,
N. Y. (3 COPIE

L. 54. NO. 93 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1943 TEN CENTS

...esume Suit, ...CCITO Urges ...of J.'s Clark

...o Decree of Any Kind Can Remedy Evils'

"No consent decree or amended ...nsent decree can possibly remedy ...monopolistic evils" charged to ...tributors; "everything points ...ard one solution: a continuation ...ainst the (distributor) defend...s by the United States." This ...the conclusion of independent ex...bitor members of the Pacific ...ast Conference of Independent ...hibitors in a brief written on de...e operation.

The brief and pleading now ...ests with Assistant Attorney ...General Tom Clark, for action ...ecommended to the Depart...ment of Justice by independents ...of six Pacific Coast states and ...Alaska as formally presented ...by L. O. Lukan, Seattle, and ...Rotus Harvey, San Francisco.

(Continued on page 6)

...onus Regulations ...nnounced by Gov't

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—The In...nal Revenue Bureau announced the ...les covering the payment of year...d bonuses under salary stabilization ...ogram on Saturday.

Without prior approval, bonuses may ...paid as follows: Where the em...oyee's base salary has not been in...eased since October, 1942, he may ...paid a bonus which does not exceed ...e higher of (*A*) the dollar amount ...id for the employer's last accounting ...ar ended prior to Oct. 3, 1942, or ...3) the dollar amount of a bonus

(Continued on page 7)

...eaders in Tribute To Fabian-Mayer

The Si Fabian-Arthur Mayer testi...onial luncheon being sponsored by ...e theatre owners of Greater New ...ork at the Hotel Astor tomorrow, ...romises to be one of the largest in ...ew York exhibitor history; over ...000 will attend. On the dais in ad...tion to Fabian and Mayer will be ...arney Balaban, Joseph Bernhard, ...Harry Brandt, Jack Cohn, Mrs. S. I. ...Fabian, Mrs. Rose Fabian, mother of ...S. I., Mrs. Arthur Mayer, Samuel ...Rinzler, Herman Robbins, James J. ...Walker and Adolph Zukor.

New Decree Offer Likely This Week

Officials of consenting companies still are mulling over new decree proposals designed to replace those rejected by Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark two weeks ago. Weekend indications were that decisions may be reached within the next few days and new proposals put in readiness for the Department of Justice before the end of the week. The decree trial period ends Saturday but the document will remain in full force and effect thereafter.

Government Will Ask for Loosening Of Local Laws

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—The Department of Justice was disclosed at the weekend to be prepared to intercede with local civic authorities throughout the country for relaxation of unnecessary or inequitable ordinances prejudicial to exhibitors.

George W. McMurphey, chief of the amusements section of the Office of Civilian Defense, announced that machinery has been set up to deal

(Continued on page 7)

CHARGE THEATRES BREAK WPB ORDERS

200 Projectors to Be Made in First Quarter of 1944

About 200 sets of sound projection apparatus will be manufactured during the first three months of 1944 on approval of the service equipment division of the War Production Board, it was learned here at the weekend. Apparatus will not be available for new theatres, but only for existing houses or for replacement of equipment destroyed in theatre fires.

John Eberson, theatre architect and Office of Civilian Requirements theatre official, late last week revealed that construction of four new theatres, two on the East Coast and two in the West, in shipbuilding cities, have been approved by the OCR and the War Production Board project approval and project rating bureaus. Applications for construction of new houses are being received daily, Eberson stated, but since he "likes to discourage building in towns which may be ghost towns after the war," he is disinclined to start approval machinery in motion for applications from cities or towns which draw on soldier camps or munition factories for their patrons.

OCR's McMurphey Says Owners Overspend On Maintenance

By BERTRAM LINZ

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—Widespread violation of War Production Board restrictions on expenditures for maintenance, repair and operation of theatres has been uncovered by the amusements and recreation section of the Office of Civilian Requirements, it was disclosed at the weekend by George W. McMurphey, chief of the OCR amusements section.

A large proportion of exhibitors, McMurphey said, appear to be ignorant of the requirements of order CMP-5 that such expenditures must be kept down quarterly to the level of the corresponding period last year, unless authority is secured for larger expenditures. The situation is not confined to small exhibitors, he found, for five of the largest circuits in the country were unaware of it.

The requirement is contained in a

(Continued on page 7)

Scollard Wins L. A. 40-Hour Work Week

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 14.—Exchanges here will revert back to a 40-hour work week under a reversal of the original War Manpower Commission decision reached here at the weekend after a hearing at which C. J. Scollard of Paramount, represented distributors. WMC has ruled a 48-hour week for back room employees.

Sidney S. Braunberg, M-G-M associate counsel in New York, accompanied Scollard here.

There is a probability that the action taken here will establish a precedent covering the San Francisco exchanges.

$11,655,000 Para. Net; Cuts $2,000,000 Off Debt

Paramount's board of directors, headed by Barney Balaban, president, Friday authorized the prepayment on Dec. 1 of an additional $2,000,000 of the company's debt, making a total debt reduction of approximately $13,000,000 since Jan. 2. On Dec. 1, the consolidated debt will aggregate approximately $18,000,000, comprising $2,800,000 debt of consolidated domestic theatre subsidiaries, $5,200,000 debt of Canadian theatre subsidiaries payable in

Barney Balaban

(Continued on page 7)

Big 'Night of Stars' Show Tomorrow Eve

Five hundred screen and theatrical stars, fighting heroes of the United Nations and some of the most prominent news commentators will be included on the program to be offered at the 10th annual "Night of Stars" show at Madison Square Garden tomorrow. "Victory" will be the keynote of the presentation for the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, overseas needs and Palestine.

Public leaders, executives of business, films included, and notables from all walks of life are sponsoring "Night of Stars." Nathan Straus is chairman of the show. Others serving include Fiorello H. LaGuardia, Prof. Albert Einstein, Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Grover A. Whalen,

(Continued on page 7)

20th-Fox Will Pay Three Dividends

Quarterly cash dividend of $1.12½ per share on the outstanding prior preferred stock of 20th Century-Fox has been declared, payable Dec. 15 to stockholders of record at the close of business on Dec. 1, Sydney Towell, treasurer, reported at the weekend.

Cash dividend of $.37½ per share for the fourth quarter on outstanding convertible preferred stock has also been declared, payable Dec. 15 to

(Continued on page 4)

Personal Mention

CHARLES EINFELD, Warner vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity, is scheduled to leave for the Coast at the end of the week.

•

ALBERTA GILBERT and MRS. IDA GREEN, who have resigned from posts at the 20th Century-Fox exchange in Des Moines, were honored at a farewell party given by their co-workers last week.

•

SGT. JACK PARTINGTON, JR., son of JACK PARTINGTON, general manager of the Roxy, New York, was married yesterday to JEANNE BRIDESON at St. Thomas' Church here.

•

JOHN A. BACHMAN, Warner branch manager in Charlotte, returned there late last week from a visit to Memphis.

•

DAVID SUGARMAN, manager of Warners' Colonial, Hartford, is convalescing at home from a recent operation.

•

MERLE BLAIR, co-owner of the Regent, Cedar Falls, Ia., returned to that city from Rochester, Minn., where he underwent a physical checkup.

•

LT. ROBERT O. GILBERT, former manager of theatres in Oskaloosa, Ia., is spending a 14-day furlough in that town.

•

BEN FISH, representing SAMUEL GOLDWYN, visited Cleveland late last week.

•

BERT CATLEY, manager of the Orpheum, Oakland, Cal., is recovering from a recent illness.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, will return tomorrow from Minneapolis.

•

JACK COHEN, National Screen Service district manager, spent last week in Cleveland.

•

HARRY A. HARRIS, head of the Harris circuit here, will be married Dec. 12.

•

HARVEY DAY of Terrytoons returned to New York at the weekend from a Southern and Western trip.

•

WALDO BAILLE, of the Balaban & Katz advertising department, has been inducted into the Navy.

•

JULES FIELD, 20th-Fox exploiteer, returned from Philadelphia over the weekend.

•

HERBERT PICKMAN, Warner field man in the Atlanta and Memphis areas, is a New York visitor.

•

FRANK SELZER, Bronston Productions publicity director, will leave Hollywood today for San Francisco.

•

FRANK BUDD, owner of the Anita Theatre, Anita, Ia., will enter the Navy Dec. 1.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

A RECENT survey made by *Editor & Publisher* covering 65 newspapers in 25 principal cities uncovered a practically unanimous consensus that some form of rationing of newspaper advertising will be needed by the first of the year. "Very substantial" cuts in newsprint quotas will be made in 1944, publishers have been forewarned already by the War Production Board's Newspaper Advisory Committee.

The *Editor & Publisher* survey disclosed that several instances of actual rationing of advertising space already are in force around the country. In most cases, however, conservation measures voluntarily adopted by newspapers to save newsprint have made necessary only minor limitations and provisional agreements for advertisers. In other cases, no restrictions whatever have been invoked yet.

Where ad rationing plans are in use or being planned, the survey showed, practically all are based in some degree on the advertiser's standing as to length of time as an advertiser, average amount of lineage placed and regularity of advertising now and in the past.

Film and theatre ad officials have been apprehensive for some months over the prospect of ad rationing and the basis on which it will be established. They are almost unanimously agreed that adequate space is being made available to them now to get across what needs to be said, even by those papers which are rationing or in some degree limiting space. Frequently, however, they report they are unable to get all the space they want for splurge ads on openings of prestige pictures—space that is well within their own budgets.

How seriously ad rationing plans in the offing will cut into what is now regarded as minimum space requirements is giving new conern to film and theatre ad executives. They have in mind recent practices of many publications in allocating large space to new advertisers operating under government contracts and selling nothing to the public. The cost of such advertising, it has been pointed out publicly, is charged against operating costs and frequently absorbed by what would otherwise be excess profits taxes. If such advertising is permitted to remain undisturbed under specific rationing regulations to come, direct to the public advertising will suffer seriously and unjustly.

• •

An attorney for a consenting company, active in the current decree revision work, philosophized the other day that all of the major problems of the industry stem from film prices. "Give the exhibitors a 20 per cent cancellation right with a full season's product supply and all of the internal complaints will disappear automatically," he remarked.

The following day, Southern exhibitors meeting in Memphis rejected the consenting companies' decree proposals and countered with a recommendation for a 20 per cent canellation right and sales of pictures in blocks of more than five.

• •

Similarity of newsreel coverage in wartime is proving a serious problem to newsreel theatres and some first run houses which customarily have bought several reels either to obtain the best sequences from each or to fill in established program time schedules. There is less material in the reels now for such houses to draw upon, largely because of the newsreel pools of war material which makes the same footage available to all. The result is an increasing demand for short subjects in houses in which normal program time allocated to newsreels is not wholly consumed now by the newsreel footage available.

• •

After reading most of the trade reviews of Pete Harrison's initial production effort, "Deerslayer," one is moved to give a little serious and, if one is a reviewer, humble thought to a recent observation of Samuel Goldwyn's. Said Goldwyn: "It is easier to be a reviewer than a motion picture producer."

• •

Sam Rinzler to a friendly competitor:

"How are my customers behaving in your theatres these days?"

Coming Events

Nov. 16 — Luncheon honoring Fabian and Arthur Mayer sp sored by theatre owners of N York, Hotel Astor.

Nov. 16 — "Night of Stars" sh United Jewish Appeal, Mad Square Garden, New York.

Nov. 17 — AMPA's "Salute Heroes of the Motion Pictur dustry" Hotel Astor, New Y

Nov. 18-19—Annual convention, dependent Theatres Protec Association of Wisconsin and per Michigan, Schroeder H Milwaukee.

Nov. 19—Fall Dinner, Picture I neers, Waldorf-Astoria H New York.

Nov. 29-Dec. 1 — M-G-M dist managers and home office re sentatives meeting, Blacks Hotel, Chicago.

Dec. 7—NEIC Service Flag ded tion, New York.

$456,162 for Fund From 9 Compani

Incomplete list of corporate tributions from the industry to National War Fund totals $456, according to a statement released the weekend by Adolph Zukor, ch man. It was emphasized by Zu that this figure did not represent nations from individuals within industry, but only corporations.

Breakdown of corporate gifts lows: Columbia, $18,000; Loew's Loew's Employees' Welfare F $77,500; National Screen, $7,5 Paramount Pictures and theatre p ners, $115,000; RKO, $31,700; Century-Fox and National Theat $87,950; Universal, $24,000; Un Artists, $10,000; Warner B $84,500.

An attempt is being made, Zu stated, to collect the figures on made by individuals in the indu in order that a single figure of d tions made by the entire industry compiled.

The RKO exchange here will visited this afternoon at 3 P. M. Sam Rinzler and Fred Schwartz their quest for donations and ple for the fund. Bob Wolff, excha manager and RKO chairman on be of the NWF, will sponsor this meet

Meltzer Appointed WB Publicity He

Mort Blumenstock, in charge Warner advertising-publicity in East, announced at the weekend Allan Meltzer, who has been ac temporarily as Eastern publicity m ager since the resignation of Mit Rawson, has officially taken over post.

Meltzer, after directing publicity exploitation for Paramount's Whom the Bell Tolls," joined W ners last July to assist Blumenstoc the premieres of "This Is the Ar He was formerly publicity directo "This Is War," Office of War In mation's radio program and prio that was publicity director for Col bia Artists.

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"When you hear the ROAR tonight at 8:15 it will be Leo, the M-G-M Lion launching his new ticket-selling program from Coast to Coast!"

"We'll advertise 'GIRL CRAZY' to start—then 'THOUSANDS CHEER'!"

FIRST AGAIN!

The Friendly Company, always the Leader, now sells tickets for you over the Mutual Network *(also WHN in New York)* on its exciting new program five nights each week, Monday through Friday. First in Newspapers! First in Magazines! First in Radio! Now the air-waves are FRIENDLY!

ALL OVER AMERICA"

ARS GRATIA ARTIS

TRADE MARK

LISTEN TONIGHT
AT 8:15 OVER
MUTUAL NETWORK
At 8:30 on WHN in New York)

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

Personal Mention

A. H. BLANK, Tri-States and Central States Theatre head, returned to Des Moines over the weekend from New York.

•

LT. ROBERT GOTTLIEB, son of DOROTHY DAY GOTTLIEB, Tri-States Theatres publicity director, and HARRY GOTTLIEB, 20th Century-Fox salesman in Des Moines, is on furlough in that city from Miami Beach.

•

JACK BERNHARD, former Universal producer, and son of Joseph Bernhard, general manager of Warner Theatres, has been awarded the Air Medal for action in Western Europe.

•

NAOMI GORDON, secretary to PETE ROSIAN, Universal district manager in Cincinnati, will resign Dec. 3 to be married to RUBIN EPSTEIN, at the St. Moritz Hotel, New York, Dec. 12.

•

WILLIAM BAKER, Chicago exchange manager for Republic, is expected to undergo an operation shortly. ED WALTON, Republic district manager, will substitute.

•

PAUL ARMAND, Famous Players-Canadian maintenance executive, has returned to Vancouver from a recent trip to the Yukon territory.

•

HARRIET SAMUELSON, of the Columbia exchange, Des Moines, will be married to SGT. BERNARD WEINDRUCH in Des Moines, Nov. 21.

•

PVT. PAUL GOLDBERG, son of HARRY GOLDBERG, director of advertising and publicity for Warner Theatres, is in New York on a 10-day leave.

•

JOHN MANTA, president of Indiana-Illinois Theatres, has left for a vacation at Hot Springs, accompanied by MRS. MANTA.

•

HUGH HUBER, vice-president and treasurer of Hal Roach Studios, is expected to leave Thursday for Hollywood.

•

LEN BISHOP, manager of the Tivoli, Toronto, was married recently in Buffalo to JUNE ROWNTREE.

•

RUBY CUSTER, of the United Artists exchange in Vancouver, has resigned following her recent marriage.

•

TOM BIRD, of the Famous Players-Canadian home office in Toronto, has enlisted in the R.C.A.F.

•

WILLIAM J. FADIMAN, M-G-M scenario editor, is here from Hollywood.

•

JERRY WALD, Warner producer, will arrive in New York Nov. 26.

•

RALPH WHEELWRIGHT, M-G-M studio publicist, is visiting here.

Miss Rosenfield Will Manage for Roach

Grace Rosenfield has been appointed Eastern representative for Hal Roach Studios, effective immediately.

Miss Rosenfield has been associated with Roach for several years as publicity director and Eastern talent scout and will now assume complete charge of all Eastern activities of the studio.

Film Heroes Here For Ampa 'Salute'

Guests to Ampa's "Salute to Heroes of the Industry," to be held Wednesday noon at the Hotel Astor, will include Staff Sgt. Schiller Cohen, hero with the Air Force in North Africa and recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, who will come from Denver; Seaman 1st Class Eddie Fitzpatrick, now in Pittsburgh, formerly on the U.S.S. *Leonard Wood,* who was with American landing troops in the occupation of North Africa; Harold Zeltner, of the Marine Corps and a hero of Guadalcanal; 1st Lt. William Murphy, of the Army Air Force, who downed six German planes; Sgt. Jack Simms, member of the Kiska, Alaska, landing party. Practically all of the heroes are filmites.

Many Stars Expected

Among stars expected are Greer Garson, who will attend with her husband, Richard Ney of the Navy. At the special Marines' table will be high ranking officers of the Corps and heroes from that branch of the service, including Sgt. John Bassilone, who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for killing "at least 35 Japs" and Capt. Edward Callow, formerly with Warner Brothers, who will bring Fred Schmidt, hero of Guadalcanal, now totally blind.

The industry will salute all of its 28,200 service-men and women at the luncheon at which Postmaster General Frank C. Walker will be the principal speaker and Charles Francis Coe, MPPDA vice-president, will be toastmaster.

Dietz to Unveil Flag

Features of the program also include the unveiling by Howard Dietz, vice-president of M-G-M, of a large service flag and the signing of a special V-mail letter to be sent to everyone of the industry's men and women represented by the 28,200 stars on the flag. Signers of the letter in behalf of the industry will be the presidents of film companies who will be present at the luncheon. They are: Harry Cohn, Columbia; Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew's; Barney Balaban, Paramount; N. Peter Rathvon, RKO Radio; Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox; E. C. Raftery, United Artists; N. J. Blumberg, Universal; Harry Warner, Warner Brothers; O. Henry Briggs, PRC, and James R. Grainger, Republic. For industry associations, Will H. Hays, president of MPPDA; George Schaefer, WAC chairman, and Vincent Trotta, president of the AMPA, also will sign.

20th-Fox Will Pay Three Dividends

(*Continued from page* 1)

stockholders of record at the close of business Dec. 1.

Cash dividend of $1.00 per share on outstanding common stock has likewise been declared, payable Dec. 15 to stockholders of record at the close of business Dec. 1.

Bookers Plan Show

Motion Bookers' Club of New York will sponsor an all-industry show, "This Is the Business," for its "dependency allotment fund" drive.

Buy Soldiers' Gift Bonds Up to Dec. 1

Washington, Nov. 14.—Brig. Gen. Clayton S. Adams, director of the Army Postal Service, has assured delivery by Dec. 25 of all "V-Mail" notices of war bond purchases as Christmas presents to American service men and women overseas, if such notices are mailed before Dec. 1, since it is already too late to send them Christmas packages. Notification may be given in personal correspondence.

In addition to packages, many servicemen from film ranks are marked for cash gifts from home offices and elsewhere.

20% Tax Bill to House Next Week

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—With the new schedules of 1944 taxes practically complete the House Ways and Means Committee this week will whip its revenue bill into shape with a view to making it possible for the House to begin consideration of the measure next Monday, instead of tomorrow as scheduled originally.

While a few minor changes may be made in rates before the bill is finally printed, no further consideration was expected to be given to the admission tax, which will be increased from one to two cents on each 10 cents charged for theatre admission.

Under the bill as it now stands, members of the industry will find their income taxes changed but slightly, while accounting will be somewhat simplified by consolidation of the Victory and normal taxes. Business costs, however, will rise by the extent of increases in taxes on local and long-distance telephone and telegraph service, passenger transportation, local postage and mail rates.

Exhibitor Tribute For 'Polio' Efforts

Members of the executive committee of the 1943 "March of Dimes" campaign were guests at luncheon Friday of national chairman Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew's president, at the Rockefeller Luncheon Club here. Schenck paid tribute for their work in piling up $2,116,000 in the 1943 drive.

Schenck described a luncheon-meeting with President Roosevelt at which he reported to the President on the drive effort put forth by theatre owners and staffs all over the country.

Among those attending the luncheon were C. C. Moskowitz, Harry Brandt, Si Fabian, Oscar Doob, Harry Kalmine, E. C. Dowden, Walter Vincent, Leonard Goldenson, Eddie Alperson, Malcolm Kingsberg, Gus Eyssell, Dan Michalove and William Kupper.

Date for the 1944 "March of Dimes" drive, it was announced, is Jan. 24-31, with Schenck again chairman.

Peskay Takes Offices

Edward Peskay, Eastern representative for Samuel Bronston, Gregor Rabinovitch and Benedict Bogeaus, has taken quarters at 1600 Broadway.

Army Will Answer Critics of Film Exhibitions Toda

Severe criticism in recent weeks old and poor film exhibitions for troops overseas, by Francis Harm War Activities Committee execut and stars returning from foreign c tours, and others, is expected to answered, with documentations to by the U. S. Army.

For this purpose and for other r sons, the Army has called a la number of news, trade and magaz press, radio news writers and all ot media of public expression to ans critics and to publicly air an acco of its "stewardship" in the handl of the films after they are turned o to it by the film industry. The rep will be made at 3:30 this afternoon the Hotel Plaza here, with Brigac General Joseph W. Byron and Col. E. Slater presiding. Byron now director of the Army's spe service division, under whose juris tion falls the handling of the industr gift films for gratis showing to ov seas servicemen. Slater is his ass ant.

Army to Meet with Writers

The Army's meeting with ne writers will immediately follow other to which heads of film co panies have been invited. Gene Byron will be introduced by Ma General Frederick H. Osborn, r director of Army morale services, der whom the gift films were form ly serviced. The session, a lunche meeting, will also be held at the H Plaza.

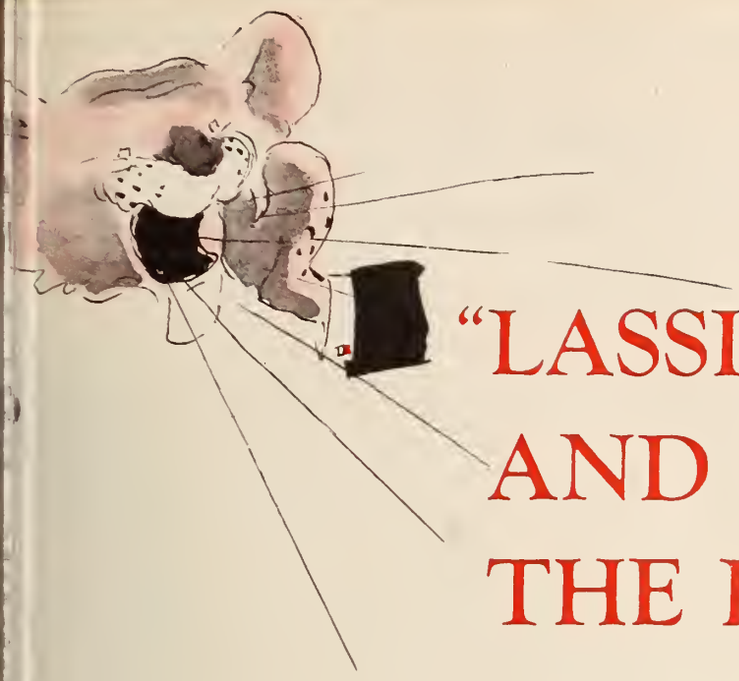
Those invited were: Barney Ba ban, O. Henry Briggs, Steve Broi Jack Cohn, Ned Depinet, How Dietz, as public relations consultant the Army M. P. Service; L. L. A son, William J. German, James Grainger, Joseph Hazen, Stan Griffis, John O'Connor, N. Pe Rathvon, Edward C. Raftery, Nic las Schenck, Spyros Skouras and M. Warner. Arthur L. Mayer Ed. Schreiber will represent the W Activities Committee.

Others from the Army, in addit to those mentioned, will be Col. K B. Lawton, chief of the Army torial service; Joseph H. Seidelm of Columbia, consultant to the Sec tary of War; Major John W. H bell; Major Orton H. Hicks, Capt. Seymour R. Mayer.

Academy to Make Awards in Theat

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—Academy M. P. Arts and Sciences Board Governors has voted to abandon a year-old tradition of the annual awa dinner in favor of conducting awa ceremonies in a theatre to be lea for the occasion on March 2. pending on the seating capacity of theatre chosen, tickets will be offe for the first time for sale to the pul after members of the industry invited guests have been supplied.

Lack of adequate facilities for se ing the normal attendance manifes sharply last year, shortage of m power and wartime food problem reasons given for the switch from b quet to theatre presentations.



"LASSIE CAME HOME AND BROUGHT THE BACON!"

Hold-overs! CLASSIE biz as forecast by 4 great weeks at Radio City Music Hall!

Held Over 2nd Week in Atlanta,
Baltimore, Richmond, Cleveland.
For example:
Richmond tops "Salute to the Marines"
and all the Biggest Ones!
Albany, N. Y., tops everything!
And watch the small towns:
Suffern, Haverstraw and Nyack, N. Y.
were phenomenal!

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Technicolor Triumph

"LASSIE COME HOME"

With RODDY McDOWALL • DONALD CRISP • LASSIE
Dame May Whitty • Edmund Gwenn • Nigel Bruce • Elsa Lanchester • Screen Play by Hugo Butler • Based Upon the Novel by Eric Knight, author of "This Above All" • Directed by FRED M. WILCOX • Produced by SAMUEL MARX

I Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

Sarnoff, Paley End Petrillo Palavers

Meetings between David Sarnoff, RCA president; William S. Paley, CBS president, and James C. Petrillo, president of the AFM, on the recording dispute were concluded without an agreement late last week. Proposals made at the meetings were found unacceptable and no future sessions are scheduled. Paley will begin an overseas assignment for the Office of War Information in the near future.

Sees Television More on Film Lines

Television requires more motion picture than radio technique, according to H. L. Gibson, assistant to the manager of General Electric broadcasting.

"During four years of broadcasting experience at WRGB, G. E. television station in Schenectady, regular checks on program popularity indicated a strong preference for programs where seeing is more of a factor than hearing." Among types of programs favored by the audience Gibson named newsreels, sports, plays, puppets, quiz shows and educational presentations.

W.B.-Guild Pact to General Conference

Warner Bros. and the Screen Publicists Guild of New York, Local 114, UOPWA, have agreed that the renegotiation of the wage clause in the contract signed a year ago between the company and the union shall be joined with the recently-established industry-wide arbitration.

Joint industry-wide arbitration originally was agreed upon several weeks ago between the guild and the seven other major distributing organizations and two circuits, Loew's and RKO. These nine contracts were negotiated separately and signed earlier in 1942 than the contract between the guild and Warner.

Rodgers Thanks Film Salesmen for WAC

In appreciation of the effort by film executives, salesmen and bookers to aid the War Activities Committee, particularly their distribution of screen messages and promotion of scrap and war bond drives, William F. Rodgers, Loew's chairman of WAC's distributors division, is presenting identification cards to these men and women, with his personal thanks for their efforts.

Card No. 1 was issued to George J. Schaefer, chairman of the WAC coordinating committee.

Bilson Joins RKO, To Work with Rogell

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—George Bilson, publicity-advertising executive in the industry for many years, has joined RKO as assistant to Sid Rogell, executive producer.

He formerly was with Warners and later was associate producer for 'U.'

Continue N. Y. Trust Suit, PCCITO Urges Government

(*Continued from page* 1)

PCCITO trustees, during conferences with Clark in Washington last week.

Text of the lengthy anti-decree and pro-trust suit brief was made public by PCCITO at the weekend from Los Angeles. It was based on a survey of exhibitor opinion which, said the document, demonstrates "the detrimental effect upon independent exhibitors of the consent decree."

Should Void Consent Decree

The Pacific Coast Conference contends that after the three-year decree test period has expired, on Saturday, Nov. 20, no consent decree, or amended consent decree, should be entered into between plaintiff Government and defendant distributors and that the plaintiff should proceed with its case.

"The results of the trial period proves this fact," it was said, PCCITO adding that the questionnaires received "bear overwhelming testimony to the wisdom of this contention. At best the consent decree has served only as a flimsy sheath from which the monopolistic sword has been withdrawn, leaving the public and the independent theatre owners the injured victims."

The Conference further contends that "most of the unfair trade practices upon which the Government suit against Paramount, et al., is founded, are ignored in the consent decree—that the decree is inadequate in its treatment and incomprehensive in its scope. That in practice, at least, the decree opposes the principles and purposes of the Sherman Anti-Trust Law and the Clayton Act."

Also, that "compulsory block booking was one of the principal features the Department of Justice sought to eliminate, but through section four of the consent decree, block booking in a more objectionable form has been established by which inflationary, prohibitive and impossible film rentals are being exacted,"

Favors Divorcement

If defendent distributors and affiliated theatres are divorced, "we believe the industry may again operate on the basis of a free economy without regulation," says PCCITO.

"The power of those monopolizing production and distribution to set up natural and discriminatory prices is the red flag signalling the departure from a free economy," it was charged.

"Defendant distributors and affiliated theatres, through cross-licensing of film, are able to establish one set of prices for affiliated theatres and another for independent exhibitors, and thereby hold within their grasp the destiny of the independent exhibitor and the public who wish to patronize him. The most pernicious practice in this regard is the percentage picture racket.

"It is interesting to note that during the operation of the consent decree many independent exhibitors were forced to sell their theatres to circuits by reason of their inability to make a profit under this discriminating practice of defendant distributors."

The PCCITO said that 321 theatres answered that excessive percentages had a damaging effect; none answered to the contrary. In making a comparison of the average rental per feature of the various companies, the season 1940-41 was compared with 1942-43, and increases of individual companies were cited as follows: Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 78 per cent; Paramount, 32.4 per cent; 20th Century-Fox, 88.7 per cent; Warner Bros., 233.3 per cent; RKO, 109.6 per cent.

Justice Department was told by the PCCITO that the decree has not stopped the forcing of features or groups of features and shorts. "The five-picture selling plan has not only failed to eliminate the evils of block booking, but it has added evils of a more insidious nature, one of which is the 'ever present' threat of losing theatre's established run on every sale of five pictures."

Some 322 out of 346 theatres said they preferred buying a full season's product under an unrestricted 20 per cent cancellation.

PCCITO Arbitration View

On the subject of arbitration, the PCCITO says: "Independent exhibitors have come to the conclusion that arbitration (under the decree) was not an easy, inexpensive method for settling their disputes. Arbitration," it charges, "is a joke!"

"Another means used by defendant distributors to take over the control of the independent exhibitor is through the designation of play dates," it was charged. "Most contracts between defendant distributors and independent exhibitors now provide that class 'A' pictures played on percentage terms must be played on the week-end.

"By means of clearance and run defendant distributors and affiliated theatres have been able to strangle the competition contemplated by the Sherman Anti-trust Act," PCCITO charges. "That the consent decree has not remedied these vices is clearly indicated," it adds.

"Run has always been, and still is, a weapon used by the defendant distributors to keep independent exhibitors in line. They have used this weapon to extract exorbitant film rentals; to require increases in admission price.

Defines 'Move-over'

"'Move-over' is a practice adopted by affiliate and chain theatres, and defendant distributors to further the financial gain of affiliated and chain theatres to the financial loss and inconvenience of the independent exhibitor and the public.

"The arbitrary refusal of defendant distributors to license its features for exhibition on the run requested by independent exhibitors remains a major distributor abuse.

"The war has furnished an excuse to defendant distributors to hoard releases. This practice has forced the independent exhibitor in double bill areas to license every picture in every tradeshown block, to enable him to maintain continuous operation. Further the practice has turned film rentals and license fees into a run-away sellers' market."

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov.

DORE SCHARY, who resigne an M-G-M producership la week, will join Vanguard Nov. 29 produce a series of pictures for U distribution.

•

Ralph Staub, Columbia producer Screen Snapshots has arrived he from Mexico City with extensive fod age of the Mexican motion pictu industry, which will be released a short subject. Project was ma possible by cooperation of Franc Alstock, Coordinator of Inter-Amer can Affairs, and Frank Fouce.

•

Jimmy Star of the Los Angel *Herald Express* and Milton Torell the Los Angeles *Examiner* are wi ners in Charles R. Rogers' conte for a new title for his forthcomi United Artists film, "Song of t Open Road." Winning name, submitt by both, was "Song of Youth."

•

PRC has purchased "Hollywood a Vine," original by Eddie Rubin, fo mer PRC exchange manager in Clev land now in the Army Air Forc Leon Fromkess will produce.

•

Warner has added two features its schedule: "My Youngest Daug ter," with Jerry Wald producing, a "Hotel Berlin, 1943," with Fra Wallis producing.

•

More than 450 Warner studio e ployees have volunteered as blo donors in response to the new R Cross drive.

•

Sid Rogell has left here for Ne York where he will scout properti for RKO.

DeLucia Ailment Postpones Tri

Chicago racketeers' extort trial New York was postponed on Frid to today due to the illness of Pa DeLucia, a defendant, who was tak to a hospital suffering from a kidn ailment.

It is not certain whether DeLu will require an operation and t trial faces further postponement if is unable to appear in court tod unless the Government severs t indictment as to DeLucia.

Canada-wide Owner Group in Progre

MONTREAL, Nov. 14.—Represen tives of the Quebec Allied Theatri Industries, Inc., and Motion Pict Theatres Association of Ontario cided to make a survey of all exhi tor associations in Canada with view to the ultimate goal of forming Dominion-wide organization, acco ing to S. B. Taube, executive sec tary of the Ontario group.

Industry Dinner in Philadelphia Nov. 2

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 14.—An "a out" industry dinner will be held h in the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Nov. Samuel D. Schwartz, chairman of affair, has extended an invitation those in the local industry to atte to discuss future industry activity the war effort.

). of J. to Ask 'or Relaxation)f Local Laws

(Continued from page 1)

th such situations. Types of ordi-ce on which action may be taken ude building code provisions which all right in peace time but do t work well under war conditions, bitrary labor requirements of the o-making type which have no rela-n to safety, and unnecessary or un-ly stringent regulations.

Exhibitors laboring under the dis-vantages of such ordinances may ort them to the amusements sec-n, he said. If found justified upon dy, the matter will be referred to e Department of Justice, which then ll go back to the local governments an effort to induce them to change laws so as to alleviate the situa-n. Such complaints, however, Mc-urphey said, must be clearly demon-ated to be hindering the rendition serivce to war workers.

)etwiler Wins Cup n Universal Contest

A. C. Detwiler, of the Grand, Lat-be, Pa., won the silver trophy in niversal's second annual 'featurette' ploitation contest judged Friday by hibitors and trade paper editors at luncheon at the Hotel Astor. R. J. Donnell of Interstate Circuit ad-essed the 50 persons present, with Bernard Kreisler, 'U' featurette d newsreel manager, presiding.

In addition to the trophy, $3,000 in sh awards were made to division nners who included: George Thorn-n, Orpheum, Saugerties, N. Y.; Joe atz, Benld, Ill.; Horace Truitt, eorgia, Athens, Ga.; Harry Gold-ein, Morton, Dorchester, Mass.; T. Jones, Bradley, Columbus, Ga.; hn Goodno, Palace, Huntington, Va.; J. Silverman, Strand, Al-ona, Pa.; Herman Comer, Capitol, iladelphia; Earl Westbrooke, Gran-, Norfolk, Va.; Ed Harrison, Joy, nackover, Ark.; Ken Wagner, Wil-n, Wilton Junction, Ia.; William ick and S. Miller, Palace, Corsicana, ex.; Joe Floyd, Hollywood, Sioux alls, S. Dak.; J. Wooten, Midland, utchinson, Kan.; John Heflinger, est End, St. Louis, Mo.; Harry ederman, Fox Isis, Kansas City, Mo.

'oviet Loans Para. Nazi War Articles

Material captured from the Nazis by e Red Army in the Stalingrad sa-nt has been made available to Para-ount by the National Council of merican-Soviet Friendship and the oviet Embassy for exhibition in con-ction with key runs of "The City hat Stopped Hitler—Heroic Stalin-ad."

Four traveling exhibits have been ade up of this material and they will routed to theatres from Paramount strict offices in Los Angeles, Chi-go, Atlanta and Boston. The ex-bits are to be placed in theatre lob-es and store windows.

$11,655,000 Para. Net; Cuts $2,000,000 Off Debt

(Continued from page 1)

Canadian dollars, and $10,000,000 as the sole debt of the parent company, which matures annually during 1949 to 1958.

The board also increased the dividend on common stock by declaring a regular quarterly dividend of 40 cents per share payable Dec. 29 to stockholders of record on Dec. 10. This represents an increase from $1.20 to $1.60 per share annually. MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported an expected dividend rate increase on Friday.

Paramount estimates its earnings for the third quarter ended Oct. 2 at $4,268,000 after interest and all charges, including estimated provision for all Federal taxes. This amount includes $532,000, representing Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings for the quarter of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries.

Earnings for the nine months ended Oct. 2, 1943, on the same basis are estimated at $11,655,000, including $1,906,000 share of undistributed earnings of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries.

Earnings for the corresponding periods of 1942 were $3,455,000 for the third quarter, including $927,000 share of undistributed earnings of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries and $9,278,000 for the nine months of 1942, including $1,953,000 share of undistributed earnings.

Earnings for the 1943 periods include the company's full share of film rentals and earnings of its subsidiaries operating in England, Australia, New Zealand and India. Earnings for the 1942 periods, due to currency restrictions then in force, included only those subsidiaries which had operations in the Western Hemisphere, the operations of all other foreign subsidiaries (including those operating in England, Australia, New Zealand and India) and the company's share of film rentals therefrom being included only to the extent received or determined to be receivable in dollars.

The $4,268,000 of estimated combined consolidated and share of undistributed earnings for the quarter represent $1.14 per share on the 3,752,136 shares of common stock outstanding on Oct. 2, which compares with $1.13 per share for the quarter ended Oct. 3, 1942, on the 2,901,650 common shares then outstanding, after providing $189,048 for dividends on the then outstanding first preferred shares.

Estimated combined consolidated and share of undistributed earnings of $11,655,000 for the nine months ended Oct. 2 represent $3.11 per share on common stock outstanding, which compares with $3.00 per share for the nine months ended Oct. 3, 1942, on the 2,901,650 common shares then outstanding, after providing $567,144 for accrued dividends on the then outstanding first preferred shares.

Bonus Regulations Announced by Gov't

(Continued from page 1)

authorized under the salary stabilization regulations for the employer's first accounting year ending after Oct. 3, 1942, provided the bonus does not exceed 50 per cent of the base salary.

If the employee's base salary has been increased since Oct. 3, 1942, he may be paid a bonus not to exceed the same dollar amount of bonus paid him for the employer's first accounting year ending after Oct. 3, 1942, provided the bonus does not exceed 20 per cent of his present base salary.

If the employee has been paid regularly, in accordance with an established policy of the employer, a bonus based on a percentage of base salary, such bonus payment may be made regardless of dollar amount, provided the percentage has not been changed since Oct., 1942.

An employee may also be paid a bonus which, together with all other compensation, does not increase his total compensation for the current year over the total earned in the calendar year 1941 by more than (*A*) 15 per cent if the total compensation for 1941 was $2,400 or less, (*B*) 10 per cent if the total compensation for 1941 was between $2,400 and $4,000, or five per cent if the total compensation for 1941 was between $4,000 and $7,500.

M-G-M Program Bows

"The People's Reporter," daily 15-minute Coast-to-Coast radio program with Fulton Oursler as commentator, sponsored by M-G-M over 46 Mutual stations, will debut tonight.

Big 'Night of Stars' Show Tomorrow Eve

(Continued from page 1)

while the producing committee, under Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, includes 60 executives of the film and theatrical industry. Honorary chairmen of this committee are Barney Balaban, David Bernstein, Nate J. Blumberg, Jack Cohn, N. Peter Rathvon, Marvin H. Schenck and Albert Warner. Co-chairmen are Louis K. Sidney and Ed Sullivan, while Ben A. Boyar is associate chairman.

Masters of ceremonies at the show will be Ed Sullivan, Kate Smith, J. C. Flippen, Henny Youngman, Bert Lytell and former Mayor James J. Walker.

One feature of the night will be "The Parade of Heroes," in which fighters of the United Nations will march across the Garden stage in a procession against a musical background. Another will be a round-up of world news by six commentators.

Radio City's Annual 'Pictorial' Issued

"Radio City Music Hall Pictorial," annual picturization depicting operations, personnel, talent and production at the Hall, for distribution principally to patrons, was placed in circulation at the weekend. M. M. Geffen published the book, which was edited by Fred Lynch, with a cover by DeWard Jones and production photographs by Cosmo-Sileo and several others.

Theatres Said To Violate WPB Order

(Continued from page 1)

blanket provision that: "No person who uses the allotment symbol or preference rating assigned by this regulation to obtain any maintenance, repair or operating supplies shall order for delivery during any calendar quarter maintenance, repair or operating supplies in an aggregate amount exceeding one-fourth his aggregate expenditures for maintenance, repair or operating supplies during 1942."

All exhibitors, McMurphey said, have been granted an automatic AA-5 preference rating and since they must use the rating to get certain supplies, such as electric wire, probably every theatre operator in the country is covered by the regulation.

Where an exhibitor finds it necessary to spend more for supplies than in 1942, he said, he may secure approval from the amusements section by simply stating in a letter the reasons for the increased expenditure and giving the full details of his needs. No formal application is necessary.

Restrictions on Studio Set Construction Lifted

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—All restrictions on the construction of studio sets have bene removed by an interpretation of the War Production Board's construction limitation order L-41, already approved and shortly to be issued, it was learned at the weekend.

The release of sets from the restrictions was engineered by Harold Hopper, chief of the WPB motion picture section, who for the past year has been seeking to eliminate the red-tape and delay incident to the handling of construction order regulations as they applied to film production.

The order was signed as Hopper prepared to leave for the West Coast, where he will tell producers there will be no changes in the raw stock allocations for the first quarter of next year.

As it will be announced by WPB, the interpretation provides that: "L-41 does not apply to construction or erection of temporary sets of a kind which may be stored between pictures, nor to incorporation of temporary sets into permanent sets for making a single motion picture. However, it does apply to construction of permanent outdoor sets and foundations for sets of a kind which are designed for use in more than a single picture in one location."

Dwight Frye, 44, Was Character Actor

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—Dwight Frye, 44, character actor who had just been signed for the role of Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War, in 20th's production of "Wilson," has died here of a heart attack.

Frye, who had appeared first on the New York stage, entered pictures in 1930. He was best known as a character actor in horror films. He had appeared in "Dracula," "Frankenstein," "Crime of Dr. Crespi," "Bride of Frankenstein" and "Gangs of Chicago."

— here's why all records are being broken at the SPECTACULAR TWO-THEATRE RUN ON BROADWAY — at the RKO PALACE and

(Continuous Performances at 75c, $1.10, $1.65)

at the NEW VICTORIA

(Twice Daily, $2.20 Top)

where tickets are SELLING eight weeks in advance!

"MOVIE OF THE YEAR"

—says LIFE Magazine

"Goldwyn makes eloquent tone poem of Russian town in peace and war . . . What gives it eminent distinction over any other production of the year so far is its epic breadth and sweep."

WALTER WINCHELL Says:

"'The North Star' is about as tops as cinema gets."

LIBERTY Magazine:

"'The North Star' is more than a great and thrilling motion picture. It is a human document particularly needed at the present time. Every American owes it to himself to see it."

TIME Magazine:

"A cinemilestone. No other Hollywood film has done the job quite so well."

THE NEW YORKER:

"An award for meritorious script writing . . . to LILLIAN HELLMAN. The picture is a honey and MR. GOLDWYN and MR. MILESTONE ought to be complimented."

NEWSWEEK:

"Exciting entertainment, it is as timely as today's headlines."

N.Y. WORLD-TELEGRAM—*Alton Cook:*

"'The North Star' is full of tremendous emotional and dramatic impacts—moments that will remain landmarks in any movie memory."

CUE Magazine—*Jesse Zunser:*

"Eloquent, spectacular, splendidly played drama."

N.Y. TIMES—*Bosley Crowther:*

"'The North Star' was presented at two theatres—an honor accorded to only a few previous films . . . Has so much in it that is moving and triumphant."

N.Y. POST—*Archer Winsten:*

"Excellent . . . It is a picture worth going out of your way to see."

N.Y. SUN—*Eileen Creelman:*

"A Samuel Goldwyn production, polished and smooth, luxurious in all its production values."

N.Y. HERALD-TRIBUNE—*Howard Barnes:*

"Picture has heroic proportions . . . filled with exuberant songs. Final sequences are melodramatic . . . they are tremendously effective. It has obviously been written from the heart."

PM—*John T. McManus:*

"A superfine film about Russia, by and for Americans . . . Completely enthralling. Has moments of inexpressible charm and gaiety and peaks of tremendous excitement. You can bet your bottom simoleon that 'The North Star' is one h - - l of a wonderful movie."

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S GREATEST PRODUCTION

THE NORTH STAR

Directed By LEWIS MILESTONE

Original Story and Screen Play By LILLIAN HELLMAN

RELEASED THROUGH RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

52 Shooting, 50 Preparing, 67 Editing

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—Production dropped slightly last week but indications were that it would continue strong throughout the Winter and Spring. The week saw 10 pictures finished, six new ones started, 52 shooting, 50 preparing and 67 editing. The week before recorded eight finished, eight started, 55 shooting, 59 preparing, 62 editing. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Shooting: "Nine Girls," "Beautiful but Broke," "Curly," "Cover Girl."
Finished: "The Racket Man."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Dragon Seed," "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed," "Gaslight," "The Canterville Ghost," "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble."

Monogram

Started: "Raiders of the Border," with Johnny Mack Brown and Raymond Hatton.
Finished: "The Voodoo Man," "Arizona Whirlwind," "Where Are Your Children."

Paramount

Started: "Incendiary Blonde," with Betty Hutton, Arturo de Cordova, Barry Fitzgerald.
Shooting: "Tomorrow's Harvest," "The Hitler Gang," "When I Come Back," "Rainbow Island," "Double Indemnity."
Finished: "The Man in Half Moon Street."

P. R. C.

Finished: "Jungle Terror," "Texas Wildcat," "Career Girls."

RKO-Radio

Started: "Gildersleeve, Detective," with Harold Perry, Marian Martin, Joan Davis, Richard LeGrand, Amelita Ward.
Shooting: "Show Business," "International Zone," "The Falcon in Texas."

Republic

Started: "Pistol Packin' Mama," with Bob Livingstone, Ruth Terry, Wally Vernon, Jack LaRue, Joel Kirk, King Cole Trio.
Shooting: "The Monster," "Rhythm Revelry."
Finished: "Casanova in Burlesque."

20th-Fox

Started: "Greenwich Village," with Don Ameche, Carmen Miranda, William Bendix, Vivian Blaine.
Shooting: "Four Jills and a Jeep," "The Purple Heart," "Eve of St. Mark," "Home in Indiana," "Lifeboat."

United Artists
(Arnold)

Shooting: "It Happened Tomorrow."

(Bogeaus)

Shooting: "The Bridge of San Luis Rey."

(P. C. A.)

Shooting: "Knickerbocker Holiday."

(Vanguard)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

(Universal)

Started: "Weekend Pass," with Martha O'Driscoll, Noah Beery, Jr., Mayris Chaney.
Shooting: "Moonlight in Vermont," "Calling Dr. Death," "Gypsy Wildcat," "Patrick the Great," "Her Primitive Man," "The Impostor," "Three Cheers for the Boys."
Finished: "When Ladies Fly."

(Warners)

Shooting: "Mr. Skeffington," "One More Tomorrow," "Passage to Marseille," "Outward Bound."

Kansas City Likes 'Face It', 'Johnny'

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 14. — "Let's Face It," at the Newman, is leading first run grosses with approximately $17,000. "Johnny Come Lately" with "That Nazty Nuisance," is drawing approximately $15,000 at the Midland. The Tower is piling up an especially high gross, featuring "Man From Music Mountain" on the screen.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 10-11:

"Top Man" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)
"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"That Nazty Nuisance" (UA)
MIDLAND — (3,600) (35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $10,900)
"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-60) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $10,000)
"Man From Music Mountain" (Rep.)
"Here Comes Elmer" (Rep.)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,400)
"Top Man" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600)
"Top Man" (Univ.)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average, $1,450)

'Lassie', 'Phantom' Lead in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Nov. 14. — Grosses at downtown theatres were slightly off this week. Top honors are divided between "Lassie Come Home," at the Century, and "Phantom of the Opera," at Keith's, both headed for $15,000 grosses.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 10:

"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $15,000)
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,205) (28c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $11,900)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (28c-35c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,300)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,280) (28c-39c-44c-55c and 60c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $15,100)
"Sahara" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (28c-39c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days. On stage: Cy Reeves, Three Faludys, Reynolds & White, Pat & Sylvia, Allen & Kent. Gross: $18,500. (Average, $16,500)
"The City That Stopped Hitler" (Para.)
"Yanks Ahoy" (UA)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (20c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $6,100)

Finkelstein Heads F-51

Jack Finkelstein, president of Film Exchange Employees Union, Local F51, IATSE, AFL, has unanimously been reelected to serve for another year.

Show Our Wounded Battle of Britain

Washington, Nov. 14. — A series of films designed to give troops at a United States Army general hospital in England an insight into British stamina by showing the manner in which the people went through the nerve-racking days of the Battle of Britain have been gathered by Major Allen Palmer, special service officer at the hospital, it was announced here by the War Department.

The pictures also are intended to give an idea of the cultural and historical background of the British, showing the "typical" English family and how its members spend their week-ends, and describe villages and landscapes, ancient cathedrals, universities and other cultural monuments.

'In Old Oklahoma' Best in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 14.—In a week of dismal rain and snow, the Fulton was leading the town with the best comparative gross, "In Old Oklahoma" heading for $11,500 at that house.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 12:

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
FULTON — (1,700) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average, $7,700)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $9,300)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PENN — (3,400) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $16,800)
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (Col.)
RITZ — (1,100) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week (moveover after one week at Stanley and Warner combined). Gross: $4,000. (Average, 2,800)
"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col. re-issue)
"Souls at Sea" (Para. re-issue)
SENATOR — (1,750) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $3,200. (Average, $3,200)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
WARNER—(2,000) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 3rd week (moveover after 2 weeks at Penn). Gross: $18,000. (Average, at regular prices. $6,900)

Wage Average Drop Reported on Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 14.—Wages of California film industry employees for September fell below August figures, but were above wage schedules for the same month in 1942, it was reported by the State Labor Department here. Average weekly earnings for September were $72.45 as against $51.68 for that month in 1942. For August, 1943, weekly wages averaged $73.73.

Services for Cobb; Was Color Expert

Funeral services for C. Lang Cobb, Jr., veteran in the industry and a pioneer in color film, were held Friday in Universal Chapel, New York. Cobb promoted Kinemacolor, which later became Artcolor and Colorfilm, and was the forerunner of present Cinemacolor.

'Lady', $24,000, 'Lassie', $20,000, Lead in Clevelan

CLEVELAND, Nov. 14.—Straight e tertainment films proved the magn of the weekend, with the bulk of t business going to "Lady Takes Chance" at the Hippodrome, a "Lassie Come Home" at the Sta Hippodrome business presages a $2 000 week, with "Lassie" heading f an excellent $20,000.

Estimated receipts for the we ending Nov. 10:

"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
ALLEN—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2 week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $8,300)
"Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME—(3,500) (4 50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Avera $17,100)
"Destroyer" (Col.)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (40c-50c-60c) days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Avera $3,100)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (75c-$1.10) days, 7th week. Gross: $10,000. (No ave age)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c 85c Saturday and Sunday) 7 days. Sta Jimmie Lunceford and orchestra and va deville. Gross: $22,000. (Average, $ 800)
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $16,800)
"Hostages" (Para.)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c days. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $8,600

Del Guidice Asked to Head Gainsborou

LONDON, Nov. 14.—Filipo Guidice, general manager of T Cities Films, has been approached J. Arthur Rank and Mark Ostrer Gaumont-British, to take over dir tion of Gainsborough studios, it w learned here today. There has be no suggestion to merge Two Cit and Gainsborough.

Del Guidice, who is wanted to gui production at Gainsborough, is und stood to be diffident to the offer at t moment, since he is engaged here n in discussions to distribute Two Citi product in the American market.

Four Para. Partner Leave N. Y. for Hon

E. V. Richards of the Saenger C cuit, New Orleans; Martin Mullin a Sam Pinanski of M. and P. Theatr Boston, and B. B. Wilby of Wilt Kincey Theatres, Charlotte, who w among Paramount Theatre partn meeting in New York last week, l Friday for their home cities. Oth will leave for home later.

During the week they also attend a special meeting of the WAC t atres division and a special screeni of Paramount's Technicolor prod tion, "Lady in the Dark."

Sherwood to Keynot 'Herald Trib.' Foru

Robert Sherwood, director of overseas branch of the Office of W Information, will deliver the keyn address at the opening session of New York *Herald Tribune's* 1 forum on current problems to be h Nov. 16-17.

Greer Garson and Paul Robeson also speak at the first-day sessi President Roosevelt and Wen Willkie are listed among the ar of prominent speakers who will heard.

FILMDOM SALUTES ITS HEROES

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with an address by

POSTMASTER GEN. FRANK C. WALKER

★

a dedication of the giant service
flag covering the industry's personnel
at war by HOWARD DIETZ

★

a chairmanship of the proceedings
by FRANCIS "SOCKER" COE

at

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Oct. 16	SAHARA Humphrey Bogart Bruce Bennett J. Carroll Naish D—97 mins.—(5003)	(First Block) ABOVE SUSPICION D—90 mins. (402)	OUTLAWS OF STAMPEDE PASS Johnny Mack Brown O—(255)	(First Block) LET'S FACE IT Bob Hope Betty Hutton M—76 mins. (4301)		SCREAM IN THE DARK Marie McDonald (229) OLD BARN DANCE (Re-issue) Gene Autry—(2307)	(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C	PARIS AFTER DARK George Sanders Brenda Marshall Philip Dorn 85 mins. (409)		HI-YA SAILOR Elyse Knox Donald Woods M	
Oct. 23	THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME Chester Morris George E. Stone Jeanne Bates (1943-'44) D—(5034)	BEST FOOT FORWARD Lucille Ball M—94 mins. (405)	THE UNKNOWN GUEST Victor Jory Pamela Blake D—(309)	TRUE TO LIFE Mary Martin Franchot Tone Dick Powell C—94 mins. (4303)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN THE RETURN OF THE RANGERS THE UNDERDOG Barton McLane (316)	MAN FROM THE RIO GRANDE John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O—55 mins. (363)	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D			YOU'RE A LUCKY FELLOW, MR. SMITH Allan Jones Evelyn Ankers M—(8033)	PRINCESS O'ROURKE Olivia DeHavilland Robert Cummings D—(305)
Oct. 30	IS EVERYBODY HAPPY? Ted Lewis and his Band M	DR. GILLESPIE'S CRIMINAL CASE Lionel Barrymore D—89 mins. (407)	BULLETS AND SADDLES A Range Buster O—(268)	HOSTAGES Luise Rainer Arturo de Cordova Paul Lukas D—88 mins. (4305)		MAN FROM MUSIC MOUNTAIN Roy Rogers Ruth Terry O—(257)	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C	(Re-Issues) IN OLD CHICAGO D—94 mins. (406) BANJO ON MY KNEE M—95 mins. (407)	THE WOMAN OF THE TOWN Claire Trevor Albert Dekker D	FLESH AND FANTASY Edward Robinson Charles Boyer Barbara Stanwyck D—(8062)	
Nov. 6	SILVER CITY RAIDERS Russell Hayden Adele Mara O—(5202)	GIRL CRAZY Mickey Rooney Judy Garland C—99 mins. (409)	MYSTERY OF THE 13th GUEST Dick Purcell D—(211)	THE GOOD FELLOWS Cecil Kellaway Helen Walker James Brown C—70 mins. (4302)	THE DEVIL RIDERS Buster Crabbe O—(460)	OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY "Wild Bill" Elliott Ann Jeffreys	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D	GUADALCANAL DIARY Wm. Bendix Lloyd Nolan D (412)		SON OF DRACULA Robert Paige Louise Allbritton—D	FIND THE BLACKMAILER Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson D—(306)
Nov. 13	RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE Nina Foch Bela Lugosi D	LASSIE COME HOME (410) Roddy MacDowall D	NEARLY EIGHTEEN Gale Storm Bill Henry D—61 mins. (226)	TORNADO Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—83 mins. (4304)		HERE COMES ELMER Al Pearce Dale Evans C—(303)	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C	BATTLE OF RUSSIA (U .S. Government Feature) 80 mins. (414)		THE MAD GHOUL Evelyn Ankers David Bruce—D	NORTHERN PURSUIT Errol Flynn Julie Bishop D—(307)
Nov. 20		SALUTE TO THE MARINES Wallace Beery Fay Bainter D—(401)	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43) M—(210)	(Special Release) THE CITY THAT STOPPED HITLER—HEROIC STALINGRAD 58 mins. (4331)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN BOSS OF RAWHIDE O—(452) HARVEST MELODY M—(402)	MYSTERY BROADCAST Frank Albertson D—(304) DEERSLAYER Bruce Kellogg Jean Parker O—67 mins. (306)	(Second Block) THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)	DANCING MASTERS Laurel and Hardy C—63 mins. (413)		NEVER A DULL MOMENT The Ritz Brotherss Frances Langford Mary Beth Hughes C	
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal D	SWING SHIFT MAISIE (404) Ann Sothern C—86 mins.	TEXAS KID Johnny Mack Brown O—(351)	(Second Block) RIDING HIGH (Technicolor) Dorothy Lamour Dick Powell Victor Moore M—89 mins. (4307)		DRUMS OF FU MANCHU (Adapted from Serial) Henry Brandon D—(305)	GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)		HIS BUTLER'S SISTER Deanna Durbin Pat O'Brien Franchot Tone D	OLD ACQUAINTANCE Bette Davis Miriam Hopkins D—110 mins. (308)
Dec. 4	THE HEATS ON Victor Moore William Gaxton Mae West Hazel Scott	ADVENTURES OF TARTU (406) Robert Donat Valerie Hobson D—103 mins.	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer) O—56 mins. (361)	NO TIME FOR LOVE Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Ilka Chase C—83 mins. (4309)		CANYON CITY John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O	GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)	HAPPY LAND Don Ameche Frances Dee Ann Rutherford 75 mins. (415)		SO'S YOUR UNCLE Billie Burke Elyse Knox Donald Woods	(Re-Issues) CRIME SCHOOL Humphrey Bogart Dead End Kids 86 mins. (327)
Dec. 11	THE CRIME DOCTOR'S STRANGEST CASE Warner Baxter Rose Hobart Lynn Merrick	YOUNG IDEAS Susan Peters (408) Mary Astor D—77 mins.	MR. MUG STEPS OUT East Side Kids D—64 mins. (301)	HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith John Litel C—73 mins. (4306)			GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)			CALLING DR. DEATH Lon Chaney Patricia Morrison Ramsey Ames	GIRLS ON PROBATION Jane Bryan Ronald Reagan 63 mins. (328)
Dec. 18	CLAMBAKE KATE Tom Neal Ann Savage	THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER D—103 mins. (411) I DOOD IT D—102 mins. (403)	SMART GUY Rick Vallin D—63 mins. (227)		THE DRIFTER Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John (461)	OH. MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Frank Albertson Lorna Gray	THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D			SHE'S FOR ME David Bruce Grace McDonald George Dolenz	
Dec. 25	SWING OUT THE BLUES Bob Haymes Lynn Merrick COWBOY IN THE CLOUDS Charles Starrett Walter "Dub" Taylor	WHISTLING IN BROOKLYN Red Skelton Ann Rutherford C—87 mins. (412)	WOMEN IN BONDAGE Gail Storm 71 mins. (304)	MINESWEEPER Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—67 mins. (4308)		WHISPERING FOOTSTEPS John Hubbard Rita Quigley	NORTH STAR Anne Baxter Walter Huston Dana Andrews D—105 mins. (451)	THE GANG'S ALL HERE Carmen Miranda Alice Faye James Ellison 103 mins. (416)		MOONLIGHT IN VERMONT Gloria Jean Fay Helm Sidney Miller	

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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AGREEMENT HELD NEAR ON DECREE

Army Refutes Critics of Its Film Handling

5% of Our Troops Now See Hollywood Films

Ninety-five per cent of United tates troops overseas are seeing ollywood pictures with regularity, Iajor John S. Hubbell, head of the erseas motion picture service of the . S. Army, stated during a press terview at the Hotel Plaza here sterday. The films section was reently transferred from the special rvices division to the motion picture ction of the Signal Corps under Col. irk B. Lawton.

"There are limited groups who are ot seeing films, men in advanced comt areas, or small groups of fighters deeply isolated areas, such as iards of a railroad in the Persian ulf Zone," Maj. Hubbell said in acounting for the Army's film handling hich had been criticized recently by rancis Harmon of WAC, and others.

Nineteen exchanges in all parts of

(Continued on page 7)

Chicago Unionists Seek an Accounting

CHICAGO, Nov. 15.—Suit against six ion officials and several motion picre theatres and a number of distribing companies was filed in Chicago day by six members of the Chicago perators Union. It is an outgrowth the recent court revelations and eks accounting for operations since 32. Adjustments may reach $5,000,-0.

On Saturday, Peter Shayn, presient of the union, denied any knowlge of such a suit and said that none ad been mentioned in any of the oard meetings. He claimed that if y group of members was inclined file it would be after completion of e New York trial.

'6 Leaders on Dais For Fabian, Mayer

Spyros Skouras, Gradwell Sears, dward L. Alperson, Oscar Doob, ohn Hertz, Jr., W. Ray Johnston, harles Moskowitz, John J. O'Conor, N. Peter Rathvon and H. J. ates yesterday joined the list of inistry leaders who honor Si Fabian id Arthur Mayer at a luncheon today

(Continued on page 6)

'Claudia's' $112,000, Better in 2nd Week Than First on B'way

Still leading major film houses along the Rialto is Radio City Music Hall with "Claudia," in its second week, heading for $112,000 to top last week's $111,000. The Paramount, with "I Dood It" and a stage show featuring Woody Herman and his band grossed an estimated $85,000 in its first week, while "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" in its final stanza at the Roxy is on the way to an estimated $83,000. "Guadalcanal Diary" opens at the Roxy tomorrow with the Ritz Brothers on the stage.

"Princess O'Rourke" is expected to hit $49,000 in its second week at the Strand and will hold over. "North Star," ending a second week at both the Palace and Victoria is still going strong and is expected to gross a good

(Continued on page 7)

Cohn Testifies Col. Did Not Pay Bioff

Harry Cohn, Columbia president, yesterday completed his testimony, begun last week, in the Federal court trial here of the Chicago gangsters accused of engineering a $1,000,000 shakedown of the industry. He contradicted some of the testimony offered earlier by William Bioff, denying, among other things, that Bioff had ever been in his office or had ever directly discussed money matters with him.

The Government expects to complete presentation of its evidence by the end of this week, after which defense attorneys will take over.

Cohn said his only intimation of the shakedown came from a telephone call

(Continued on page 6)

20th-Fox Plans Big Musicals for '44-'45

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 15.—Big-budget musicals will fill a dominant spot in 20th-Fox's 1944-45 program, a breakdown of advance information sent to the sale force on the season after this, reveals most of the pictures will be in color, but not all.

"Greenwich Village," the first, is shooting with Don Ameche, Carmen Miranda and William Bendix. Betty Grable will probably star in "Diamond Horseshoe" and perhaps in "Something for the Boys."

Other pictures conveyed to the field as definite include "The Bandwagon," "Where Do We Go From Here?" "Moment for Music," "Louisville Lou," "Bowery After Dark," based on "The Bowery" which Zanuck made as his first for 20th Century Productions after leaving Warner Bros., "State Fair," "Stars and Stripes Forever," and "Chica Chico."

Allied Caravan in Two-Day Meetings

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 15.—The Allied Caravan committee began its two-day series of meetings at the Schroeder Hotel here today. In attendance were: M. A. Rosenberg, chairman; A. F. Myers, Rotus Harvey, Col. H. J. Cole, Sidney Samuelson and W. L. Ainsworth. No announcement was forthcoming from the opening session which lasted well into the evening.

Speakers at the Independent Theatres Protective Association of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan conven-

(Continued on page 7)

Theatre Expansion Seen Restricted; Expanded Arbitration Set-Up

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15. — The Department of Justice and the consenting companies are closer to an agreement on revision of the decree than at any time in the past but several weeks will be required to whip the new provisions into shape, it was learned tonight following a conference early today between Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark and Joseph Hazen of Warners.

Hazen brought to Washington the new proposals which Clark demanded two weeks ago, and after a thorough discussion of them with the Justice Department officials took them back to New York for refining along lines developed during the conversation. They are expected to be submitted again next week, but no date has been set.

While neither party to the meeting would discuss the proposals in detail, it is understood that the companies are meeting Clark's demand

(Continued on page 7)

Seeks to Spread Film Materials

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15.—Convinced that essential civilian needs cannot be left to be filled from such supplies as may remain after Army, Navy, lend lease and other Governmental demands have been met, the Office of Civilian Requirements is making nationwide studies to secure information on which to base a definite scheduling of such materials, it was learned here today.

To gain information regarding the material needs of film exhibitors,

(Continued on page 7)

U. A. Distribution For Pan-America

United Artists has completed negotiations to distribute in all Latin-American countries and in Spain, England, Australia and New Zealand the product of a new Mexican company, Artistas Asociados, Arthur W. Kelly, U. A. vice-president in charge

(Continued on page 7)

Congress Asked to Sell Aliens' Films and Other Properties Here

Washington, Nov. 15.—Legislation requiring the U. S. Alien Property Custodian to sell all enemy-owned properties in the United States and apply the proceeds to the satisfaction of claims of American nationals for properties abroad seized by the Axis was introduced in the House today by Representative Bertrand Gearhart (Cal.)

Gearhart told the House that at the close of the last war 80 per cent of the German properties which had been seized here were returned to their former owners while many Americans suffered losses of their properties abroad.

Among the properties which have been seized by the APC are hundreds of motion picture and radio patents, several hundred motion picture copyrights and hundreds of actual negatives and positives.

Personal Mention

J ROBERT RUBIN, M-G-M vice-president and chief counsel, will return today from Washington.

•

ROBERT M. WEITMAN, managing director of the Paramount on Broadway, and HARRY LEVINE, in charge of stage shows for Paramount out-of-town theatres, will leave for Hollywood Nov. 29.

•

LEONARD H. GOLDENSON, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, and SAM DEMBOW, theatre department executive, left for Minneapolis yesterday and will return Thursday.

•

LT. (J. G.) WILLIAM B. SCHULMAN, son-in-law of BUDD ROGERS, has received the Presidential Unit Citation as a member of the crew of the *U.S.S. Enterprise.*

•

MURRAY CORCORAN, former executive of Famous Players-Canadian home office in Toronto, has been commissioned in the Canadian Army Overseas Corps.

•

LEON GOLDBERG, RKO Radio studio manager, left for Hollywood yesterday. He came East to attend funeral services for his father, SIMON GOLDBERG, who died here last week.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Southern division manager for Universal, left New York yesterday for several days in Louisville.

•

PFC. JOSEPH R. SMITH, former RKO salesman in Los Angeles, visited the home office on furlough yesterday from Camp Crowder, Mo.

•

LARRY GRAVER, Warner key-theatre circuit district manager in Philadelphia, is in Lankenau Hospital in that city with influenza.

•

SHERRILL CORWIN, Los Angeles circuit manager, was in Baltimore this week with a Chicago stopover contemplated on his return.

•

CPL. BERNARD COHENCIOUS, formerly of RKO home office purchasing department, is in town on furlough.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram general sales manager, will leave for the Coast Dec. 7.

•

KARL HOBLITZELLE, president of Interstate circuit, Dallas, returned to that city yesterday from New York.

•

SOL SCHWARTZ, RKO Western zone theatre manager, visited Chicago yesterday, from Cincinnati headquarters.

•

WILLIAM H. GREEN, general manager of Hicks' Theatres, Baltimore, has been inducted into the Army.

•

WILLIAM GOETZ arrived from the Coast yesterday.

Only One Producer To an Agent: U. A.

New clause will be included in all future United Artists releasing contracts providing that a U.A. producer cannot appoint an Eastern representative who represents another UA producer, it was learned here yesterday. This provision was included in two releasing contracts which were signed last month.

Present UA producers, upon renewal of contracts, will be subject to the same clause. Conflicting producer interests and a desire to avoid friction from this source are believed to be the reasons for the inclusion of the clause in new company contracts.

Wage Control Held No SAG Problem

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 15.—Starting his second year as president of the Screen Actors' Guild, James Cagney last night presided at the annual meeting of the Class A membership, announcing the election of Heather Angel, Lucile Gleason, Russell Hicks, Boris Karloff, Roscoe Karns, Noel Madison, Philip Merivale, Dick Powell, John Qualen, John Wayne and Richard Whorf to the board of directors. Highlight of the session was the reading of the annual report, submitted by executive secretary, Kenneth Thomson, who will leave his ten-year post in January, showing that the SAG membership now totals 7,853, compared to 7,192 last year.

Report said, "Wage stabilization program imposes no undue hardship; that actors are subject to federal regulations but these have been reconciled to the special situation of actors."

Memorial Services for Coconut Grove Victim

BOSTON, Nov. 15.—Local Variety Club will hold memorial services on Nov. 28 for industry members killed in the Coconut Grove fire one year ago. More than a score of filmites died in the fire, which took the lives of 500 persons, including Buck Jones, veteran star of Westerns.

To date cause of the fire has not been ascertained. Local chief fire inspectors turned in a report to Governor Saltonstall stating that they have not been able to determine cause or fix the blame. Barnet Welansky, film theatre owner and owner of the Grove, is serving a six-to-15-year jail sentence for alleged negligence in not fireproofing the club.

Agreement Seen on U.K. Film Grading

LONDON, Nov. 15.—Representatives of all film distributors individually will meet tomorrow and Wednesday with members of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association rentals committee on the question of film grading. It is understood authoritatively that high hopes are held for the reaching of an acceptable agreement on film grading between exhibitors and distributors.

Jap Atrocity Rules Coming Thursday

Los Angeles, Nov. 15.—Detailed clarification of the War Department's order banning Jap war atrocity scenes as pertaining to specific pictures and types will be obtained Thursday by Ulric Bell, Hollywood director of the Office of War Information overseas bureau, in conferences with Elmer Davis, OWI chief, in San Francisco where the latter will address the Commonwealth Club at the Palace Hotel. Davis will also speak before the San Francisco Press Club on Friday on "OWI Across the Pacific."

Perkins, Other Jap Internees Due Dec. 2

With James E. Perkins, formerly general manager for Paramount in the Orient aboard, the Swedish exchange liner *Gripsholm* arrived Sunday in Rio de Janeiro, the company heard here yesterday, the dispatch indicating that the Brazilian film industry, including managers of American companies, had prepared a big reception for the 1,261 North and South American citizens who arrived from Japanese internment camps. The *Gripsholm* is due in Jersey City Dec. 2.

Recently John W. Hicks, Paramount vice-president in charge of foreign activities, received word that Perkins is in good health. He was taken prisoner in Manila shortly after he had arrived to make his headquarters there. After being interned in Manila two-and-a-half years, he was taken to Shanghai, where he was in a war prisoners' camp for several months.

Lt. Floyd C. Henry, USN, formerly manager for Paramount in the Philippines, is still a Japanese prisoner there. Word received from him recently told that he, too, was in good health.

Eyssell Revue Held For Nat'l War Fund

Staked by Radio City Music Hall, in arrangement with G. S. Eyssell, managing director, a "Tribute to Gallantry" rally was presented at Madison Square Garden last night to inaugurate home front mobilization of the National War Fund, staged at the request of the New York committee of the fund. It was presented for workers and canvassers, who have enlisted for the drive to keynote their campaign to raise $17,000,000 locally.

Highlight was a tableau written by Ben Hecht and staged by Leon Leonidoff, producer of the Music Hall.

Speakers invited included Major General Frederick H. Osborn, Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, Sidney Hillman, Matthew Woll, Alfred E. Smith, and Emil Schram, chairman of the New York committee of the fund.

Thomas Conducts Monogram Meetin

CHICAGO, Nov. 15.—Harry Thoma Monogram sales official, opened se sions here today for Monogram ma agers or franchise holders Irvir Mandel, Chicago; Thomas Burk Minneapolis; Carl Harthill, Inc anapolis; Charles Trampe, Milwa kee, and William Onie, Cincinnati.

Discussions centered principa around promotions for "Where A My Children" and "Women Bondage for which the franchise holders w engage exploiteers to work under L Lifton, Monogram publicity-ad chi Former film will soon have its pr miere in Detroit.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
"CLAUDIA"
with DOROTHY McGUIRE
ROBERT YOUNG INA CLAIRE
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Gala Stage Show Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Held Over 2nd Wee

EXTRA!
WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR CHILDREN TODAY?
YOUTH IN CRISIS
LATEST MARCH OF TIME
20th Century-Fox Release
RADIO CITY MUSIC HAL

'I DOOD IT'
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
Red SKELTON
Eleanor Powell
IN PERSON
WOODY HERMAN
Paul Winchell
Marion Hutton
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—Cl 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Screen
MARY MARTIN
FRANCHOT TONE
'TRUE TO LIFE'
In Person
TOMMY RIGGS and BETTY LOU
MILT BRITTON and ORCH.

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Personal Mention

JOSEPH A. McCONVILLE, Columbia vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, has left for a tour of the company's South American branches.

•

BERNARD LEVY, manager of LIEBERMAN's Proven Pictures Theatre, Hartford, Conn., will be married around Jan. 1 to ALICE SAYKIN of Springfield, Mass.

•

YEOMAN ROBERT DOTSON, formerly with National Theatre Supply, Des Moines, is expected back in that city from Alaska later this month to marry MARJORIE HAMMOND.

•

MRS. ARTHUR LEXIUS, daughter of CHARLES REPASS of the Crown Theatre, Hartford, Conn., gave birth to a daughter, LOUISE, at Hartford Hospital.

•

FRANK SMITH has been honorably discharged from the Army and returned to his former post as manager of Warners' Lenox, Hartford, Conn.

•

MARTIN BENNETT, Warner circuit sound-projection manager, has returned from a three-week inspection tour around Chicago.

•

PHILIP KENDIS, president of Exhibitors' Poster Service, Cleveland and MRS. KENDIS observe their 40th wedding anniversary today.

•

ART PICOLLA, RKO Lyric Theatre manager in Cincinnati, will leave Thursday for the Army. JAMES BEERS succeeds.

•

HANK TOLLETTE, formerly with Fox-Wisconsin Theatres, Milwaukee, has been inducted into the Army.

•

HARRY OLMSTEAD, Warner Theatre manager at Reading, Pa., has resigned to move to Fresno, Cal.

•

CHARLES NOLTE, Baltimore circuit owner, is ill at Union Memorial Hospital, that city.

•

LOUIS ROME, Baltimore circuit operator, was released this week from Sinai Hospital in that city.

•

HARRY KAHN, RKO Baltimore representative, is a patient in Sinai Hospital.

•

LARRY STEIN, Warner circuit ad manager in Chicago, has left for a three-week vacation in Minneapolis.

•

DAVE DEMMING, Warner circuit executive at Hartford, Conn., is here on two-week vacation.

New WB Booker

BOSTON, Nov. 15.—Anthony Blase, formerly ad salesman in the local Warner exchange here, has been promoted to booker by branch manager George W. Horan. R. V. McMenamin, assistant to Blase, is elevated to ad salesman.

Goldman Trust Suit Opens in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 15.—The $1,350,000 anti-trust suit of William Goldman, independent circuit head, against the Warner Theatre circuit and the major distributors got under way this afternoon in U. S. District Court here before Judge William H. Kirkpatrick. Marking the first of such suits involving the first-run theatres in the downtown theatrical district, Goldman's complaint, originally filed on Dec. 8, 1942, is based on his alleged inability to buy first-run pictures for his Erlanger Theatre.

William A. Gray, chief counsel for Goldman, in opening the hearing indicated that his case will be built largely around the fact that Warners reopened the Mastbaum Theatre in September, 1942, while Goldman allegedly has been unable to buy pictures for the Erlanger since leasing the house in November, 1940. He pointed out that the eight first-run houses downtown are all operated by the Warner circuit and that the distributor defendants collectively produced 80 per per cent of all the industry's product, making it impossible to remain in business if required to purchase pictures from other sources. It was also pointed out that RKO independently operated the Erlanger as a house in 1929 and 1930.

Deals Made in Home Office

While most of the interrogatories taken before the opening of hearings were kept confidential because prices of films and rentals were mentioned. Gray was able to show that several defendant distributors admitted that no first-run deals were made in Philadelphia but were all made by the home office in New York. It was also shown that the defendant distributors claimed that it was to the economic interest of their company to exhibit their pictures at the Warner houses rather than sell to Goldman for his Erlanger. The hearing will be continued tomorrow.

LaGuardia to Open 'Night of Stars'

Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia will launch the 10th annual "Night of Stars" show at Madison Square Garden tonight before an expected audience of 20,000. Nathan Straus, former U. S. Housing Commissioner, who is chairman of "Night of Stars," will also address the audience.

Over 500 top-ranking stars of stage, screen and radio are expected to participate in the show, to be held for the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine.

Rank's Father Dies In London at 89

Joseph Rank, father of J. Arthur Rank, one of England's top figures in the motion picture industry, died at his suburban home, Reigate Heath, England, at the age of 89 on Saturday after a ten-day illness, cable dispatches from London reported.

Though he shunned publicity, Rank Sr., whose flour mills dominate chief British ports, was reputed to be England's wealthiest man, running a 30-sack-a-week flour mill into a fortune estimated in excess of $120,000,000.

'Films a Necessity' L. I. Press Declares

"In time of peace motion pictures are a luxury. In times of war they are a necessity!" the *Long Island Daily Press* editorializes.

Stating that many young actors in Hollywood had received angry letters accusing them of draft-dodging, the *Press* said that these accusations were undeserved and that films were "at war and part of the war."

"Financially, the industry assists the war effort as much as any other single medium via exploitation and touring war bond shows that cover the land," the *Press* declared.

MPTOA Fears New Control Measures

New and more onerous form of "governmental policing" of the industry is to be expected after Nov. 20 regardless of what action the Departmentment of Justice ultimately may decide to take with respect to the consent decree, it was predicted in an MPTOA bulletin issued here yesterday over the signature of Ed Kuykendall, president.

"We are admitting our inability to run our own business and deliberately asking the Government to run it for us," the bulletin states. "Nov. 20 is a day all of us will long regret, no matter what the decisions of the Government may be."

The bulletin asserts that the decree's trial period "proves" that it was not intended to benefit exhibitors. "I am sure," it states, "that producer-distributor interests are fighting to retain it; it has paid them large dividends." Its aftermath, according to the bulletin, is a question of whether the industry will be regulated by "court decisions or Congressional legislation."

800 to Attend Ampa's 'Salute'

More than 800 are expected to attend Ampa's "Salute to Heroes of the Industry" tomorrow noon at the Hotel Astor. Roster of stars appearing was swelled yesterday with the addition of Milton Berle, Phil Baker, Harry Green, Jack Pearl, Bob Hall, Lew Hearn and Harry Hershfield.

Postmaster General Frank C. Walker will be principal speaker, and Charles Francis Coe, MPPDA vice-president, will be toastmaster. Howard Dietz, vice-president of M-G-M, will unveil a service flag to the industry's 28,200 men and women in the services.

Phila. in Fund Drive

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 15.—Local industry here has organized to meet a quota of $65,000 in the National War Fund drive with Samuel D. Schwartz, Warner circuit real estate head, general chairman. Abe Sablosky will head the independent theatres group. Mrs. Edna R. Carroll, chairman of the State censor board, heads the distributors group.

M-G-M Sponsored Air Show Debuts

Sponsored by M-G-M, Fulton Oursler's "The People's Reporter," a new radio program, made its debut on WOR and 45 other Mutual Network stations from Coast-to-Coast last night.

The program is an interesting departure from the usual run of "commentator" programs. Oursler, a veteran news reporter, let eminent authorities supply the authentic answers to a wide variety of questions sent in by his listeners. The express purpose is to supply the answers to the questions that remain in mind after hearing the news.

Frankfurter Blasts Rumors

Highlighting the answers on the initial program were a statement from J. Edgar Hoover, director of the FBI, on treating with the problem of juvenile delinquency, and Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter's blasting of the rumors that he had influenced President Roosevelt to transfer Army chief of staff General George C. Marshall from his present post to the European theatre of operations. Other answers dealt with the Lebanon situation; the possibilities of a reduction in taxes; a Dewey-Willkie deal on the 1944 Republican nomination; Joe Louis status in the Army; the Philippines under Japanese rule; the status of the Nazi submarine menace; the exchange of American war prisoners and dishwashing in the Army.

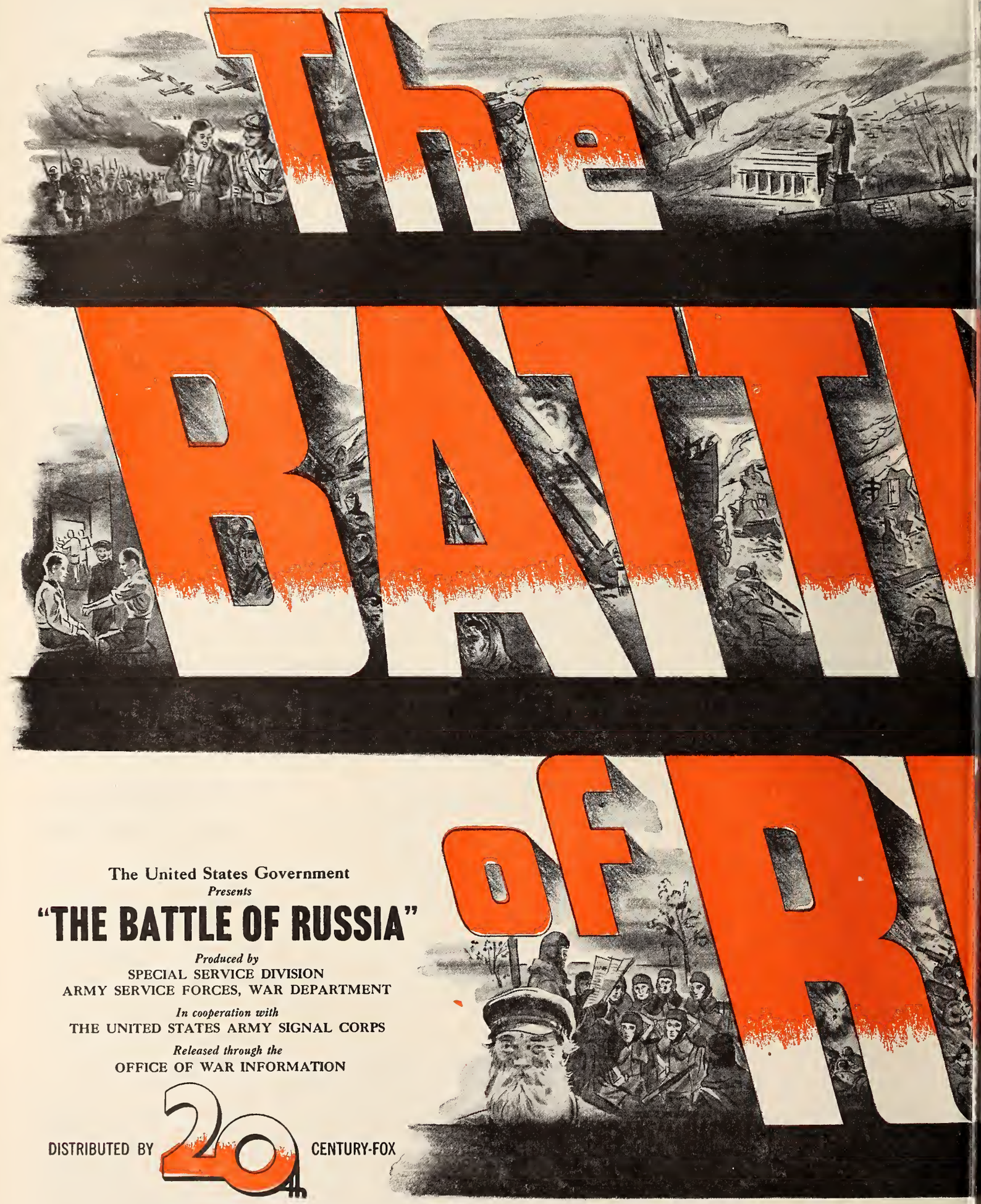
Announcer Frank Dunn delivered two brief M-G-M commercials plugging "Girl Crazy" and the roar of Leo, the M-G-M lion, supplied the signing off signature. The general format of the program provides its sponsors with an unusual manner with which to promote its motion pictures. WHN in New York, in addition to WOR and the Mutual network, will carry the 15-minute Monday through Friday program.

MILT LIVINGSTON

3 New Producers Start on the Coast

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 15.—Three new producing companies have filed incorporation papers with the county clerk here. They are Standard Pictures with Fred Walker, Ann Walker, H. Vestey, Marcus C. Clark and Oscar M. Gipson on the board; American Films with Henry Herzbrun, Jean Wunderlich and George Penney on the board and Sig Schlager one of the prime movers, and Resolute Pictures with Gertrude Casty, Elsie Taylor and Ralph Wilson, all employes of the legal firm filing the papers, listed as board members.

Walker has been dickering for several Western properties in which it is understood he plans to star Jack Hoxie, until recently deputy sheriff of Las Vegas, and Bob Thompson, who just completed a role in "Raider of the Borders" for Monogram. Both players were widely known in silent day Westerns, and Thompson has played recently in dramatic roles at M-G-M and 20th-Fox.



The United States Government
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ARMY SERVICE FORCES, WAR DEPARTMENT

In cooperation with
THE UNITED STATES ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

Released through the
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ST TIMELY and

lked-about feature ever

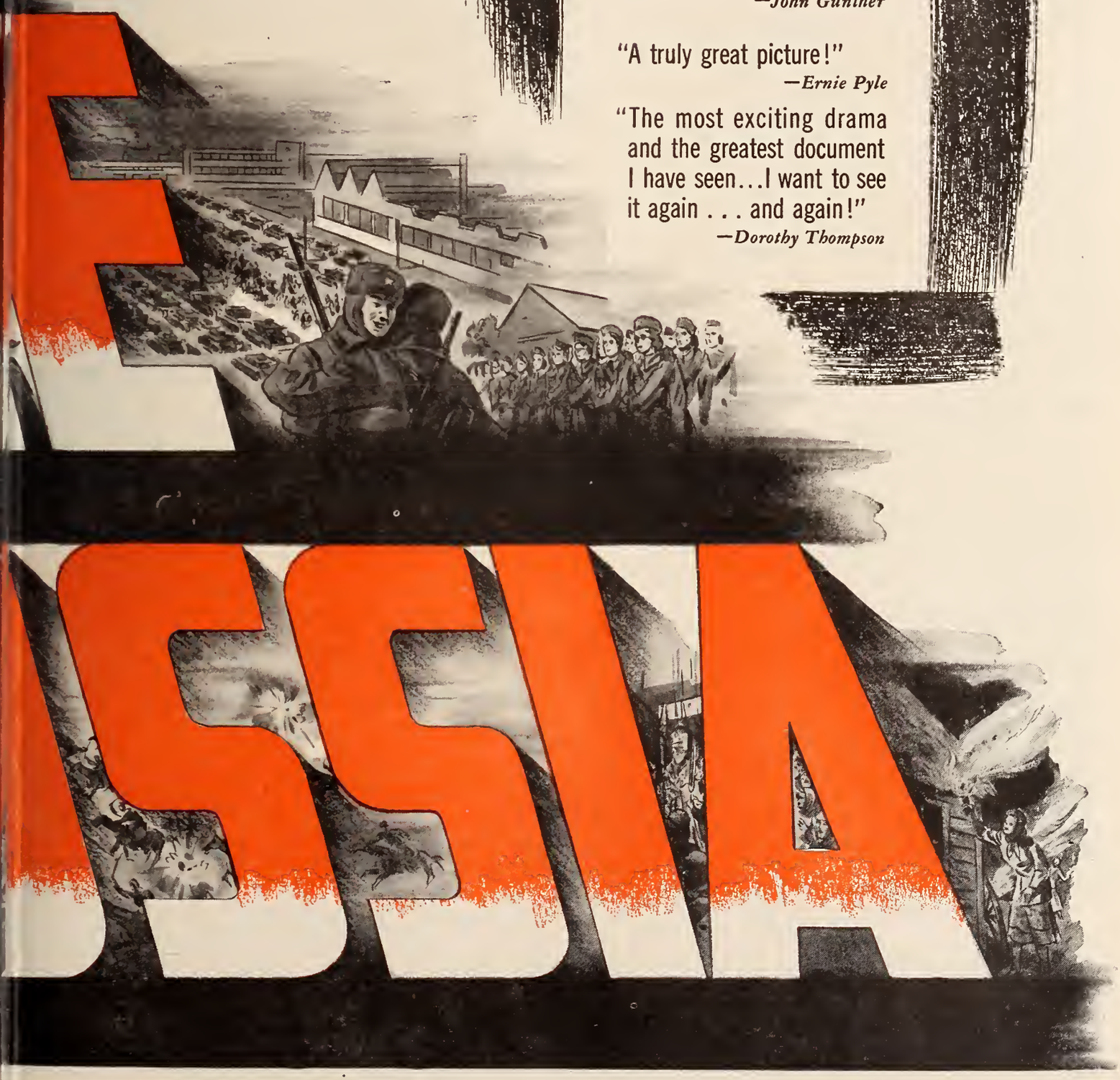
offered to a theatre!

"One of the great motion pictures of our time!"
—*William Shirer*

"One of the most vividly moving, emotionally stirring, colorful and dynamic pictures I ever saw!"
—*John Gunther*

"A truly great picture!"
—*Ernie Pyle*

"The most exciting drama and the greatest document I have seen...I want to see it again . . . and again!"
—*Dorothy Thompson*



Cohn Testifies Col. Did Not Pay Bioff

(Continued from page 1)

he received from Leo Spitz, former president of RKO.

"Spitz told me my share was $25,000 if I wanted to help keep the theatres open," Cohn said.

"I said no, I wasn't going to pay anything."

"You didn't pay a dime to Bioff, but you went right on distributing your pictures all over the United States, is that right?" asked James D. C. Murray, chief defense counsel.

"That's right," replied Cohn.

Frank C. Olsen, business agent of Local 2, Chicago stage hands' union, in later testimony, linked several of the defendants to the activities of Bioff and Browne. He said that Frank Diamond, Louis Ramano, Nick Cirrcella and Bioff were included in a group attending the 1934 convention of the IATSE at Louisville, where Browne was elected president. Bioff in his testimony indicated that these and other Chicago hoodlums had gone to the convention to insure Browne's election.

Olsen also identified three of the defendants, Paul Ricca, Charles Joy and Louis Campagna as having been with Bioff in the Hotel Bismarck, Chicago, on various occasions. The witness testified that Pete Shayne, president of the IATSE local in Chicago, had given him a number of envelopes in 1937 but the nature of the testimony was not brought out. Olsen also said that the defendant Joy had been at the 1940 convention of the IATSE, the last one attended by Browne before he and Bioff were convicted of extortion.

'Sahara' Dualed Grosses $17,000

BUFFALO, Nov. 15. — "Sahara," double-billed at the Lafayette, is doing good business and probably will pull $17,000. "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" at the Great Lakes is expected to reach $22,800 to lead. Weather was bad, the first "staying snow" of the season blanketing the area in slush.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 20:

"Northern Pursuit" (Warner Bros.)
"The Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Dr. I. Q. on stage Monday night. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $16,500)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Bomber's Moon" (20th-Fox)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,800. (Average, $16,400)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"They Came to Blow Up America" (20th-Fox)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week moveover. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,500)
"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"Petticoat Larceny" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $10,600)
"Two Senoritas from Chicago" (Col.)
"Sahara" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $10,500)

M-G-M Tradeshows

Trade-show dates were announced here yesterday by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer: "The Heavenly Body" and "Song of Russia" will be screened in Memphis, Dec. 11; Buffalo, Dec. 13, and elsewhere nationally on Dec. 14; "Madame Curie," which already has been set for New York and Los Angeles showings on Nov. 18, will be screened in all other exchanges on Nov. 30.

Reviews

"Yellow Canary"

(Herbert Wilcox-RKO Radio)

London, Nov. 15

"YELLOW CANARY" is the latest RKO Radio-Herbert Wilcox-Anna Neagle composition and the occasion is marked by customary Wilcox felicity, trade bookers welcoming it as a solid contribution to a promised attenuated stock of winter wares and press critics are busy thinking up new epithetical bouquets for Miss Neagle's charm and talents. The story is a competently concocted, swiftly moving melodramatic exposition of an aristocratic English girl, daughter of an old service family, allegedly turned traitor in Hitler's pay, with Miss Neagle in the unaccustomed surprising role of a British renegade.

Production has all Wilcox patient directorial competence with abundant care in camera work and lighting lavished on the star. Albert Lieven contributes an outstanding study of a hundred-per-cent sinister dyed-in-the-wool Nazi.

Running time, 98 mins. "G."* PETER BURNUP

"Jive Junction"

(PRC)

Hollywood, November 15

UNDERTAKING to put on celluloid the case of the 16-year-olds of today, too young to fight but anxious to do their bit in the ways they can, this first directly-produced PRC picture runs into more problems than it completely solves. It settles, finally, for a band concert via radio which gives the final 20 minutes of the film suspense and snap. Off to a slow start concerning the death of the principal character's father, it progresses unevenly to that point through musical numbers, both jazz and classic, which display to advantage the singing voice of 14-year-old Gerra Young, first PRC contract star. Edgar Ulmer, first PRC contract director, handled the enterprise, with spotty success, for Leon Fromkess, PRC vice-president in charge of production.

The film contains several sequences in which jive and jitterbugging predominate and as many or more in which what the music youngsters call "long hair" is featured, Miss Young's talent leaning in this latter direction much as Deanna Durbin's did at her age. Stars of the picture are Dickie Moore and Tina Thayer, with Johnny Michaels, Jan Wiley, Jack Wagner and Bill Halligan heading the support.

Screenplay by Irving Wallace, Walter Doniger and Melvin Wald, from a story by the latter two, concerns a group of high school children, who form an orchestra and obtain use of a barn as a canteen for service men, christening it "Jive Junction." The soldiers accept the entertainment with mixed emotions until older girls are provided to dance with them, after which the younger ones resume their pairings with their fellow students. When the band wins the contest championship, everybody is made happy. Seven song numbers written for the picture by Lew Porter and Leo Erdody range from ballad to swing.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."* WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"G" denotes general classification.

16 Leaders on Dais For Fabian, Mayer

(Continued from page 1)

at the Hotel Astor, under the chairmanship of David Weinstock.

Testimonial is sponsored by the theatre owners of Greater New York in recognition of the war work of Fabian and Mayer.

James J. Walker will be toastmaster. With him at the dias with the guests of honor will be Alperson, Barney Balaban, Joseph Bernhard, Harry Brandt, Jack Cohn, Doob, Mrs. Si Fabian, Mrs. Rose Fabian, Si's mother, Hertz, Johnson, Mrs. Arthur Mayer, Moskowitz, O'Connor, Rathvon, Sam Rinzler, Herman Robbins, Yates and Adolph Zukor.

Metzgers Sell Uptown

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 15.—Uptown Theatre at Lamanda Park, Pasadena suburb, is understood to have been sold by Gus and Lou Metzger and Harry Srerie, to an undisclosed buyer. Fox West-Coast is understood to have been interested in the house.

Legion Lists 6 'A's' And Four in Class 'B'

Seven current releases were cleared yesterday by the National Legion of Decency. Class A ratings for general patronage were given Republic's "Canyon City," "Drums of Fu Manchu" and "Man from Music Mountain"; United Artists' "False Colors" and "Riders of the Dead Line," and Universal's "His Butler's Sister."

Rated Class A-II, for adults, were: 20th Century-Fox's "Battle of Russia," a documentary; Warners' "Conflict"; M-G-M's "Cry Havoc," and Paramount's "No Time for Love."

Loew's Buys 'So Proudly'

Loew's has booked Paramount's "So Proudly We Hail" for its New York metropolitan circuit starting with Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25.

Albany Paramount exchange reports that the first feature block of 1943-44 and "The City That Stopped Hitler" have been dated in every Schine theatre in that exchange territory.

'Iron Major' with Show Hits $23,50

CINCINNATI, Nov. 15.—"The Ir Major" on the initial bill of the ne stage-and-screen show policy at t RKO Albee was in the high weeke bracket, with an estimated $23,500 sight at an advanced price scale. Oth houses for the most part turned good reports.

Estimated receipts for the w ending Nov. 17-20:

"The Iron Major" (RKO)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-75c-85c) days. Stage: Glen Gray's orchestra, R Davis, Lowe, Hite & Stanley, Baird Morgan, the Creightens. Gross: $23,5 (Average, $16,200)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-5 65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Avera $13,800)
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (33c-40c-44c-5 7 days, 2nd week moveover from Pala Gross: $4,500. (Average, $5,000)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (33c-40c-44c-5 65c) 7 days, 2nd week moveover from bee. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $6,500)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-5 65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $5,2
"Crime School" (WB Reissue)
"Girls on Probation" (WB Reissue)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) days, 2nd week moveover from Gra Gross: $4,500. (Average, $4,200)
"Manpower" (WB)
"Gun Law" (Mono.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 4 da Gross: $1,400. (Average, $1,400)
"Juke Girl" (WB)
"The Texas Kid" (Mono.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 da Gross: $700. (Average, $800)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
"The Falcon and the Co-Eds" (RKO)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) days. Gross: $5,300. (Average, $5,000)

$17,500 for 'O'Rourk Best in Baltimo

BALTIMORE, Nov. 15.—Business Baltimore's first-run houses contin slightly off and managers are inclin to place the blame on an abnorma early rush of Christmas shoppi Best figure for the current seven-d period is the $17,500 listed for "Pr cess O'Rourke" at the Stanley.

Estimated receipts for the w ending Nov. 18:

"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c-50c-55c) days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $16,
"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (30c-40c-50c-55c) days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Aver $12,000)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (28c-35c-55c) 7 days, week. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $9,700)
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (28c-40c-44c-55c 60c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (erage, $16,900)
"Sahara" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (28c-39c-44c 66c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage show Buck Walter's Marimba Queens, Ruth Billy Ambrose, The Kemmys, Arthur Morton Havel, Neal Stanley. Gross: $ 000. (Average, $16,800)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (20c-40c) 7 da Gross: $7,500. (Average, $5,900)

Watson Dismisses Queens Complai

John K. Watson, arbitrator in New York tribunal, has dismissed clearance complaint filed by B.K Holding Corp., operating the Tryl Rego Park, Queens, against the consenting companies. Arbitra found that real and substantial c petition exists between the Try and the Drake, which is booked the Brandt circuit, and that the pr ent seven days' clearance was not reasonable.

Claudia's' $112,000, Better in 2nd Week Than First on B'way

(Continued from page 1)

5,000 at the former and a probable 5,000 at the latter house.

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" contin-s to draw in its fifth week of a ntinuous run at the Rivoli and is ected to do $40,000, while "Thou-ds Cheer" in its ninth week at the tor did an estimated $13,500. "Old quaintance" will probably gross 2,000 in its second week at the ollywood. "Battle of Russia" opened the Globe on Saturday and will get out $12,000 in its initial week. "Cor-tte K-225," bowing out at the Cri-ion, will do about $16,000, with lesh and Fantasy" scheduled to en tomorrow. "Son of Dracula" at e Rialto did $6,500 over the week-d and will probably gross about 1,000.

J. A. Distribution For Pan-America

(Continued from page 1)

foreign distribution, announced sterday at a press conference at hich he introduced Dudley Murphy Artistas Asociados' general man-er and treasurer and principal pro-cer-director.

Murphy, who has written, produced d directed films in Hollywood, New ork and Paris, including "Emperor nes" and "One-Third of a Nation," ll direct two of the pictures and oduce all four of the new company's st-year product. Initial picture, sed on a story by Budd Schulberg, led "The Bell of My Village," will before the cameras Dec. 20 and will ready for U.A. distribution about pril 1.

Financing for the company is es-ntially Mexican with some United ates money behind the venture, urphy said. Jose Calderon, owner Azteca studios, Mexico City, where l pictures will be made, is president Artista Asociados; Elizabeth Jen-ns Higgins, prominent in Mexican nking circles and owner of a cir-it of theatres south of the border, d Jacquin Cortina are on the board directors.

Murphy predicted that within three ars Mexico City will be an impor-nt film center, adding, "I believe ollywood will cooperate with this w film center for the betterment and rther development of the art of the otion picture."

Second picture from the new com-ny will be a musical in Cine-Color ith Acapulco, the Mexican resort ty, as tropical background. Third the lineup will be a drama to be di-cted by Emilio Fernandez, who re-ntly completed a Dolores del Rio arrer. Fourth film will be based on story by Aben Kandel, Hollywood riter of several Warner productions.

Technicolor Dividend

Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president d general manager of Technicolor, nounced here yesterday that at a eekend meeting the board of Tech-color declared a dividend of 50 cents r share payable Dec. 15 to stock-lders of record at the close of busi-ss on Nov. 26.

Army Chiefs Refute Critics Of Its Film Distribution

(Continued from page 1)

the world receive three different features each week, from which bases in the surrounding territory are serviced. Exchanges have been set up in Persia, Egypt, Algeria, Gold Coast of Africa, England, Iceland, Greenland, Labrador, Newfoundland, Trinidad, Bermuda, Panama, Alcan Highway, Alaska, Hawaii, Fiji Islands, New Caledonia, Brisbane in Australia, and India, he disclosed.

Every "A" picture from all the major distributors in 16 mm goes out to these bases, with the exception of some Technicolor films and some war films. Musicals and comedies still lead in popularity with men in the field. "When these films arrive at exchanges, prints become the property of the commanding officers and they use them as best fits their needs. Once prints leave the central exchange in New York, responsibility for their exhibition shifts. Same is true of tanks or ammunition," Maj. Hubbell said.

An average of 630,000 fighting men and women see pictures every night. There are now 2,500 projectors in use all over the world. There were 370 in use when the Army's overseas film service first went into operation in Feb., 1942. On a typical night, the night of Oct. 1, 1,269 films were shown in Army camps around the globe. On Guadalcanal alone, 62 shows were given that evening.

Refuting charges made by critics of film distribution to troops overseas, Major Hubbell pointed out that of the 850 rental pictures taken by commanding officers when American troops first went overseas, only 386 have not been returned, and of these more than 75 per cent have either been lost in transit, worn out or destroyed by action in combat. Some 7,368 prints have been shipped overseas since the project started, comprising 260 new, top-flight Hollywood productions. Estimates have it that a picture can be seen by every fighting American overseas within 24 weeks after it arrives at the nearest exchange.

Prior to the press conference, executives of the major film companies were also given a picture of what the overseas service is doing, at a luncheon-meeting attended by high Army officials and members of the War Activities Committee.

Among those present at the luncheon were: Nicholas M. Schenck, Harry M. Warner, Barney Balaban, N. Peter Rathvon, John J. O'Connor, Howard Dietz, Joseph H. Seidelman, Jack Cohn, W. C. Michel, Carl Leserman, William J. German, Joseph Bernhard, Steve Broidy, Walter L. Titus, Phil Reisman and Armand Schenck. Brig. Gen. Joseph W. Byron, new director of the Army's special services division, was introduced. Maj. Gen. Frederick H. Osborn, Col. Lawton, Lt. Col. William E. Slater, Maj. Hubbell, Maj. Orton H. Hicks and Capt. Seymour R. Mayer represented the Army, while Arthur L. Mayer and Ed Schreiber represented the WAC at the luncheon.

Seeks to Spread Film Materials

(Continued from page 1)

John Eberson, head of the theatre and motion picture unit of OCR Amusements section, has asked approximately 60 purchasing agents, suppliers and others representing about 6,000 theatres for detailed lists of what they will need over the period of a year or more in every department of theatre maintenance and operation.

Eberson said here it has been made very clear that OCR, in the interests of civilians, cannot take a chance of getting adequate supplies to maintain business and industry after the Army and Navy and other claimant agencies have been supplied, and that provision to meet civilian needs must be taken at the same time that allocations are made for military and export purposes. OCR is now itself a claimant agency.

While a definite request for information has been sent out only to a limited number of persons, Eberson said, his unit will welcome information as to requirements from any source in the film industry. The purpose of the inquiry is to get a picture of just what theatres will need in the future so that schedules can be drawn up and material allocated for at least minimum requirements.

Paramount Will Build

CINCINNATI, Nov. 15.—Paramount has purchased a site near the Film Building here on which a new exchange building will be erected when building restrictions are lifted.

Allied Caravan in Two-Day Meetings

(Continued from page 1)

tion, which will be held on Thursday and Friday, have been announced as follows: Abram F. Myers, William F. Rodgers, Al Steffes, George Dembow, Jack Kirsch, Charles Trampe, Dave Palfreyman, Rotus Harvey, H. M. Richey and L. O. Lukan. In addition to the talks by these men the program for the first day will include reports of the president and secretary and the election of officers. A cocktail party, given by 20th-Fox, and the fifth annual banquet will follow. On Friday the reports of all committees will be heard and a discussion and open forum on the "Allied States Caravan" led by members of the Caravan committee will be held.

On Friday night the convention will close with a grand ball given by the Milwaukee Reelfellows Club which has taken over the charity program of the local Variety Club, since the latter organization has been dissolved. Proceeds from the ball will be used for the annual orphans' benefit and picnic.

Critics Honor Dunn

James Dunn, New York and Hollywood film press agent, will be given a testimonial dinner tonight at Sardi's by the New York Film Critics Circle, reversing the usual procedure of film press agents giving luncheons for critics.

Occasion is Dunn's resignation from the publicity department of 20th Century-Fox. Prior to that he was associated with the New York Rivoli.

Majors-U.S. Agreement on Decree Near

(Continued from page 1)

that they secure the approval of the court before acquiring any new theatre interests, and that arbitration be expanded to take in all theatres and all matters not covered by statute which the Department believes should be remedied.

In view of the progress which is being made toward development of a satisfactory decree, Clark said tonight that no action would be taken when the trial period of the present agreement expires next Saturday. There is no time limit on the decree itself, he said, and it will run along as at at present. until the negotiations are consummated.

The Department also will petition Judge Goddard this week to reappoint Robert Mc. C. Marsh as a member of the appeal board to serve until the terms of the other members expire in January, by which time it is expected the matter of the new decree will be definitely settled.

Clark Expresses Confidence

Following the meeting with Joseph Hazen, Clark expressed confidence that a satisfactory revision of the decree would be developed. The new proposals, he said, are considerably more liberal than those brought down early this month which he rejected in a 15-minute meeting with Hazen but the full extent of the concessions which the distributors are willing to make cannot be determined until the verbiage is straightened out.

Clark also saw Spyros Skouras and Robert Rubin today, but said the meeting did not concern the decree but was on another matter, the nature of which was not revealed.

When the distributors' proposals are whipped into shape satisfactory to the Department, they will be discussed in detail with the various exhibitor organizations which have been promised an opportunity to review them before final action is taken, Clark said. So far, he explained, the conferences with the theatre owners have been general in nature, and he has merely outlined what he was attempting to secure in the new document.

Clark in New York

Tomorrow, the Assistant Attorney General will be in New York for a few hours, returning to Washington to clean up a few matters before leaving the city for the remainder of the week. Upon his return he expects to hear from the distributors, and next Tuesday will meet representatives of the New England exhibitors' group who have been trying to see him for some time but have been unable to get reservations in the war-crowded city before then.

Mono. Signs Circuits

CLEVELAND, Nov. 15.—Nate Schultz, local Monogram franchise owner, reports that all leading circuits in this area, including Schine, Shea, Warners, Skirball, Publix, Cooperative, Associated Community and Scoville, Essick & Reif have closed with Monogram for 1943-44 product.

SAMUEL BRONSTON *presents* MICHAEL O'SHEA • SUSAN HAYWARD *in* "JACK LONDON"

with OSA MASSEN • HARRY DAVENPORT • FRANK CRAVEN • VIRGINIA MAYO • RALPH MORGAN • LOUISE BEAVERS

Screenplay by ERNEST PASCAL • *Directed by* ALFRED SANTELL • A SAMUEL BRONSTON PRODUCTION

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"1 Kw" High Intensity, A.C.	52-66	7 mm x 9 inch H.I., A.C. Carbons in both holders
"1 Kw" High Intensity, D.C.	40-42	7 mm x 12 inch or 14 inch "Suprex" Positive 6 mm x 9 inch "Orotip" C Negative
Simplified High Intensity, D.C. with *adjustable* feed ratio	42-45	7 mm x 12 inch or 14 inch "Suprex" Positive 6 mm x 9 inch "Orotip" C Negative
Simplified High Intensity, D.C. with *fixed* feed ratio	42-45	7 mm x 12 inch or 14 inch "Suprex" Positive 7 mm x 9 inch "Orotip" C Negative
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The Victory Carbon trims indicated in the above table were established by comprehensive laboratory and field tests to ascertain the best results obtainable in all types of equipment

OPERATE CARBONS AT SPECIFIED ARC CURRENT.
Better projection and greater economy are obtained when recommended arc currents are maintained. The maximum allowable arc current is stamped on each Victory Carbon at the left of the trade-mark.

CHECK FEED RATIO CAREFULLY.
Changes of arc current alter the ratio of burning rate between positive and negative carbons. On lamps equipped with adjustable feed and formerly operated above 45 amperes arc current, this ratio should be adjusted to meet the new current conditions.

A bulletin describing operation of the new Victory High Intensity Carbons is available for distribution and will be sent promptly upon request.

SAVE THE COPPER

Most of the copper used for plating copper coated projector carbons drops to the floor of the lamp house when the carbons are burned. Continue to save these copper drippings and turn them over to your supply dealer as designated by our government.

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L. 54. NO. 95 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1943 | TEN CENTS

ncreases Are Cancelled for 'North Star'

ldwyn Plans Changed To Speed Exhibition

lans for advanced admission e openings of Samuel Gold- n's "The North Star" have been celled in favor of popular-priced vings in order to expedite exhibi- of the picture to the greatest ber of people in the shortest pe- of time, Goldwyn announced at a e press conference yesterday.

he picture will continue as a two- y attraction at advanced admis- prices at the Victoria on Broad- and also will open at the Alca- San Francisco, on the same pol- but all other openings will be at ular prices, Goldwyn said. An ption was made of the San Fran- engagement because of the size e advance ticket sale which made te change of policy out of the tion. Openings at Cincinnati, alo, Washington and elsewhere, inally planned for advanced scales, be at popular prices, instead, as at Palace here.

announcing the change of plans.

(Continued on page 7)

nks Bioff, Browne o Chicago Payment

ew links between William Bioff George E. Browne, former SE officials, on the one hand, and ago gangsters, on the other, were loped in the testimony of Na- el (Jack) Barger, operator of Rialto, Chicago burlesque house, was yesterday's witness in the eteers' trial in Federal court

rger testified that he paid thou- s of dollars in tribute to Chicago sters from 1935 to 1942 "because as afraid of his health and busi- " His testimony included state- s that, in addition to the tribute

(Continued on page 8)

erman and Cutler Join Peskay Staff

il Frank Sherman has resigned Hal Roach Studios and has d Edward Peskay as general as- nt. William Cutler has been put harge of Peskay's accounting de- ment.

skay is special representative for United Artists producers, Ben aus and Samuel Bronston.

War Exigencies Force Economies on Hollywood Studios

Hollywood has learned to severely economize because of wartime exigencies; it has been forced to use less raw stock and less materials in filming all down the line, reports Sig Rogell, executive producer of RKO, who is here from Hollywood for two weeks.

Studios are revamping sets several times before they are discarded and even then they are salvaged or stored. There is a widespread exchange of production equipment, Rogell added.

(Continued on page 7)

Goldman Testifies Product Refused

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 16.—William Goldman, plaintiff in the anti-trust suit against Warner circuit and distributors, took the stand as the witness for the second day of the hearing in U. S. District Court here to enter evidence that his efforts to obtain first run product for his Erlanger Theatre from local exchanges and the New York home offices were entirely fruitless.

On direct examination he told how Neil Agnew, Paramount sales manager, came to Philadelphia in the

(Continued on page 8)

10,000 Prints of Bond Short to WAC

War Activities Committee will distribute for the Treasury Department 10,000 prints of "A Present with a Future," Christmas war bond selling trailer starring Bette Davis. Film, made for the Treasury at the suggestion of the Office of War Information, was photographed at Warner Bros.' Coast studio last Sunday, the company contributing production costs. Circulation of the prints, which will be made by Consolidated Film Laboratory, will be handled for WAC by National Screen Service.

Ampa Will Salute Film's Heroes Today

The industry will pay tribute to its 28,205 servicemen and women at the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' "Salute to Heroes of the Industry" luncheon at the Hotel Astor today. More than 800 are expected to be present to hear Postmaster General Frank C. Walker lead the tribute. Charles Francis Coe, MPPDA vice-president, will be toastmaster, and a large service flag dedicated to those in service will be unveiled by Howard

(Continued on page 7)

800 Honor Fabian, Mayer For WAC, War Bond Work

Eight hundred here yesterday honored Si Fabian and Arthur Mayer at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor and heard James J. Walker, toastmaster, lead in tribute to the two exhibitors for "their untiring efforts in behalf of this industry's war work" as head of the War Activities Committee's theatres division. Walker typified them as representative of those who are "making the people of our country realize that the motion picture business is not one of legs and gangster films as pictured by some, but a splendid part of the nation's life that is making a substantial patriotic contribution to the war effort."

Si Fabian

Arthur Mayer

Fabian and Mayer were given the testimonial in recognition of their war work and particularly for efforts during the recent Third War Loan drive. Theatre owners of Greater New York were the sponsors. Speakers included Sam Rinzler,

(Continued on page 8)

15% Increase In 20th-Fox Deals: Kupper

60% of Season's Product Already Completed

Sales of the first two groups of 20th Century-Fox 1943-44 feature pictures are averaging 15 per cent ahead of the same groups last year, William J. Kupper, general sales manager of the company, stated yesterday. And sales of the third and fourth groups are already on a par with last year, he added.

(It was learned here elsewhere yesterday that the 20th-Fox domestic sales force has sold contracts covering 17,000 dates, covering more than 6,000 situations in ten days. In the preceding week deals covered 8,200 dates in more than 3,000 situations.)

Approximately 60 per cent of the company's production scheduled for 1943-44 has been completed, Kupper declared. He said that the company

(Continued on page 8)

Allied Board Gets Information Plan

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 16.—The Allied Caravan committee will present to the national board meeting a plan for the prompt interchange of information among the cooperating exhibitors concerning conditions in the film market. This was revealed at the close of their two-day session at the Hotel Schroeder here today. The main purpose of the meeting was a review of the results of the first year of operation of the Caravan plan.

In behalf of the committee, Chairman M. A. Rosenberg stated that

(Continued on page 8)

Col.-Music Hall in 3-Year Renewal Deal

Columbia Pictures yesterday renewed its franchise with the Radio City Music Hall for three more years, A. Montague, general sales manager, reported.

Columbia has sold its product to the Music Hall uninterruptedly since its opening in 1933. Negotiations for the renewal agreement were handled by Montague and Gus Eyssell, representing the Music Hall.

Personal Mention

WILL HAYS went to Washington yesterday to visit his first grandchild, a daughter, born recently to WILL HAYS, JR. and MRS. HAYS. HAYS' son is doing legal work for the Army at the Capital.

•

LT. COL. HUGH STEWART of the British Army film unit is in the United States from London. With LIEUT. COL. FRANK CAPRA, he was joint producer of the British-American film dealing with the Tunisian campaign.

•

GEORGE WELTNER, assistant manager of Paramount's foreign department, has left for Mexico City by plane. He will also visit Panama, Cuba and Guatemala.

•

WALTER ALLEN, with the Paramount exchange in Omaha, who has been in a hospital, will return to work this week.

•

JOHN B. NATHAN, Paramount managing director for Argentina, has left New York by plane for Buenos Aires.

•

P. A. WILLIAMS, advertising director for March of Time, left yesterday for Boston.

•

NORMAN ELSON, Trans-Lux Theatres vice-president, left last night for Washington and Norfolk.

•

TERRY TURNER, RKO exploiteer, who is on a Midwest trip, is expected to return to New York Nov. 22.

'Night of Stars' Has Gross of $100,000

Capacity audience of 20,000 filled Madison Square Garden last night to view the 10th annual "Night of Stars" show, benefitting the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine by more than $100,000. Some 500 stars and performers of screen, stage and radio appeared.

Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia launched the show, followed by Nathan Straus, chairman of the affair, who addressed the audience. Outstanding was the "Parade of Heroes," a feature climaxing the show, in which men of the armed forces of Allied Nations participated, together with units of WAVES, WACS and other service branches.

Stanley Hand Named To Succeed Wengler

Stanley Hand has been made advertising-publicity manager for Altec Service Corp., filling the post left vacant by Harold Wengler, who has taken an executive position with the Ted Bates Agency. Hand will also continue to act as staff representative for the company.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 16

THINGS are humming at UA. More correctly, things are humming within and without UA.

In the face it presents to the trade, the company is doing extremely well and will show a handsome profit as a distributor in its fiscal year. The flow of product has been maintained on a more even and regular keel than UA has enjoyed in several seasons.

Vanguard, Arnold, Ben Bogeaus and Producers Corporation of America are in assorted stages of progress on one attraction apiece. Completed releases, although not many, are at hand. Other producers are getting ready to roll.

The market is at flood tide, the goose hangs high. This mixes metaphors, but it does not confuse the idea.

■

The Sears-Leserman administration has traveled a substantial road in improving sales. More contracts are being placed, in the average, and more and better percentage terms are being whipped up. It may create surprise to learn this unexplored field was a substantial one, but it is the fact. It is likewise the fact that the area has been reduced and is being made smaller steadily as the months go by.

UA is selling more percentage contracts more often than at any time in its latter day history. The records prove it.

■

And so the distribution dynamo whirls merrily on. Internally, however, there appears to be shaping up a period of impending change. Charlie Chaplin's suit against David O. Selznick, 20th-Fox and the company in which he owns a one-quarter interest continues to hang fire.

The litigation, already reported news-wise and column-wise several months ago, is predicated on Selznick's deal with 20th-Fox for "Keys to the Kingdom," "Claudia" and "Jane Eyre." Chaplin is maintaining UA advanced production funds to Selznick, that UA's rights have been infringed upon by the Fox deal, that profits accruing from the three films, of which two have been made, are subject to an accounting. "Claudia" is in release, "Jane Eyre" is about to go. "Keys to the Kingdom" is yet to be made.

Mary Pickford, another 25 per cent owner, urged Chaplin against a suit making as a principal defendant a third owner-member, meaning Selznick. Her concern, reported at the time and subject to no known change since that time, dealt largely with the external and internal effect of a within-the-family rumpus.

Out of that background reputedly stems a newer development which presages more discord and less harmony for the future provided Miss Pickford proceeds with her plan to make UA a "modern" company by alteration of its bylaws.

■

What she has in mind is a suit, described as friendly, in the nature of a test of the validity of those bylaws which bind all owner-members — Alex Korda, of course, is the fourth—in common action resembling the Three Musketeers with another added.

Thus, when Korda thought he wanted to sell his stock, not alone did it have to be offered to the company first, but the remaining three partners had to unite on what would be done about it. Selznick eyed the block for a time. Miss Pickford presumably had no objection to his ogling. Chaplin did, because half of the company would have been controlled by one individual.

This had never existed before. Chaplin evidently had no thoughts about permitting it to exist now. Result: No dice.

■

The Pickford viewpoint purportedly takes into reckoning the belief that the bylaws are restrictive and constrictive and no longer are as useful as once they were held to be; that they serve as a brake set against streamlined operations and, presumably, a restrainer of sorts on UA's operations.

The fact Korda is out of the country, maybe for some time, is about to produce for another company—M-G-M—is another contributing circumstance which is described as looming in the total picture with size.

■

Chaplin? Credited to him is opposition to the Pickford ideas.

Selznick? Very busy making "Since You Went Away," now perhaps 60 per cent completed and filling all of his days and many of his nights. Besides, his cue seems to be a policy of watchful waiting with a course of action to be moulded if and when occasion arises.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 1

ARTHUR SCHWARTZ has bee signed by Jack L. Warner to long-term contract as producer an composer. Schwartz, at present New York, will remain there unt the arrival of Jack Warner, wit whom he will confer on his first a signment.

•

Francis Harmon, executive vic chairman of the War Activities Con mittee, will convalesce for sever weeks after his discharge from t hospital today.

•

Harry Sherman is resting comfor ably at Cedars of Lebanon Hospit following a leg fracture sustain Sunday, when he was kicked by horse.

•

Deal is seen near whereby Gre Garbo will star in "Lena Storm" be produced by Frank Ross for RK release.

•

Herbert J. Yates left here tod for the East at the conclusion of s weeks of Republic studio confe ences.

•

George Bagnall, vice-president United Artists, arrived here from t East yesterday.

•

Universal has bought "Allergic Love," an original. Warren Wils will produce.

•

Arthur Greenblatt, vice-president PRC, has arrived here for studio co ferences. He will stay for two week

•

W. Frank arrived here today superintend the finishing touches "Goebbels."

Cummins Circuit i War-Building Area

Samuel Cummins, former distrib tor and now head of Pix Theatre has acquired property on Mark Street in Philadelphia and will r model the property into a 750-se theatre catering to product of ind pendent distributors. Cummins clai to have necessary equipment and sa he does not anticipate any difficulty securing War Production Board a proval for the renovation.

New house will be the sixth in t Cummins' circuit. He is completi the Fairmount for Negro patronage Norfolk, Va., and contemplates ad tions along the Atlantic Seaboar He is understood to be negotiati for property to build several cateri to Negro patronage in the Hampt Roads, Va., area. All Cummins pro ects now are or will be in war buil ing areas, for which construction pe mits are usually forthcoming, provi ed the operator has materials.

Cummins already operates the P and Plymouth in Washington; P in Portsmouth, Va., and the Pix Newport News.

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THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS TRADE-MARK

ON THE AIR!

FIRST AGAIN!

A 15-minute ticket-selling radio program
nationwide five nights every week!

Turn the dial to M-G-M (next page)

AGAIN IT'S M-G-M!

First to launch a nationwide program direct to your patrons 5 nights each week!

ON THE AIR!

MUTUAL NETWORK COAST TO COAST!

M-G-M presents

FULTON OURSLER
"THE PEOPLE'S REPORTER"

A great program to sell tickets for M-G-M pictures! Mr. Oursler, noted journalist and editor, answers the most interesting and newsworthy questions submitted by his listeners. His data is obtained from the most authentic sources, which he quotes. Fascinating, inside information that clarifies the news in the public minds.

TIME: 8:15 to 8:30 P. M. Eastern War Time five nights weekly, Monday through Friday. West Coast 7:15 to 7:30 P. M. Pacific War Time.

COVERAGE: 46 Mutual Stations. *(Also WHN, New York City)*

RADIUS: 1408 cities of 5,000 or over.

POPULATION: 97,000,000 persons.

HOMES: 25 million radio-equipped.

THEY'RE LISTENING EVERYWHERE!

See next page for complete Station list.

BLANKETS AMERICA!

City	Station	Watts	KC	Cities Over 5,000	Popltn. in Area	Homes with Radio
Boston						
Boston	WNAC	5000	1260	74	2,824,955	705,399
Greenfield, Mass.	WHAI	250	1240	3	49,453	12,704
Holyoke-Springfield	WHYN	250	1400	16	454,021	114,412
Laconia, N. H.	WLNH	250	1340	3	100,627	24,028
Lewiston-Auburn, Me.	WCOU	250	1240	3	95,802	22,812
Lowell-Lawrence	WLLH	250	1400	42	1,467,703	366,381
Providence, R. I.	WEAN	5000	790	15	527,685	132,244
Rutland, Vt.	WSYB	1000	1380	5	222,725	52,531
Worcester, Mass.	WAAB	5000	1440	15	504,470	122,836
Totals (9)		....	....	176	6,247,441	1,553,347
New Haven						
Bridgeport	WICC	†1000	600	46	9,970,699	2,614,649
Hartford	*WTHT	250	1230	4	450,189	112,775
Waterbury	WATR	1000	1320	13	446,730	113,787
Totals (3)		....	....	63	10,867,618	2,841,211
New York						
New York City	WOR	50,000	710	258	18,495,333	4,730,847
Washington						
Baltimore	WFBR	5000	1300	13	1,830,508	417,511
Norfolk-Portsmouth	WSAP	250	1490	9	343,423	68,614
Washington	WOL	1000	1260	7	1,099,368	251,895
Totals (3)		....	....	29	3,273,299	738,020
Philadelphia						
Philadelphia	WIP	5000	610	119	6,096,190	1,490,752
New Orleans						
New Orleans	WNOE	250	1450	4	762,968	136,966
Buffalo						
Buffalo	WGR	†1000	550	7	1,415,698	357,550
Rochester	WSAY	250	1240	5	584,794	153,699
Totals (2)		....	....	12	2,000,492	511,249
Cleveland						
Akron	WJW	5000	850	22	1,907,652	498,973
Cleveland	WKW	5000	1420	34	2,298,074	595,636
Totals (2)		....	....	56	4,205,726	1,094,609
Detroit						
Detroit	CKLW	5000	800	76	5,971,871	1,530,744
Pittsburgh						
Pittsburgh	WCAE	5000	1250	73	2,680,561	623,526
Cincinnati						
Cincinnati	WKRC	†5000	550	47	2,561,836	637,367
Columbus	WHKC	500	640	34	2,126,676	533,398
Totals (2)		....	....	81	4,688,512	1,170,765
Indianapolis						
Indianapolis	WICB	†5000	1070	12	766,276	201,755
Louisville	WGRC	250	1400	3	488,806	114,111
Totals (2)		....	....	15	1,255,082	315,866
St. Louis						
St. Louis	KWK	†5000	1880	19	1,632,952	414,929
Dallas						
Dallas	WRR	5000	1310	27	1,925,272	364,919
Kansas City						
Kansas City	WHB	1000	880	18	1,548,034	380,594
Oklahoma City						
Oklahoma City	KOCY	250	1340	5	381,194	85,659
Chicago						
Chicago	*WGN	50,000	720	207	13,522,790	3,490,478
Des Moines						
Rock Island-Davenport-Moline	WHBF	5000	1270	27	1,462,351	382,373
Minneapolis						
Minneapolis-St. Paul	WLOL	1000	1330	12	980,491	262,875
Omaha						
Omaha	KBON	250	1490	3	477,890	111,952
Denver						
Denver	KFEL	5000	950	10	762,094	196,997
Los Angeles						
Los Angeles	KHJ	5000	930	57	3,719,411	1,103,160
Santa Barbara	KDB	250	1490	5	140,240	36,888
San Diego	KGB	1000	1360	4	289,348	84,343
Totals (3)		....	....	66	4,148,999	1,224,391
Portland						
Portland	KALE	5000	1330	3	602,857	175,359
Salt Lake City						
Ogden-Salt Lake	KLO	5000	1430	8	414,911	101,719
San Francisco						
Fresno	KFRE	250	1340	3	201,879	48,734
San Francisco	KFRC	5000	610	44	2,604,253	738,471
Totals (2)		....	....	47	2,806,132	787,205
Seattle						
Seattle	KOL	5000	1200	4	689,745	207,829
Tacoma	KMO	5000	1360	3	230,969	64,521
Totals (2)		....	....	7	920,714	272,350
U. S. Totals (46)		....	....	1421	98,131,774	24,989,702

Also WHN, New York City, 50,000 watts, covering 12.851,700 population in 10 States.

† At night, 500 watts
* Hartford starts 12/6/43; Chicago, 2/21/44.

M-G-M's NEW RADIO PROGRAM PRE-SOLD!

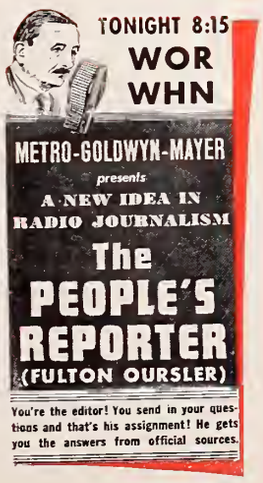
Your patrons know about it!

NEWSPAPER ADS:

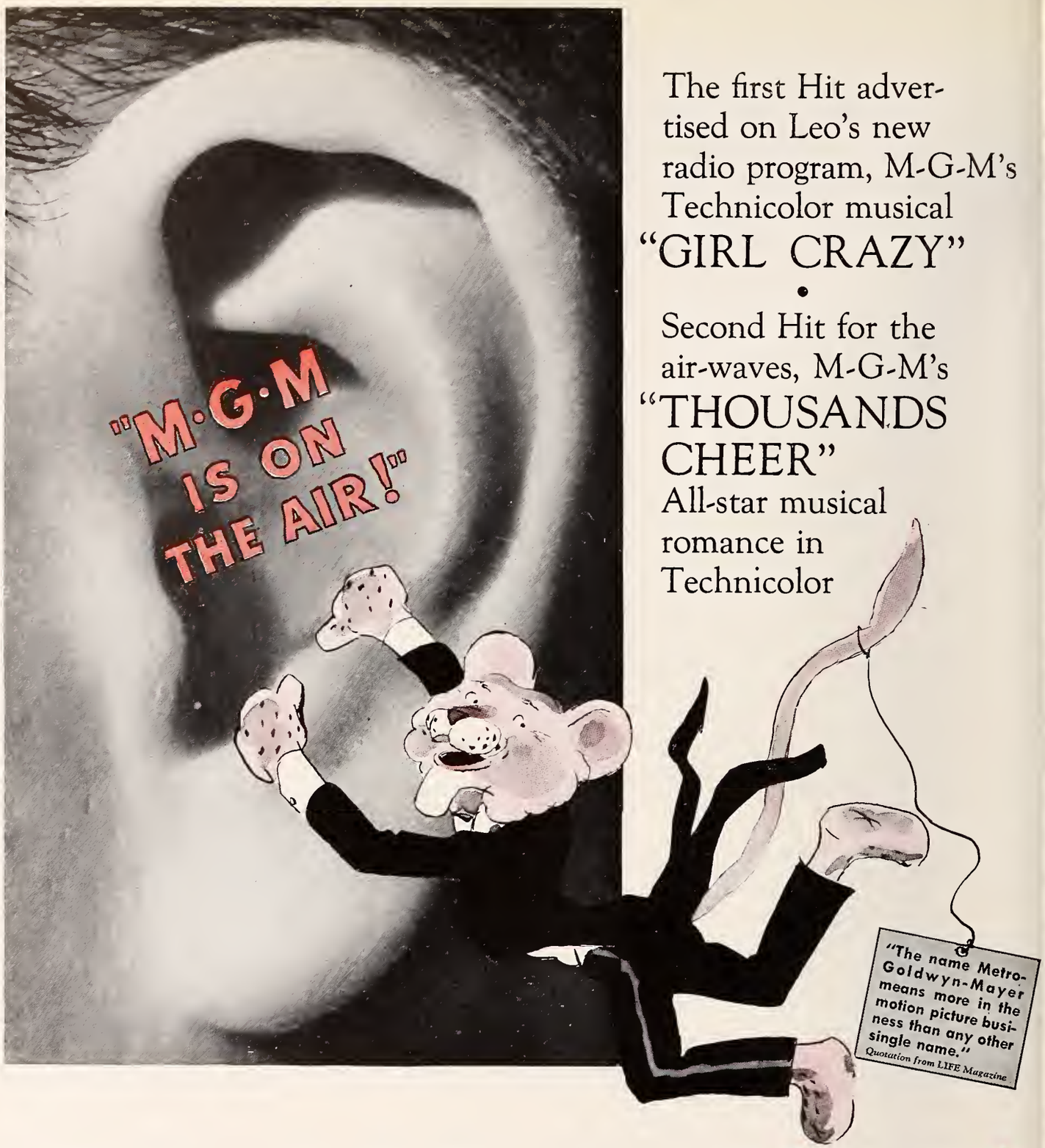
46-city campaign. Special ads on Radio Pages (sample right)—prior to first program and afterwards.

ADVANCE AIR PLUGS:

Each station carried announcements for days ahead building up listener interest.



NEXT PAGE! M-G-M PICTURES ON THE AIR EVERYWHERE!



The first Hit advertised on Leo's new radio program, M-G-M's Technicolor musical
"GIRL CRAZY"

•

Second Hit for the air-waves, M-G-M's
"THOUSANDS CHEER"
All-star musical romance in Technicolor

HE'S GOT AMERICA BY THE EARS!

First in newspapers! First in magazines! First in radio! Now the Air Waves are
FRIENDLY!

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To A

Ampa Will Salute Film's Heroes Today

(Continued from page 1)

ietz, vice-president of M-G-M. Vin-nt Trotta is Ampa president.

Program will also include presenta-on of a color guard, singing by WAVES and the attendance of any ex-filmites who are in the armed rces. Stars scheduled to appear in-ude: Greer Garson, Milton Berle, hil Baker, Jack Pearl, Harry Green, ob Hall, Lew Hearn, Harry Hersh-ld, Richard Ney, Yvette, Don Al-rts and his band and others.

Also scheduled to attend are: Lt.-ol. Frank Capra; Lt.-Col. Robert ord; Lt.-Col. Anatole Litvak; Pfc. ana Babcock, formerly of the Cen-ry Circuit, who fought at Guadal-nal, was wounded at "Bloody idge" and has received the Purple eart; Pfc. Louis Davidson, former-of Paramount; Cadet Midshipman rank Thomas; Chief Petty Officer eorge J. Dauenheimer, formerly of aramount; Capt. Thomas Moore of e Marines, formerly of Fleischer tudios, and Pvt. Anthony Province.

Also, Staff Sgt. Schiller Cohen, pos-ssor of the Distinguished Flying ross; First Class Seaman Ed Fitz-atrick; Harold Zeltner, U.S.M.C., ho saw action at Guadalcanal; Lt. illiam Murphy, of the Army Air orce, who has downed six Nazi anes; Sgt. Jack Simms; Sgt. John assilone, of the Marines, who has een awarded the Congressional Medal Honor; Jack Sugarman, recipient the Purple Heart; Capt. Edward allow of the Marines, formerly with arners, who will bring with him arine Fred Schmidt, hero of Guadal-anal, now blind.

SACEM Copyrights Seized by Custodian

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16.—U. S. lien Property Custodian today an-ounced the seizure of all copyrights d claims of La Societe des Auteurs, ompositeurs et Editeurs de Musique, rench organization corresponding to e American Society of Composers, uthors and Publishers.

Legislation requiring APC to sell enemy-owned properties in the nited States is now before the ouse, having been introduced on onday by Representative Bertrand earhart (Cal). Proceeds of such les would be applied toward satis-ing the claims of American nationals r properties abroad which have been ized by the Axis.

Basil Will Filed

BUFFALO, Nov. 16. — The will of icholas J. Basil, formerly general anager of Basil Bros. Theatres, filed r probate in Surrogate's Court, has tablished two equal trust funds from e residue of the estate for the idow, Mrs. Barnara Basil, and a aughter, Helen. Basil died Sept. 15, aving an estate valued nominally at ore than $15,000.

SPARS to Use WB Film

"Task Force," Warner Bros. two-eel service subject, will be used by e SPARS, Women's Coast Guard nit, in connection with their new re-uiting campaign. The drive will be unched nationally with screenings in ey cities on Nov. 23 for SPARS nd others.

Seven Will Receive Pioneers Awards

Seven will be honored at the annual "harvest dinner" to be held by the Picture Pioneers at the Waldorf-Astoria Friday night, as selected by the Pioneers' executive committee to receive a scroll of honor awarded each year to men in amusements who have performed outstanding work in connection with the war effort. The seven are Comm. John Ford, Lt. Col. Frank Capra, Harry M. Warner, Bob Hope, Jack Benny, Bill Robinson and Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker.

Capt. Rickenbacker will be guest of honor.

More Tribute for 'Dimes' Campaign

Described as "one of the most striking tributes ever paid to the people of the industry," a testimonial will be included in a brochure now being edited by Oscar Doob for the industry March of Dimes committee, the tribute coming direct from the White House. It will not be released until the book, entitled "So They May Walk Again," is sent to the 11,000 theatres which participated in the 1943 'Dimes' drive. It will also contain the name, owner and remittance of every theatre in the drive.

Larry Golob Named Meltzer Assistant

Larry Golob of Warner Bros.' home office publicity department has been named assistant to Allan Meltzer, newly appointed Eastern publicity manager. He will also continue as manager of the field exploitation force as well as carrying on other publicity activities. Golob has been with the company in various capacities for 18 years.

Greer Garson at Forum

Greer Garson, M-G-M star, was among the speakers at the opening of the 12th "Forum of Current Affairs" of the New York *Herald Tribune*, held at the Waldorf-Astoria yesterday. Her subject was "Education for the Millions Through Pictures." The talk was broadcast over station WJZ.

Telenews Gets 14

DETROIT, Nov. 16.—Telenews Theatres, Inc., has taken over a third house, the Cinema Theatre here, and has reopened it with a dual revival program. Theatre had been closed since last July. Acquisition increases the total to 14 now operated by Telenews.

New OWI-WAC Film

War Activities Committee has announced the release of a new Office of War Information film, "Food and Magic," on Nov. 18 through Warner exchanges. The film was also produced by Warners.

Cleveland Bingo Resumes

CLEVELAND, Nov. 16.—Bingo has resumed in Cleveland after a year, operating full swing in all sections of the city, often in close proximity to theatres.

War Exigencies Forced Economies

(Continued from page 1)

explaining that several types are at a premium. "All of this is a valuable lesson which should be carried through after the war," observed the RKO executive.

He disclosed that the company is gauging its product for a worldwide "good neighbor" policy and is presently stressing musicals and comedies for those in the armed forces.

RKO is developing even more personalities, he reported, citing Edward Dmytryk, only 27 years of age, who has directed "Hitler's Children," "Behind the Rising Sun" and "Tender Comrade"; two film editors, Robert Wise and Mark Robson, who were recently promoted to directorships; Wally Brown and Alan Carney, comedy team; Gregory Peck, Tom Conway, Russell Wade and Carol Gallagher, players.

Men with honorable discharges from the armed forces are returning to work at the studio. "And RKO is welcoming them back to their old jobs," Rogell stated. He is East on a vacation trip, seeing Broadway shows and will return to the Coast on Nov. 26.

Columbia Adds Two To Foreign Publicity

Nina Sesto, formerly with the Spanish magazine *Norte*, and Alfonso Merlet, formerly with the Chilean theatre circuit Italo-Chilena, have joined Columbia's foreign publicity staff at the New York office. They will assist David O'Malley, director of foreign advertising-publicity.

A pre-selling campaign addressed to Latin American exhibitors has been launched by Columbia. J. A. McConville, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, before leaving last weekend for South America, announced that initial advertisements will appear in some 25 Latin American weekly magazines and elsewhere.

$1,013,745 More in Bonds Sold by Loew's

Revised figures from Loew's Theatres give $1,013,745 as the amount invested by theatregoers in war bonds at its theatre bond booths during October. In August, bond sales amounted to $912,765. During September's war loan drive, Loew's chalked up an all-time high with sales totalling $14,551,181.

Crescent Buys Altec

Crescent Amusement, Nashville, has added Altec Service's booth repair-replacement parts provision to the Altec Service agreement for 62 Crescent houses in Tennessee, Kentucky and Alabama. H. B. Moog negotiated for Altec.

Soldiers, Warner Guests

Warner Club will hold a Thanksgiving party for service men Friday night, Nov. 26 at the Henry Hudson Hotel, West 57 Street. Committee includes: Martin F. Bennett, president of the club, Bernard R. Goodman, Harry Mayer and Max Blackman.

Increases Are Cancelled for 'North Star'

(Continued from page 1)

Goldwyn pointed out that advanced scale openings called for time protection against subsequent showing of the film at popular prices. To delay its general exhibition for six months or more following the close of the advanced scale runs, by way of protecting the latter, would defeat Goldwyn's desire to have the picture seen by the greatest number in the shortest possible time, he said. Goldwyn emphasized that he believes the picture will contribute to Allied unity and war purposes and that its popular exhibition now is important for that reason. The picture is scheduled to open in London at the Regal and Pavilion on Dec. 10.

Difference of 'Millions'

Goldwyn said the change of policy may make a difference of "millions" in the picture's gross, but he feels that it will accomplish more for the country if exhibited widely now than it will a year from now. It is his personal belief, he said, that the war may be over by next May.

Asked whether he would comment on recent critical charges that "The North Star" is propagandistic, Goldwyn said: "The theatres will give the answer. It is not a war picture. It is great entertainment. That's my business."

Goldwyn said he will start a new Bob Hope picture, a Danny Kaye picture and "Those Endearing Young Charms," with Teresa Wright and Dana Andrews, early next year. He indicated that all would be distributed by RKO, saying that, while he is on a year to year basis with the company, he is well satisfied, has "confidence in Ned Depinet," and sees no reason for making a change.

Goldwyn said he has one more story coming from Lillian Hellman before she joins 20th Century-Fox.

The producer observed that the New York stage is the worst it has been in 25 years. He scored producers who put anything in a theatre to take advantage of the times, and said there is a lesson in today's stage practices for exhibitors.

'Time to Build for Future'

"This is the time," he said, "to build for the future. The theatre is not being helped by bad plays. Eighty per cent of the Broadway stage offerings would have no chance in a motion picture theatre. Exhibitors should avoid practices of this kind. Give the public only the best now and when times are back to normal it will repay big dividends."

Goldwyn plans to leave for the Coast Thanksgiving Day.

Gibraltar Buys Mono.

Gibraltar Enterprises, with 40 theatres in Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico and Wyoming, has signed for the 1943-44 Monogram program, according to announcement by Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager of Monogram.

15% Increase In 20th-Fox Deals: Kupper

(Continued from page 1)

would not reduce the number of pictures to be produced during 1944-45.

Kupper revealed that "Song of Bernadette" will be sold separately and that home office sales executives are contemplating the presentation of the picture in two Broadway houses, one on a roadshow policy, other as a continuous-run basis. He stated that the 20th Century-Fox sales force expects preferred playing time and extended time for the higher quality product of the company, pointing out that exhibitors enjoy benefits derived from such a policy as well as distributors.

"Men in the field are being trained to step into any job at the company's exchanges to meet wartime emergencies as they arise," Kupper said. "This company has lost no key men in the field in the draft as yet, except one branch manager."

Over three thousand accounts have been sold in the past month and a half on two groups of dual re-issues: "In Old Chicago" and "Banjo on My Knee," and "The Rains Came" and "Under Two Flags," he said.

Links Bioff, Browne To Chicago Payment

(Continued from page 1)

paid the gang, he was forced to put Frank Diamond and Phil D'Andrea, defendants in the present trial, on his payroll at different times at $175 per week. Much of the tribute was paid to Bioff, Barger said. Bioff testified earlier that he turned over the bulk of it to the Chicago gangsters.

Barger said he had a meeting with Browne in 1935 attended by Bioff and Nick Circella, and that the meeting led to his putting Diamond on his payroll and to giving employment to Norman Nelson, Bioff's brother-in-law, and one Theresa D'Andrea.

U. S. Asks for Films For War Workers

CHICAGO, Nov. 16. — A 1,000-seat film theatre has been opened in a tent by Mid-States Theatres, subsidiary of Alliance Theatres at Hanford, Wash., where 15,000 war workers are housed in temporary quarters near the Dupont munitions plant. Motion pictures for the workers were requested by the Government.

S. J. Gregory, Alliance executive, is on a month's visit to the Mid-States office in Walla Walla, Wash., to inspect the new project.

Variety Club Elects

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Nov. 16.—New officers of the local Variety Club include Lester C. Sipe, chief barker; Benn Rosenwald, first assistant; Harold Keeter, second assistant; H. F. Kincey, dough guy, and T. A. Little, property master. Members of the crew are: W. L. Parker, Ray Irvin, James Greenleaf, R. L. Simpson, F. E. Dyer and H. D. Hearn. John A. Bachman, retiring chief barker, joins H. H. Everett, tent's first chief barker, as ex officio members of the crew.

800 Honor Fabian, Mayer For WAC, War Bond Work

(Continued from page 1)

Adolph Zukor, Harry Brandt, Walker, and the two who were honored. Telegrams read by Walker included one from Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator, who is in Hollywood, and a joint one from L. C. Griffith, general chairman of the industry's Third War Loan campaign, and C. B. Akers, campaign director. Lucy Monroe sang "The Star Spangled Banner."

Walker described the occasion as "great testimony not only of the patriotism of Si Fabian and Arthur Mayer, but it is indicative of the high esteem and excellent standing they hold in this industry."

Fabian declared that although the industry has done a great job in the war effort on the home front to date "we are only at the middle of the stream. There is still much to be done," he said, "before we can enjoy imminent victory. Nearly 16,500 theatres are banded together in a united force to aid the war effort. I know that the industry will continue to aid this effort as long as the necessity to do so exists, especially in the two jobs at hand: the National War Fund Drive and the coming Fourth War Loan, which will start soon after the middle of January."

Sam. Rinzler, Greater New York chairman of the industry's National War Fund drive, urged those present to use the occasion to contribute to the fund. He pointed out that 26 War and service organizations would profit from the gifts this year, "a time when money is needed more than ever for war relief."

Adolph Zukor, national chairman of the industry's National War Fund, added praise of Fabian and Mayer, and also urged those present to make substantial gifts to the fund. Pledge cards were distributed.

Arthur Mayer used the terms of a theatre manager, following a bond drive, who said, "I had a swell time doing the job," as the keynote of his speech. "This is the true spirit of America's showmen," Mayer said: "We are having a swell time using our skill and our years of experience, not for personal or petty ends, not for privileges or personal glory, but to make our theatres a mighty bulwark for freedom, tolerance and democracy."

Among those on the dais at the luncheon were: Edward L. Alperson, Barney Balaban, Joseph Bernhard, Harry Brandt, Jack Cohn, Oscar Doob, Steve Broidy, Mrs. Si Fabian, Mrs. Rose Fabian, Si's mother; Mrs. Arthur Mayer, Charles Moskowitz, John J. O'Connor, N. Peter Rathvon, Sam Rinzler, Herman Robbins, Fred Schwartz, Spyros Skouras and Adolph Zukor.

Allied Board Gets Information Plan

(Continued from page 1)

while minor flaws had been revealed in the procedure, the plan has functioned satisfactorily and accomplishments have been substantial. With slightly revamped procedure it is confidently expected that the plan will become increasingly effective.

The committee agreed that the organizations set up in cooperating territories should be utilized whenever necessary for purposes other than the collection and dissemination of trace information. Among the added functions of these organizations will be that of rallying exhibitors to action in combating unfair taxation and legislation adversely affecting their interests.

While the Caravan operates separately and apart from Allied States Association, the committee will make a report to the Allied board of directors at a special meeting tomorrow night. About 30 members of the national board will be in attendance and their meeting will continue all day on Thursday when the Independent Theatres Protective Association of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan convention starts.

Labor Short to U.A.

"The Labor Front," new film produced by the National Film Board of Canada, will be released here by United Artists as the next in its series of "World in Action" shorts. Edited for the board by Stuart Legg, "The Labor Front" deals with current American manpower problems and also shows mass deportations of workers from occupied Europe into Germany.

14 Film Critics Honor James Dunn

Fourteen members of the New York Film Critics Circle last night gave a dinner at Sardi's here to James Dunn, New York and Hollywood press agent upon his resignation from 20th-Fox, where he was New York press contact. Dunn was formerly publicity director for the New York Rivoli.

Present were: Kate Cameron, Wanda Hale and Dorothy Master of the *Daily News;* Bosley Crowther and Tom Prior, *Times;* Howard Barnes and Otis Guernsey, *Herald Tribune;* Alton Cook, *World-Telegram;* Gil Blackford, *Journal-American;* Archer Winsten and Irene Thirer, *Post;* Leo Mishkin, *Morning Telegraph;* Jack McManus, *PM,* and Jane Corby, *Brooklyn Eagle.*

Omaha Variety Elects

OMAHA, Nov. 16. — The Variety Club here has elected 11 to its crew, including: Glenn Rogers, Frank Hannon, Meyer Stern, Joe Scott, Sam Epstein, Jess McBride, Harold Johnson, Ike Rubin, Gene Blazier, Henry McGrath and William Barker.

Past-barkers Don McLucas, Leon Mendelson, Walter Green and Morris Cohn also will serve.

Hickey to Chicago

CHICAGO, Nov. 16.—Duke Hickey, industry service bureau aide to Charles Francis Coe, MPPDA vice president, has arrived in Chicago on a special assignment. He has established headquarters at the Palmer House, and for several weeks will develop industry contacts in neighboring states.

Goldman Testifies Product Refused

(Continued from page 1)

summer of 1940 to look over theatre properties and invited him to enter into a deal with his company. Agnew Goldman stated, advised him that Paramount was going to break with the Warner Circuit and suggested that he pick up properties here and in New Jersey to exhibit Paramount product.

Balaban Advised on Warner Split

Moreover, Goldman added, Barney Balaban, Paramount president, advised him that the split with Warners would not only be for this territory but on a national scale. On that basis Goldman testified, he leased the Erlanger in November, 1940, only to find that Balaban himself had settled differences with Warners, leaving him with an empty house and no pictures. On Oct. 7, 1942, Goldman continued, Joseph Bernhard, head of the Warner Circuit promised him that the product of a major distributing company would be available to him because Warners was going to split with the company. Bernhard, he said, while not mentioning the company involved did disclose that the distributor was not a producing company and Goldman took it to be United Artists, not one of the joined defendants.

However, differences were again patched up and the Erlanger was left without pictures.

Under cross examination, Judge Joseph Proskauer, attorney for the Warner Circuit, attempted to show that the Goldman theatre circuit was a very profitable enterprise in spite of the plaintiff's complaint of alleged conspiracy. However, Goldman claimed that his Center City, Carlton and Keith's Theatres, second run houses recently acquired by Goldman were losing money and affecting the profit of his entire circuit which also includes neighborhood houses here and theatres in nearby communities.

Admits Warner Covered Loss

Proskauer also attempted to show that Warners once loaned Goldman money for his business. Goldman denied the allegation but then admitted that Jack Warner had once covered his losses in stock in the Colfax Corp., a Warner subsidiary.

The hearing will be devoted Wednesday to the examination of documents and testimony. William A. Gray, attorney for Goldman, in a statement to the press today said that he hopes to prove conspiracy and restraint of trade and that if he succeeds he will ask for an injunction followed by an attempt to provide damages. Goldman seeks triple damages of $1,350,000.

Loewendahl Sets Deal

Walter Loewendahl, chairman of the board of Artists' Films, Inc., has completed a deal with Crystal Pictures to handle all distribution of Artists product. First picture, "Adventure in Music," has been finished.

Delay Chicago Suit

CHICAGO, Nov. 16. — The date for filing of a reply to the H. Schoenstadt & Sons anti-trust suit against Balaban and Katz, Warner Bros Circuit and eight distributing companies has been postponed to Nov. 20.

TWO ALL-TIME HIGHS

WITH millions of feet required by our Armed Forces for training and other military purposes, the total production of Eastman motion picture films has pushed into new high ground. And the all-around quality of this huge output has never been excelled. Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*
Fort Lee Chicago Hollywood

EASTMAN FILMS

Seven Incorporate For Films in N. Y.

ALBANY, Nov. 16.—Seven companies have been granted incorporation papers to carry on motion picture enterprises, according to Thomas J. Curran, Secretary of State. They are Color Lab., Inc., Islip, by I. A., H. A. and H. M. Weiser with Seymour Flaster, New York, filing the papers. Hemisphere Films, Inc., Manhattan, by James W. Husted, Allison Choate and John R. Davison, New York and Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam and Roberts, filing. United Attractions, Inc., Manhattan, by Harold Gilbert, Bernard B. Smith and Jules E. Gilbert, New York. Dave Ringle, Inc., directors being Dave Ringle, Hugh A. O'Haire, Woodside and Georgene Bradley, New York; O'Haire filed.

Strodock Pictures, Inc., Manhattan, by R. E. Cohen, M. M. Kettl and Lilyan Avrontin and Schwartz and Frohlich. Coral Theatre Corp., Manhattan, by Monroe E. Stein, Tina Vlahos and Pearl S. Kosden, New York; Stein filing. Supreme Pictures Corp., Manhattan, by Saul Hammer, Louis Flato and Edward T. Higgins, New York; Hammer filing.

Soldiers on Aleutians Get Pictures Daily

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16. — Every island in the Aleutians on which United States forces are stationed now is equipped with at least one 16mm projector for motion picture shows, it was announced recently by the War Department.

Total of 63 projectors are in use, each giving an average of two shows a day and a regular circuit has been set up for the routing of the prints donated by the film industry. Hospitals have two shows a week, and hospital ships also get pictures.

"We are well on our way to reaching our objective of having motion picture equipment everywhere in the world, where it is needed by our troops," said Lieut.-Colonel H. W. Clark of the Army service forces.

Tri-States Switches

DES MOINES, Nov. 16.—Fred Pless, manager of Tri-States' Uptown Theatre has resigned to take over their Spencer at Rock Island, Ill., and Georgie Shannon, manager of the Ingersoll here has taken over the Uptown with George Norman, formerly assistant at the Paramount, taking the Ingersoll, Mrs. Kermit Carr, who attended the school for managers recently given by Tri-States, replaces Norman at the Paramount.

Fire Kills Projectionist

GREGORY, S. D., Nov. 16.—Fire in the Gregory Theatre here caused the death of J. W. Hancer, the operator and severely injured his wife and Harry Ritter, assistant operator. Ritter escaped through the hallway and Mrs. Hancer through a window, but Hancer stayed to try and fight the blaze with an extinguisher.

Walker to Join Columbia

Paul Walker, columnist and feature writer of the Harrisburg (Pa.) *Telegraph*, will join Columbia's exploitation department under Frank P. Rosenberg on Nov. 29, according to David A. Lipton, advertising and publicity chief.

Reviews

"Women In Bondage"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Nov. 16

A GRAPHICALLY developed story of womankind's estate in Germany under Nazi rule. It is literal, outspoken and presents its material in the direct, factual manner employed in "Hitler's Children," the picture to which it may be most directly compared. Under exploitation keyed to contents and type, it appears destined for substantial grosses.

Top names in the cast are Gail Patrick, Nancy Kelly, Anne Nagel, Gertrude Michael, Tala Birell, Bill Henry, Rita Quigley, Alan Baxter and H. B. Warner. Others present are Maris Wrixon, Mary Forbes, Gisela Werbisek, Francine Bordeau, Una Franks, Felix Basch, Roland Varno, Ralph Lynn and Frederic Brunn.

The screenplay by Houston Branch, from a story by Frank Bentick Wisbar, opens with the return to Germany of a Nazi officer's wife who has been away ten years. While he is fighting on the Russian front she acts as section leader in charge of a dozen girls but subject to a district leader who instructs her in enforcement of Nazi rules. The rules brought into play, as they affect various members of the cast, include those governing baptism, marriage, racial discrimination, fatherhood by deputy, sterilization, mercy killing of the aged and promotion of promiscuity among unwed girls and the soldiery. The wife rebels when the district leader, following return of her wounded husband, whose paralysis prevents fatherhood, appoints her brother-in-law to substitute for her husband maritally. She opens the blackout curtains while Allied bombers are overhead and they raze the city.

Steve Sekely's direction displays restraint in keeping with the fundamentally grim subject matter, which is not for children. Herman Millakowsky, with Jeffrey Bernerd associated, produced the picture with manifest appreciation of its seriousness. Trem Carr officiated as executive director.

Running time, 72 minutes. "A."*

*"A" denotes adult classification.

"Drums of Fu Manchu"

(*Republic*)

AN action-packed thriller with all of the "poison dart" and "death gas" sequences possible to cram into one film, "Drums of Fu Manchu" emerges a treat for the kids and a good picture for thrill-seeking adults. Formerly a Republic serial, the plot has not suffered in the featurizing process, but members of the cast, with the exception of Harry Brandon, tend to deliver rather stilted performances throughout.

Story concerns the efforts of Henry Brandon as Dr. Fu Manchu, leader of a sinister Oriental group known as Si Fan, to provoke war in Central Asia thereby securing world domination for himself and his henchmen. In order for the diabolical doctor to accomplish this he must obtain the sacred scepter of Genghis Khan. William Royle, world-famous detective, is assigned to stop the murderous activities of the ring and with the aid of Robert Kellard and Luana Walters, he seeks the key to the great Khan's tomb where the scepter is buried. The rest of the picture involves expeditions into Central Asia with Royle and Brandon missing each other by seconds and the key to the tomb falling first into the hands of the hero, then to those of the villain. Virtue triumphs in the end as the detective corners the maniacal doctor and removes the scepter from the tomb, giving it to the British Government. The revolting hill people immediately calm down, seeing the scepter in the hands of the rightful superiors.

William Witney and John English directed and quite capably. Edward Todd and William Thompson deserve credit for a nice job of editing and moulding the serial into an acceptable feature. To Henry Brandon go honors for a very believable presentation of the fiendish Dr. Fu Manchu. Hiram S. Brown, Jr., produced.

Running time, 68 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

Two Drive-Ins Close

DETROIT, Nov. 16.—The two local drive-in theatres, properties of Mid-West Drive-In Theatres of Boston, will close for the season on Sunday. Although they report automobile business better here than in most other localities both houses are understood to have had an "off year."

Managers Seymour Weiss and Charles Zach plan to go to New York when finished with their business here.

British Buy Short

British Ministry of Information here has purchased 400 prints of the OWI two reeler, "The Cowboy on the American Scene" for distribution in the United Kingdom. Short was designed especially for overseas exhibition, its purpose being to depict "the real American cowboy," his life on the ranch and his wartime occupation as distinct from the cowboys known to Western film fans.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Nov. 16

ALTHOUGH 20th Century-Fox has announced "Song of Bernadette" to open at roadshow prices at the Carthay Circle and the United Artists on Christmas Day, Alfred Newman and his 100-piece orchestra are still busy scoring the picture. The score calls for 73 numbers, some that should give music lovers something to remember.

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Ruth Hussey has been borrowed from M-G-M by RKO for the feminine lead opposite Pat O'Brien in "Marine Raiders," which Robert Fellows is producing. . . . Universal has signed Jack Oakie, the perennial boy, to play the father of Donald O'Connor and Peggy Ryan in "The Merry Monahans." . . . Barry Sullivan gets one of the two male leads in "And Now Tomorrow" at Paramount. Loretta Young and Susan Hayward have the feminine leads.

•

Lew Landers will direct "The Wedding Guest Sat on a Stone" at Columbia with Arthur Lake and Janis Carter in the leads. . . . Universal has signed Fuzzy Knight, erstwhile cowboy player in the Tex Ritters, to a term contract following his work in "Corvette K-225." . . . Cartuner Walter Lantz is recording "Take Heed, Mr. Togo" for one of his new animated shorts. . . . Steve Fisher is scripting "Ground Forces" for Hal B. Wallis at Warners. . . . Cecil B. DeMille has recorded his own foreword for his "Story of Dr. Wassell" at Paramount. . . . Martha O'Driscoll and Noah Beery, Jr. are before the cameras in "Weekend Pass" at Universal. . . . Columbia has given its second Crime Doctor the title, "The Crime Doctor's Strangest Case."

Mexican Exhibitors Open 3-Day Meeting

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 16.—Exhibitors in Mexico have been invited to attend a convention of the recently-organized National Association of Motion Picture Theatre Proprietors, called to meet here, to discuss matters affecting their business.

Association is comprised of 248 theatre companies, 85 per cent of those in Mexico. Delegates will be tendered a banquet on Thursday by the major American companies operating in Mexico, a supper on the same day by RCA, and a dinner on Friday by the Association of Producers and Distributors of Mexican Pictures.

36 Publicity Men Serving

Thirty-six members of Warner Bros. publicity staff have been inducted into the armed forces since the beginning of Selective Service with the Coast studios contributing 18, the New York office 14 and four entering service from the field staff.

Collins Replaces Dunbar

Walter Collins, Warner salesman in Detroit is temporarily replacing Robert Dunbar, on sick leave, as Detroit manager, it is learned here.

48 Shooting, 66 Preparing, 72 Editing

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 16.—Production has dropped off a bit with five pictures started and ten finished to bring the total in work to 48, with 66 preparing and 72 editing. Previous week saw 10 finished, six started, 52 shooting, 60 preparing and 67 editing. The production scene:

Columbia

Started: "The Wedding Guest Sat on a Stone" with Arthur Lake, Janis Carter, Lynn Roberts.

Shooting: "Nine Girls," "Beautiful but Broke," "Curly," "Cover Girl."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Dragon Seed," "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed," "The Canterville Ghost," "Gaslight."

Finished: "Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble."

Monogram

Shooting: "Raiders of the Border."

Paramount

Started: "Take It Big, (Pine-Thomas) with Jack Haley.

Shooting: "Incendiary Blonde," "Tomorrow's Harvest," "The Hitler Gang," "Rainbow Island," "Double Indemnity," "I Love A Soldier."

P. R. C.

Finished: "Jungle Terror," "Texas Wildcats," "Career Girl."

RKO-Radio

Started: "Are These Our Children?" with Bonita Granville, Kent Smith.

Shooting: "Gildersleeve, Detective," "Show Business," "International Zone."

Finished: "Falcon Out West" (formerly "Falcon in Texas").

Republic

Started: "Mojave Firebrand" with Bill Elliott, Gabby Hayes, Anne Jeffreys.

Shooting: "Pistol Packin' Mama," "The Monster," "Fighting Seabees."

Finished: "My Best Gal" (formerly "Rhythm Revelry").

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Greenwich Village," "Four Jills in a Jeep," "The Purple Heart," "The Sullivans," "Eve of St. Mark," "Home in Indiana," "Lifeboat."

United Artists
(Arnold Productions)

Shooting: "It Happened Tomorrow."

(Benedict Bogeaus)

Shooting: "The Bridge of San Luis Rey."

(P. C. A.)

Shooting: "Knickerbocker Holiday."

(Vanguard Films)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

Universal

Started: "Cross Your Fingers" with Grace McDonald, Leon Errol, Ramsay Ames, Richard Davis and Ted Weems, Freddy Slack and Harry Owens and their orchestras.

Shooting: "Moonlight in Vermont," "Three Cheers for the Boys," "Gypsy Wildcat," "Patrick the Great," "Her Primitive Man," "The Impostor."

Finished: "Calling Dr. Death."

Warners

Shooting: "Mr. Skeffington," "One More Tomorrow," "Outward Bound."

Finished: "Passage to Marseille."

Review

"Canyon City"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Nov. 16

ASIDE from an overabundance of dialogue which slows up the action, "Canyon City" is an average Don "Red" Barry-Wally Vernon Western produced by Eddie White and directed by Spencer Bennett.

Helen Talbot, as Edith Gleason, daughter of the judge slain early in the proceedings, does a bit more than most of the Western heroines in that she not only carries her part well and appealingly but does some riding that has a definite part in the plot. The plot revolves around a crooked representative of a power company who is trying to swindle the ranchers out of their land, and at the same time keep the biggest share of the power company's offer for their water rights and their dam for himself through destroying the dam and starving them out.

Posing as the Nevada Kid, Investigator Barry and his partner, Wally, are arrested for the murder of Judge Gleason on a frameup engineered by the power company representative, the crooked banker, and their henchmen. Neatly escaping the local jail, Barry and Wally save the rancher's funds from being dispatched as a cash payment to have the dam repaired. He exposes the power company man as a crook, tells the ranchers the company's honest offer, and finally winds up as manager of the power and irrigation dam. Twinkle Watts does a bit as a child orphaned by gunmen, while the villainy of Morgan Conway and the others is up to standard.

Running time, 54 minutes. "G."* JACK CARTWRIGHT

*"G" denotes general classification.

See 60 Films from Mexico This Year

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 16.—Mexican film production is moving into high gear, according to present indications, with 60 films expected to be made this season. Optimism is substantiated by the fact that Azteca and Clasa, two largest studios here, are booked solidly for the year. Four new stages are being constructed at Azteca, bringing the total at that studio to 20.

Production is expected to get under way early next year at the new studio being built by Howard F. Randall, RCA chief sound engineer here, and Harry S. Wright, American millionaire. Reported cost of the new building is said to be close to $1,000,000.

Jose Calderon, of the local family which operates a theatre circuit in Southwestern United States, has flown to Venezuela to purchase equipment from a producer who went into bankruptcy in that country, and reportedly will produce films here.

Health, Literacy New Disney Plan in Mexico

In furtherance of the bond of good will relations between North and South America, Walt Disney in cooperation with the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs has sent a group of artists and writers to Mexico to develop a series of pictures on literacy, health, sanitation and child welfare.

WB Adds Two in French

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 16.—French versions of "Strawberry Blonde" and "Always in My Heart" are being dubbed at Warners' studio, bringing the number of French versions of Warner films to ten.

Kalmenson to Pittsburgh

CLEVELAND, Nov. 16.—Jack Kalmenson, Warner salesman, has been transferred from here to Pittsburgh.

Boston Police Scored In Hoodlum Probe

BOSTON, Nov. 16.— Gov. Saltonstall has received the first report of the committee he had named to investigate conditions of alleged hoodlumism and vandalism in this city. It stated that Boston police had been negligent in their lack of control of youthful "gangs" in various neighborhoods.

Police Commissioner Timilty refused to comment upon the report of the charges of Attorney General Bushnell leveled at himself and the Police Department. Bushnell commented, "The higher ups, not the men on the ground, are responsible for the present conditions existing in Boston."

Gov. Saltonstall has told the committee, composed of leaders of the business, amusement and social world in Boston, to delve into every phase of the conditions.

Book British Shorts

United Artists yesterday reported here that the following circuits have booked "Kill or Be Killed" and "Raid Report," short subjects produced by the British Ministry of Information: Associated Amusements, Minneapolis; Telenews Theatres, Detroit; Frisina Amusement Co., Springfield, Ill.; Lichtman Theatres, Washington; Reinheimer Film Service, Chicago; Sidney Lust Circuit, Washington; Dixie Amusement Co. and Pal Amusement Co., both of Georgia.

Empire-306 Trial Starts

Trial of the action brought by several members of Empire State Motion Picture Operators Union to prevent the officers of Empire from carrying out the union's merger with Local 306, started in Kings County Supreme Court late yesterday, with proceedings expected to take several weeks.

Pohlman to Coast

CHICAGO, Nov. 16.—Bill Pohlman, assistant advertising manager of Warner Bros. Theatres here for the last 12 years, has resigned and will make his home in Los Angeles after Dec. 15.

Short Subject Reviews

"Our Alaskan Frontier"

(Warners)

All the natural beauty of Alaska is caught by the color camera. Vast expanses of that country's fertile farmland and well stocked lakes are screened in this Vitaphone release depicting the rise of Alaska from the "Ice Box of the North" to a veritable paradise for modern pioneers. Modern processes of mining gold and shots of the fishing industry are highlighted. A timely, interesting and educational subject, this has received unusually good treatment in this film. Narration by Lou Marcelle is good. Photographic effects are excellent. Running time, 10 mins. Release date, Nov. 6.

"Cutie on Duty"

(RKO)

Leon Errol buys his wife a set of cooking utensils for an anniversary gift. He runs into a number of difficulties on the way home with the dishes and winds up with a silk stocking around his neck and a lipstick print on his forehead. Some good slapstick sequences follow in which the wife and the "blonde" miss each other by seconds as the desperate Leon tears out what's left of his hair. This release is a routine Errol comedy with routine slapstick script. The cast includes Errol, Dorothy Christie and Tom Kennedy. Direction by Ben Holmes is fair. Bert Gilroy produced. Running time, 18 mins. Release date, Oct. 29.

"Meatless Tuesday"

(Universal)

A Walter Lantz "Cartune" in Technicolor, "Meatless Tuesday" concerns the Andy Panda's mad chase around the barnyard as he attempts to capture a chicken for his dinner. His taste is peculiar in that he seeks out a rooster but that doesn't take away from the cleverness of this release. The panda is eventually tossed back into his own Victory garden while the rooster gets away, much to the delight of his harem of hens. Amusing and entertaining with good musical background. Running time, 9 mins. Release date, Dec. 20.

Para. Foreign Trailers

Trailers in Spanish and Swedish for "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and another in Swedish for Cecil B. DeMille's "The Story of Dr. Wassell" have been produced with stars of those films by the Paramount Hollywood studio for foreign use.

Looking For a Show-Woman?

Miss Executive Secretary in Person! Direct from the Pacific Coast. Many years with major theatre circuit and studio. Experienced in all phases of showmanship — general theatre operation, good statistical background, advertising, etc.

Full of pep and personality — fit well in "Never a Dull Moment" office.

Reasonable but not cheap. Box 223, Motion Picture Daily.

$60,000 for 'Suspicion' In Chicago

CHICAGO, Nov. 16.—Several new pictures brought new patrons to the Loop this week following a slight letdown because of cold weather. "Above Suspicion" at the Chicago Theatre is the leader with an estimated gross of $60,000. "Claudia" is doing well at the United Artists where a gross of $24,000 is expected. And at the Palace, a double bill of "The Fallen Sparrow" and "Gildersleeve on Broadway" will probably do $24,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 18:

"This Is the Army" (WB) 5 days, 6th week in Loop
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox) 2 days
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
CHICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c), 7 days. Stage: Harry Cool. Gross: $60,000. (Average: $43,000).

"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.) 5 days, 4th week in Loop
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox) 2 days
GARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,500).

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.) 1 day
"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.) 1 day
"Top Man" (Univ.) 6 days
"Frontier Badmen" (Univ.) 6 days
GRAND — (1,150) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000).

"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c), 7 days. Stage: Charlie Barnett and his orchestra. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $22,000).

"Top Man55 (Univ.) 1 day.
"Frontier Badmen" (Univ.) 1 day
"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO) 6 days
"Gildersleeve on Broadway" (RKO) 6 days
PALACE — (2,500) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $19,000)

"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (50c-65c-85c), 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,000).

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-85c), 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $23,000).

"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c), 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $18,000).

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
WOODS—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c), 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $7,500).

WJZ Airing Unique 'Fantasy' Promotion

Dr. Franz Polgar, telepathist, will talk with members of the audience seeing Universal's "Flesh and Fantasy" at the Criterion Theatre in New York today, in an attempt to read their minds and discover reactions to the film. Station WJZ will broadcast for 15 minutes.

Universal reported here yesterday that one of the larger New York radio stations has refused to broadcast a one-minute commercial platter promoting its "Son of Dracula" on the grounds that the contents were "too gruesome."

Defer WLB Disc Hearing

Hearing before the War Labor Board panel in New York in the recording controversy between the American Federation of Musicians and three recording companies, scheduled for yesterday, has been postponed to Friday.

Off the Antenna

DESPITE a denial that he is a candidate for the general-managership of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., John Grierson has again been mentioned in Toronto as a likely successor to Prof. J. S. Thomson in that position. The CBC board of governors held a meeting recently at which Grierson, head of the National Film Board and War Information Board and also Ernest L. Bushnell, supervisor of CBS programs are understood to have been mentioned for the appointment. Prime Minister MacKenzie King is said to have final say. . . . Radio Station XEW, 150,000 watt Mexico City station, is said to be making plans for the introduction of television on a commercial and sustaining basis after the war.

Donald Flamm, former owner of WMCA, New York, has formally filed an intervenor with the Federal Communications Commission relative to stopping the sale of the station by Edward J. Noble to Cosmopolitan Broadcasting and Nathan Straus. . . . In the first common stock disbursement since last December, the board of directors of Stromberg-Carlson has declared a dividend of 50 cents a share on the common stock. . . . Eddie Cantor, now making "Show Business" at the RKO-Radio studio, has accepted the post of radio chairman of the March of Dimes drive for the sixth consecutive year at the invitation of Basil O'Connor, drive president. . . . Regional wartime radio conference on the responsibility of radio in the new world gets underway at Stephens College, Columbus, Mo., Nov. 19. . . .

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Purely Personal: *Bernard Herrmann has been appointed symphonic conductor of CBS. . . . Donald S. Shaw has been named commercial program sales manager by the Blue. . . . Judy Rutherford, sister of Ann, is conducting a Hollywood 'gossip' program on KFXM, Mutual, at San Bernadino, Cal., outlet. . . . N. E. Keesely has joined CBS as manager of program sales. . . . Mary Jane Kroll has been named director of women's programs at WABC. . . . Addison Amer and James Sheldon have new berths on the Blue's production staff. . . . George Gow has been promoted to chief newscaster of WSAI in Cincinnati. . . .*

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Program Notes: NBC will televise "Ice Follies of 1944" from Madison Square Garden Nov. 30. This week's "Tribute to Gallantry Rally" launching the city-wide home-front mobilization of the New York committee of the National War Fund was televised by NBC from the Garden. . . . Loretta Young and Alan Ladd will be heard in a CBS "Lux Radio Theatre" presentation of Paramount's "China" next Monday. . . . "The More the Merrier," radio adaptation of the Columbia film, will be featured on CBS "Philip Morris Playhouse" program on Friday with Rita Hayworth featured. . . . Hollywood Writers Mobilization will present an all-star program on the Blue, Nov. 28. . . . "America Tomorrow," new U. S. Chamber of Commerce program will have its premiere on the Blue on Nov. 23. . . . Allis-Chalmers will assume sponsorship of the Blue's Boston Symphony Orchestra weekly programs sometime in December.

'Lucky Stars' Does $24,000 for Week

CLEVELAND, Nov. 16. — "Thank Your Lucky Stars" had little competition over the weekend with a take looking to a big $24,000 at Warners' Hippodrome. Holdovers made a good showing with "Bell" staying on for an eighth week at Loew's Ohio. Bad weather and holiday shopping is beginning to reflect lower box office receipts.

Estimated receipts for week ended Nov. 17:

"Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
ALLEN—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $8,500)

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average, $17,500)

"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,200. (Average, $3,000)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $10,000.

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c & 85c Sundays and holidays) 7 days. Stage: Russ Morgan orchestra, Ella Mae Morse, Pat Henning and vaudeville. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $22,000)

"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $17,500)

"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $9,500)

Toronto Is Slow, $12,800 for 'Life'

TORONTO, Nov. 16.—"True to Life" is making a bid for $12,800 at the Imperial in a week which showed signs of tapering all around because of an early rush of Christmas shopping. Shea's Theatre was counting on $11,200 for the second week of "Sahara" and "Naughty Marietta" at the Uptown stood up to $8,800 prospects in its second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 18:

"Black Sheep from Whitehall" (British)
EGLINTON—(1,686) (18c-30c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $4,300).

"True to Life" (Para.)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c), 6 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $12,300).

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Code" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c), 6 days. Gross: $11,400. (Average: $11,400).

"SAHARA" (Col.)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c), 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $12,200).

"Dixie" (Para.)
"Aerial Gunner" (Para.)
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c), 6 days. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $4,600).

"Naughty Marietta" (M-G-M reissue)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c), 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,800).

Preview of 'Bondage'

Press preview of Monogram's "Women in Bondage" will be held at Le Perroquet Suite of the Waldorf-Astoria tomorrow morning and will be followed by a luncheon.

'Guadalcanal' Smasl In Philadelphia or Big $32,500 Gros

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 16.—Two pi tures are taking almost the entire pla in the center-city section, with othe houses just about getting by. Majo attention is centered at the Fox, whe "Guadalcanal Diary" is having world premiere. Starting off la Wednesday, with a special $5 premie performance that brought in $10,0 for Emergency Aid, the first week regular business points to a heav $32,500. Second week of "For Who the Bell Tolls" at the Aldine is almo as big as the first, with $28,700 i sight at the advanced price scale.

Estimated receipts for the week en ing Nov. 17-19:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (75c-$1.10), 7 days, 2 week. Gross: $28,700. (Average: $10,300

"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
ARCADIA — (600) (35c-46c-57c-68c), days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,400. (Averag $3,500).

"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c), days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,000).

"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.) (6 day $17,500

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox) (1 da $5,300
EARLE—(3,000) (46c-57c-75c), 6 days wi vaudeville including Johnny Warrington orchestra, Willie Howard, Al Kelly, Berr Bros., Betty Jane Smith, Marion Masc and "Bon Bon." Gross: $22,800. (Averag $22,000).

"Here Comes Elmer" (Rep.)
FAY'S—(2,200) (29c-35c-46c-57c-68c), days of vaudeville including Ella Fitzgeral Eddie Durham's orchestra, Spider Bruc Al Pierce, Dale Evans, Frank Albertso Gloria Stewart and Wally Vernon. Gros $9,200. (Average: $10,000).

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
FOX — (3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c), days. Gross: $32,500. (Average: $17,800).

"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
KARLTON — (1,000) (35-41c-46c-57c-68 75c), 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Ave age: $5,600).

"So Proudly We Hail" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68-75c 4 days, 2nd run, 2nd week. Gross: $3,00 (Average: $5,000).

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68 75c), 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $16,800. (A erage: $22,000).

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
STANLEY — (3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68 75c), 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,900. (A erage: $18,300).

"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
STANTON — (1,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68 75c), 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Averag $8,000).

Noble Meets Heads Of Blue Affiliate

CHICAGO, Nov. 16. — Edward J Noble, new owner of the Blue Net work, met with representatives c Blue affiliates here today and discusse future program and sales policies c the web in his first meeting wit affiliates since he took over Blue fror RCA.

Noble declared here that, "Ther are many policies now observed b broadcasting which no longer hav merit. We are making a study o freedom of speech, censorship an regulations concerning sponsoring o programs. At the conclusion we ma discard old policies and create nev ones. However, none of our policie will be fixed," Noble told the net work's planning and advisory com mittee.

Omaha 1st Runs Raise

OMAHA, Nov. 16.—Omaha's first-ru downtown theatres have raised eve ning prices five cents to 55 cents an matinee prices from 30 to 40 cents.

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 96 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1943 | TEN CENTS

WPB Warns on New Theatre Anticipations

Restrictions Lifted Very Limitedly

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Warning by the War Production Board that its approval, or that of the Office of Civilian Requirements, of permits to construct four new, unidentified theatres does not mean that entrepreneurs can embark on any program of theatre construction during the duration, it was emphasized here today by WPB officials.

In all four instances, and in the case of any other applications that may be filed, it was explained, the authorization of new houses is contingent upon a showing by the applicant that he has the necessary projection equipment already in hand. No new equipment can be secured for a new house since, at the insistence of the Army and Navy, WPB has adopted a definite policy of not releasing any new equipment except for replacement purposes in existing theatres.

There is absolutely no chance for getting a new theatre, it was said,

(*Continued on page 6*)

WPB Ruling Keeps Set Costs Ceiling

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—War Production Board's new ruling governing expenditures for set construction materials, Order CMP-4-B, does not take ceiling off costs, as reported, but does permit a greater outlay for temporary sets which can be stored for future use, Harold Hopper, WPB motion picture section head, returning from Washington conferences, told 19 studio purchasing agents in a meeting here today.

Contrary to the reported relaxation, WPB will insist studios hold their overall set costs within the past year's total figure, reducing it if possible.

Korda Signs Black For MGM in England

LONDON, Nov. 17.—Edward Black, who resigned last week as Gainsborough Studios production executive has been signed by Alexander Korda in behalf of M-G-M British. He will join Metro shortly, upon the conclusion of current Gainsborough productions.

Leaders, Workers Honor Film's War Wounded, Heroes

Tribute to a score or more of service men, some of them wounded, all of them decorated or cited for exceptional deeds in active service, and all of them drawn from the ranks of the industry, was paid by leaders and the rank-and-file of the industry yesterday in numbers that taxed the capacity of the Hotel Astor grand ballroom at Ampa's "Salute to the Heroes" luncheon.

Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, principal speaker at the luncheon, saluted the distinguished service men as "the cream of the youth of the industry, and its second generation." The industry's leaders, he pointed out, are its first "and are of this generation."

Walker, head of the Comerford Circuit, stipulated that he spoke "as an industry member." "I am proud of

(*Continued on page 3*)

Consent Decree Is Discussed by Allied

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 17.—At the opening session of the National Allied board meeting today the consent decree was the sole topic of discussion. A report from general counsel Abram F. Myers was heard, which included an account of his conference with Assistant Attorney General Tom Clark on Nov. 6 and L. O. Lukan of Seattle

(*Continued on page 3*)

DISMISS THREE IN GRIFFITH SUIT

Toronto's Exchange Center Hit by Fire

Toronto, Nov. 17.—A four-alarm fire swept Toronto's main film exchange building tonight causing heavy loss to stored films of major producing companies.

It is believed the conflagration will disrupt bookings over a large part of Ontario during the next few days until new prints can be obtained.

Goldman Rests Case In Surprise Move

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 17.—William Goldman, plaintiff in an anti-trust suit against the Warner Circuit and major distributors in Federal court here, rested his case late today after only three days of testimony. The action came as something of a surprise to the defendants, who must decide tomorrow, in consequence of Goldman's action, whether to put in their defense or let the case go to the court on the basis of plaintiff's testimony.

Continuing his testimony today, Goldman charged that there would be plenty of "A" pictures available for

(*Continued on page 3*)

Col., Univ., U. A. Are Eliminated at Pre-Trial Conference

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 17.—Federal Judge Edgar S. Vaught unexpectedly today dismissed Columbia, United Artists and Universal from the Government anti-trust suit against the Griffith Amusement Co., which has been pending in U. S. District court here since 1939.

The action resulted from the granting of defense motions, entered in pre-trial conferences which got under way here this week. The motions for dismissal of United Artists and Universal were made by Benjamin Pepper of the New York law firm of O'Brien, Driscoll & Raftery, and for the dismissal of Columbia by Louis D. Frohlich, of the New York law firm of Schwartz & Frohlich. All three motions were unopposed by Assistant U. S. Attorney General Holmes Baldridge and other government attorneys.

The pre-trial conferences will con-

(*Continued on page 3*)

International's First To Start in January

William Goetz, president of International Pictures, Inc., who is scheduled to leave for Hollywood Sunday, stated yesterday that he is not discussing any distribution deal for International during his stay here. He added that he plans to start production of his first picture for the new organization next January. It will be "Casanova Q. Brown," starring Gary Cooper, under the supervision of Nunnally Johnson, and has been budgeted at approximately $1,500,000.

"Once Off Guard," with Edward G. Robinson heading the cast and Fritz

(*Continued on page 2*)

ITO of Arkansas Condemns New Tax

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Nov. 17.—Additional taxation of the industry was opposed in a resolution adopted at a special meeting of the Independent Theatre Owners of Arkansas here yesterday. C. C. Mundo, organization president, told the group that additional admission taxes would force

(*Continued on page 3*)

'Sleeper' Found in OCR Order Easing Theatre Maintenance and Repairs

Washington, Nov. 17.—Previously overlooked provision in Office of Civilian Requirements' order No. CMP-5 will free the great majority of exhibitors from troublesome restriction of expenditures for repair, maintenance and operation, it was said here today by OCR officials.

Tucked away in the order, it was explained, is a provision that the limitation of such expenditures to the amount spent in 1942 shall not apply in the case of any theatre operator whose aggregate requirements for maintenance, repair and operating supplies do not exceed $5,000 a year.

With a view to securing a definite showing of how the CMP-5 regulations affect the theatre industry, the amusements section of OCR has asked WPB for a clarification and interpretation of the order.

Charges of widespread violation of restrictions on expenditures for maintenance, were made last weekend by George W. McMurphey, chief of the OCR amusements section. A large proportion of exhibitors, McMurphey said, were ignoring the requirements of order CMP-5 that such expenditures must be kept down quarterly to the total of the corresponding period last year. This is not the case.

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, chairman of the board of Universal, returned to New York yesterday after two weeks in Washington.

•

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal Eastern publicity and advertising director, will leave Hollywood for the East Dec. 10. AL HOROWITZ, of the Universal publicity staff, is expected back from the Coast late next week.

•

EDWARD L. ALPERSON, RAY MOON, HAROLD MIRISCH, CHARLES GOETZ, IRVING WORMSTER and BOB WOLFF will be guests this weekend of FRED SCHWARTZ, Century circuit head at his Lake Placid residence.

•

PFC. EDWARD GALLAGHER, formerly of the Palace, Avoca, Pa., and ELIZABETH MCNULTY, that city, have been married at Orlando, Fla., where he is stationed.

•

WILLIAM LEVY, managing director of Walt Disney Productions in England, has delayed his return to that country from New York until the end of December.

•

LEON ROSENBLATT, official of the Rosenblatt-Welt circuit, will return next Tuesday from an Atlantic City vacation.

•

L. J. SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox Central sales manager, returned yesterday from a trip to exchanges in his territory.

•

ALEX L. HILLMAN, publisher of *Movieland* and other fan magazines, will return next Monday from Florida.

•

ABEL VIGARD, head of the Warner circuit legal department, left yesterday for Pittsburgh.

•

OSCAR SERLIN, Broadway stage producer, and MRS. SERLIN are the parents of a son, ANTHONY.

•

ARTHUR GOTTLIEB, Du-Art Laboratories executive, will leave tomorrow for the Coast.

•

JULES FIELDS and GEORGE GOMPERTS of the 20th Century-Fox publicity staff, are in Des Moines.

•

MIKE TODD, Broadway producer, will leave for Hollywood tomorrow.

•

J. J. MURDOCK is here from the Coast.

Ex-Pathe Man Killed

First Lieutenant Harry H. Dunham, pilot with the American 5th Air Force and the first man from RKO Pathe to go into service, was killed in action over New Guinea last month, RKO reported here yesterday. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Marion Chase Dunham, New York, and his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Hy Kennon Dunham, Cincinnati.

Noble Reveals Blue Television Plans

Blue Network will soon file applications for television and frequency modulation stations in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco, Edward J. Noble, new owner of the web, revealed at the Chicago meeting of network affiliate station heads in recommending that all Blue affiliates in major cities file applications for television, the Blue home office reported here yesterday. Noble also recommended that all Blue affiliates immediately file application for F-M transmitter licenses.

Plans for participation in the ownership of the Blue by affiliated stations will be announced "as soon as things crystallize," Noble told the 170 station owners and managers.

Noble stated that "the ideal operation of a broadcasting network would see the stock held by 130,000,000 Americans. Unfortunately, this is not practical."

The new Blue owner further explained that huge expenditures for improvements and advertising might not be so easily handled during the first months of the new Blue operation if stock were widely held. He announced that for the first time a station owner operator will be added to the board of directors.

Stars To Entertain Camps During Xmas

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—Responding to a War Department request, the Hollywood Victory Committee has started a drive to obtain 100 star volunteers to visit every training camp and military hospital in the United States, during Christmas-New Year's week, entertaining 78 per cent of the men in service who will not get a holiday leave.

The first volunteers will be Veronica Lake, Dinah Shore, Fred MacMurray, George Raft, Dick Powell, Martha Raye, Robert Benchley, William Bendix, Kay Francis, Franchot Tone, Chester Morris and Harpo Marx.

CEA-KRS Grading Tilt Nears Crisis

LONDON, Nov. 17.—Film-grading dispute instituted by dissatisfied exhibitors with distributors is rapidly moving to a crisis. Planned meetings between the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association and individual distributors have been suddenly suspended following a discussion last night between Sam Eckman, representing the renters, and W. R. Fuller, executive of the CEA.

Kinematograph Renters Society, after a session running several hours agreed to again meet a CEA committee today with a view to hammering out the principles for settling the controversy.

Weinberg to Warners

CHICAGO, Nov. 17. — Al Weinberg, former production manager for Filmack Trailer, has been named assistant ad manager for Warners here.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 17

REPUBLIC PICTURES has announced that it will put into production soon the first of a new series of eight Red Ryder Westerns starring Wild Bill Elliott in the title role of the Fred Harmon cartoon character. Rights to the cartoon character were purchased by Republic from Stephen Slesinger. Extensive advertising-publicity campaign is planned to promote the series.

•

Jeffery Bernerd, producer of Monogram's "Are These Your Children?" will leave here Nov. 23 for Detroit where he will attend the world premiere on Thanksgiving Day at the Paramount. From there Bernerd will go to New York to discuss distribution plans with Monogram executives. On a swing back West he will visit a number of exchanges to screen the picture for exhibitors and press.

•

Largest stage unit ever assembled by M-G-M Studios will be sent East to open at the Capitol in New York Dec. 23, for a "screen celebrities show" for the holidays. Lucille Ball heads the cast, which includes Kathryn Grayson, Nancy Walker, June Allison, Carlos Ramirez and producer Lou Holtz. Troupe goes into rehearsal at the studio within two weeks.

•

Warners today bought "He Fell Down Dead," a psychological mystery. Alex Gottlieb will produce.

•

Winfield Sheehan is due here Monday from the East.

International's First To Start in January

(*Continued from page* 1)

Lang directing, will be the second, and will be followed by "Belle of the Yukon," Technicolor musical featuring Gypsy Rose Lee, Randolph Scott and Dinah Shore, to be directed by William Seiter.

He added that while here he has acquired film rights to "Tomorrow Is Forever," new novel, which will be published in two weeks, and which will be produced by David Lewis.

An allotment of negative raw stock has been granted by the War Production Board to International to enable him to start production, Goetz said. Leo Spitz, chairman of the board of the newly formed company, is expected to continue his stay here for another week.

Goetz denied reports published elsewhere that he or his company was interested in acquiring control of Republic Pictures or another company. The reports also were denied emphatically yesterday by James R. Grainger, Republic president, on wired authorization from H. J. Yates, who is en route here from the Coast. Officials of the second company linked with the reports also denied that any negotiations for sale of an interest in the company to International had been held or were in prospect.

Gang Continued to Run Chicago IATSE

Complete domination of the affairs of the Chicago local of the IATSE by members of the Chicago underworld continued even after the incarceration of George E. Browne, former international president, and William Bioff, his personal representative, in 1941, a Federal Court jury at the film extortion trial was told yesterday. Defendants in the trial also received regular reports on the progress of the special Federal Grand Jury which for more than two years probed their activities, the jury was told.

Smith Takes Stand

John P. Smith, business agent of the Chicago union, under direct examination by special Federal Prosecutor Boris Kostelanetz, testified that on two occasions, after he had appeared before the special grand jury, he was contacted by Charles Gioe, one of the eight defendants on trial, and questioned closely about his grand jury testimony.

While Bioff was in the Chicago city prison in 1940 on an old pandering charge, Nick Circella, then an IATSE representative and operator of a night club and gambling house in Chicago, summoned Smith and, according to Smith, said:

"Things are pretty hot around town and I've got to resign (the IATSE post). It even looks as if I'll have to close the night club here. But I'll still run things just like before."

During the next few months, Smith continued, he gave envelopes containing the union officers' salary kickbacks to Paul De Lucia.

"I told De Lucia," Smith said, "that it looked as if Frank Korte was going to run against me for business agent. He said if Korte announced his candidacy the boys would talk to him and have him withdraw."

"Did Frank Korte run against you?"

"No, sir," said Smith. "In March, 1942, I was reelected over Herman Goldman by a six-to-one vote."

A month later, Smith said, he and Pete Shayne were called to testify before the New York Grand Jury. Gioe contacted Smith when he returned to Chicago, the witness said, and told him that he was to testify that Circella got all the money "because they couldn't give Circella any more time."

Only 50 Projectors For First Quarter

Washington, Nov. 17.—Office of Civilian Requirements theatre division here now put at 50 the number of permits for the manufacture of new projectors to be available for the first quarter of 1944. OCR officials had previously predicted that permission would be granted manufacturers to make 200 in next year's first quarter.

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Little Three Dismissed in Griffith Suit

(Continued from page 1)

tinue with government and Griffith attorneys only participating. The New York attorneys left for the East immediately after Judge Vaught granted their dismissal motions.

As a result of the dismissals, it would be impossible for the court, during or after the trial of the Griffith case, to make findings against any of the Little Three involving even isolated cases of conspiracy, such as happened in the trial of the Crescent Amusement Co. case at Nashville last year, when minor findings of conspiracy were made by the court against United Artists. In that case, too, however, Columbia and Universal were dismissed.

Dismissals Still Effective

The so-called Big Five, Loew's, Paramount, RKO, Twentieth Century-Fox and Warners, were dismissed as defendants in the Griffith case, as well as the Crescent and Schine cases, upon entry of the industry consent decree in 1940. So long as the decree remains in force, those dismissals are effective, but the five companies still have the legal status of co-conspirators in this case, as they did in the Crescent case. As in that case, however, the burden of the government action now rests upon Griffith and, if the case proceeds to trial, the court's final findings would affect that company most.

The Schine case was brought to a state of suspension by a standstill agreement which expires next Spring. All three of the regional cases were brought by the government as adjuncts of its main case against the major distributors which resulted in the industry consent decree. The Little Three, of course, are not parties to the decree and, therefore, continue as defendants in that case, as well as in the Schine case.

Goldman Rests Case In Surprise Move

(Continued from page 1)

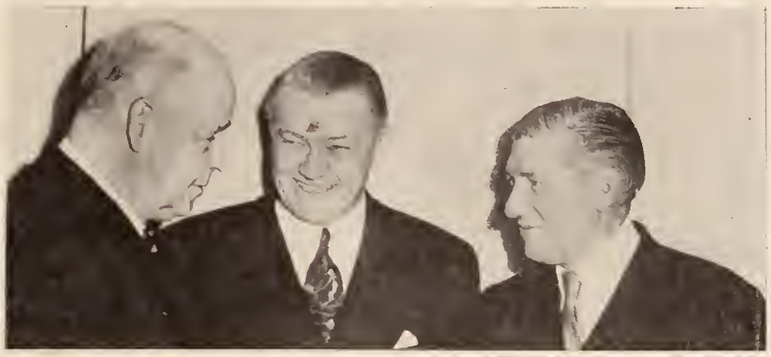
everybody if Warners would not dissipate its product. He attacked high film rentals, stating no exhibitor can make money playing pictures at a 70 per cent rental price and claimed that when he was general manager for the Warner circuit, films were bought very cheaply, and that the average price for "A" pictures today is 35 per cent.

Over objections of defense counsel, who claimed they were worded with a view of building up his case, Goldman entered as evidence a large amount of personal correspondence with numerous film distributors and circuit executives throughout the country, as well as various leases and master contracts.

Guild to Hold Dance

Catholic Actors Guild will hold its annual dance and entertainment tomorrow night in the Hotel Astor. Proceeds will go toward the purchase of a field ambulance.

Principals at Ampa's 'Heroes' Salute'



QP Photo

Howard Dietz (right), M-G-M advertising-publicity vice-president welcomes Postmaster General Frank C. Walker (left), to yesterday's "Salute to Motion Picture Heroes" luncheon ceremonies sponsored by Associated Motion Picture Advertisers at the Hotel Astor, while Charles Francis Coe, MPPDA vice-president who was toastmaster, joins in the welcome.

(Continued from page 1)

that," he said, "and fiercely proud of the industry's wartime contributions. Those contributions, and those of its leadership, are great," he said, while singling out Adolph Zukor, who sat near him at the dais, as typifying both the industry and its leadership.

"The men who guide this industry are entitled to much consideration," Walker said. "It is a delight to contemplate what this industry has done directly and indirectly for the country. The industry itself probably does not realize how fine its work has been."

Walker was introduced by Charles F. Coe, MPPDA vice-president and general counsel, who acted as toastmaster. "Years ago," Coe remarked, referring to Will H. Hays, who came to the industry from the office of Postmaster General in 1921, "the government gave to the industry a Postmaster General. Now the industry has given to the government a Postmaster General."

Howard Dietz Speaks

Howard Dietz, Loew's advertising and publicity director, addressed the service men guests and unveiled the industry service flag, representative of the 28,205 men and women in service. Vincent Trotta presided.

Coe read a letter which is being sent to everyone in the armed forces from the industry by Ampa and signed by the presidents of the eleven major distributors, Will Hays and Francis Harmon, coordinator of the War Activities Committee, informing them that those present had gathered to pay their respects.

Among those who sat on the dais were: Vincent Trotta, David Bernstein, J. Robert Rubin, Martin Quigley, John J. O'Connor, Jack Cohn, N. Peter Rathvon, Barney Balaban, Will Hays, Adolph Zukor, Ned E. Depinet, Herman Robbins, Gradwell Sears, Tom J. Connors, Arthur Mayer, Harry Kalmine, Charles D. Prutzman, Carl Leserman, Steve Broidy, Jack Ellis, James Zabin, Clifford B. Ross, Hap Hadley, Blanche Livingston, "Chic" Lewis, Jules Brulatour, W. C. Michel, C. E. Milliken, Postmaster Albert Goldman, Jack Alicoate, Louis Nizer, Malcolm Kingsberg, H. M. Richey, George Dembow, Postmaster General Walker, Coe, E. L. Alperson, Abe Montague, Ben Kalmenson.

Many Stars Present

Lucy Monroe sang "The Star Spangled Banner." Among the film stars and military personnel present were: Greer Garson, Michele Morgan, Mary Small, Edward Dmytryk, Lt. Col. Anatole Litvak, Pfc. Dana Babcock, U.S.M.C.; Staff Sgt. Schiller Cohen; CPO. George Dauenheiler, of the Coast Guard; Pfc. Louis Davidson; 1st Class Seaman Edward Fitzpatrick; Lt. William Murphy; Pvt. Anthony Province; Pfc. Harold Zeltner, U.S.M.C. A chorus of 40 WAVES sang two songs.

Paramount Reports 6,381 on Active Duty

Paramount yesterday disclosed that 6,381 former employes of the company and theatre affiliates are on active duty in the armed forces. Casualties, exclusive of wounded, include 39 killed and 30 missing. Decorations have been awarded to 29.

Captain Laurence Olds, former chief of staff at Paramount Theatre here, is among those reported missing in action, having fought in the African campaign.

'Lady' Premiere Set

Paramount's "Lady in the Dark" will be given its world premiere in Los Angeles in February and will open here shortly thereafter, Neil Agnew, general sales manager, announced yesterday. Screenings will be followed in March by a number of pre-release engagements.

Action on Sunday Films

JACKSON, Tenn., Nov. 17.—Ordinance repealing the action, passed two months ago, granting local theatres the right to show films on Sunday has been presented to the city council as a result of the defeat of Sunday films here recently.

Boston Sports Show

BOSTON, Nov. 17. — Sportsman's Show, a Boston tradition, abandoned last year, will be held again this year. This is considered good news by local film theatre operators, since the show draws from 100,000 to 150,000 out-of-state visitors.

Mono. Books Circuits

Monogram has closed several more circuit deals for 1943-'44 product. Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager, reports contracts have been made with the 156-theatre Schine circuit, Cooperative Theatres of Ohio and Warner houses in Albany and Buffalo.

Consent Decree Is Discussed by Allied

(Continued from page 1)

gave an account of an interview with Clark by representatives of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners on Nov. 9. A resolution was unanimously adopted providing in substance that the board approves the report of the general counsel to Clark dated Oct. 4, summarizing the Allied questionnaires together with all the conclusions and recommendations contained therein. It was directed that a copy of the resolution be transmitted to Clark.

It was agreed that no further action on this subject would be in order until Allied has received a draft of the final proposals of the consenting companies. At that time the proposals will be analyzed for the consideration of the executive committee, which is authorized to function between meetings of the board.

Agenda for Tomorrow

Tonight there will be a special meeting of the board to receive a report of the Caravan committee and to consider the subject of high film rentals. Subjects listed for tomorow's sessions are the admission tax, better coordination of efforts of regional associations, especially on legislative matters, enlarging the bulletin service, juvenile delinquency and general economic conditions.

In addition to Myers and P. J. Wood, secretary, the following board members were present: Harry Lowenstein, N. J.; Sidney Samuelson, Eastern Pa.; Meyer Leventhal, Md.; M. A. Rosenberg, Western Pa.; Ray Branch, Mich.; Roy Harrold, Ind.; E. L. Peaslee, Northwest; Col. H. A. Cole, Texas and W. L. Ainsworth, Wis. Jack Kirsch of Illinois and Maxwell Alderman of Connecticut have not yet arrived. H. V. Harvey and L. O. Lukan of the PCCITO are present as observers. A number of consultants came with the delegates including Thornton Kelley, George Ickes, Harry Walker, Don Rossiter, Edward B. Runell, George Granstrom and Charles Trampe. Al Steffes, honorary national counsellor, is also here.

Favors Abolition of Decree

Myers stated that Allied is clearly advocating the abolishment of the consent decree and favors divorcement. They are going on the theory that as a last resort they can intervene in the case and in case of an unfavorable decision can appeal to the Supreme Court.

Arkansas ITO Condemns New Tax

(Continued from page 1)

many small-town theatres to close except on weekends.

He said that partly as a result of a message sent by the organization to Congressman Mills, of Arkansas, member of the House Ways and Means Committee, the proposed tax had been lowered from 30 per cent to 20 per cent by the committee.

The resolution expressed opposition to the proposed 20 per cent tax but added that if additional taxes are needed "we are ready to bear our part of the burden in the form of a general tax."

OLD ACQUAINTANCE PRINCESS O'ROURKE THANK YOUR LUCKY STARS WATCH ON THE RHINE

CONSTANT NYMPH ACTION IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC BACKGROUND TO DANGER YANKEE DOODLE

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IVER 'EM!

L. Warner, *Executive Producer*

An adventure so vast it took the Northwest Mounted Police to the top of the world!

...One of the screen's most gallant epics of all!... Here's the story of the fearless few whose heroism thunders thru a million miles of Northland!

Errol Flynn

NORTHERN PURSUIT

with

JULIE BISHOP • HELMUT DANTINE
JOHN RIDGELY • GENE LOCKHART

Directed by RAOUL WALSH • Produced by JACK CHERTOK

Dimout Lifting Puts Boston Grosses at New High for Year

BOSTON, Nov. 17.—Business went to new highs in Boston this week and indications are for grosses considerably higher than averages of the past several weeks. Dimout lifting probably brought added business. The Metropolitan held "Thank Your Lucky Stars," while Keith's Memorial finally closed "The Iron Major" and took on "Claudia." Loew's State and Loew's Orpheum did splendid business with "Sahara" and "Chance of a Lifetime." "Fired Wife" topped at $28,600.

Estimated box office receipts for the week ending Nov. 19:

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (Warner)
"Murder on the Waterfront" (Warner)
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $29,700. (Average, $28,300)
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
"Victory Through Air Power" (UA-Disney)
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,100. (Average, $19,300)
"Sahara" (Col.)
"Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,800) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $13,600)
"Sahara" (Col.)
"Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $25,600. (Average, $24,600)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
"Passport to Suez" (Col.)
PARAMOUNT—(1,437) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average, $8,600)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
"Passport to Suez" (Col.)
FENWAY—(1,200) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,400. (Average, $6,000)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
RKO BOSTON—(3,800) (44c-55c-65c-85c-94c). Gross: $28,300. (Average, $26,800)

WPB Warns on New House Anticipations

(*Continued from page* 1)

no matter what the need, unless the applicant has not only the booth apparatus but also the seats, it was stated by John Eberson, OCR theatres official. "Opera seats," he reminded, "are frozen and none whatever are being made. Only second-hand seats are available." Even if the applicant has both seats and booth apparatus, his application after approval by Eberson, still must go through the hands of three or more WPB divisions, which carefully weigh the need of the area for new facilities, the manpower and materials situation in the area and other factors. Whether the community is permanent or temporary also is taken into consideration.

Albee Gets Stage Shows

CINCINNATI, Nov. 17.—RKO Albee inaugurated a stage show and picture policy, opening with Glen Gray's orchestra and acts. The combination policy originally was set for the RKO Shubert.

Weekday matinee scale is 44 cents until 1 p. m., and 50 cents thereafter, with an evening rate of 75 cents for all seats. Saturday, Sunday and holiday scale is 50 cents until 1 p. m., and 85 cents to closing.

Gets Temporary Post

CINCINNATI, Nov. 17. — Arthur Frudenfeld, RKO division manager, has been appointed chairman of the War Activities Committee here.

Review

"Silver City Raiders"

(*Columbia*)

COLUMBIA has a neat little Western which packs a real punch because it tells a short and snappy story and tells it well. The kids will love it and adults who enjoy a good action story should go for "Silver City Raiders." It will especially find a most comfortable niche in neighborhood houses.

Story concerns Russell Hayden, owner of the Lazy H Ranch, and his reckless crew of cowboys. Hayden, along with a group of other ranchers, has settled in Silver City territory and built sizeable land holdings. Paul Sutton, land-grabbing crook, comes into the area with a faked document reputed to be an ancient Spanish land grant entitling him to all the land in the county. Hayden and his faithful partner, "Dub" Taylor, set out to prove the grant is a fake and so rides into Mexico to check its origin. Sutton's henchmen ambush him as he is returning to Silver City with proof of Sutton's forgery, but in an exciting tussle Hayden overcomes his assailants and arrives at his ranch safely. The authentic grant which the hero puts in the hands of the sheriff proves the owner of the land to be a kindly Spaniard whose daughter, Alma Carroll, is Hayden's lover. The ranchers keep their homes, Sutton gets his just desserts and the hero gets the lovely Miss Carroll.

Hayden turns in a good performance as the hard-ridin', hard-fightin' hero, and Miss Carroll does a creditable job as the love interest. "Dub" Taylor provides some good comedy while Bob Wills and the "Texas Playboys" entertain with ballads of the West, which they do very well. Paul Sutton is a convincing villain.

"Silver City Raiders" is a decidedly better-than-average Western. Story and screenplay by Earl Repp are well done and director William Berke handled the picture nicely, turning out an action-packed film. Leon Barsha produced.

Running time, 55 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Watch on Rhine', Dual, $20,000 Gross In Kansas City Week

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 17.—With strongly favorable newspaper recommendations, "Watch on the Rhine" at the Orpheum with "Yanks Ahoy" as a second feature, is receiving approximately $20,000 and will be held over. Midland, still on a 35c-50c admission schedule, is receiving approximately $20,000 on "I Dood It," Red Skelton drawing big as usual there; second feature is "Doughboys in Ireland." Weather has been mild and sunny.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 17-18:

"The Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $5,500)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Doughboys in Ireland" (Col.)
MIDLAND—(3,600) (35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $14,000)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $11,000)
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
"Yanks Ahoy" (UA-Roach)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $10,000)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) 7 days. Stage: Hobby Lobby Revue. Gross: $9,500. (Average, $9,400)
"The Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $5,600)
"The Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average, $1,450)

New St. Louis First Run

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 17.—Fanchon & Marco's Missouri Theatre has become a first run and the Shubert takes its place as a move over.

'Bell' Gets Terrific $35,000 in First Week in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 17.—With road show prices of 75 cents and $1.10 "For Whom the Bell Tolls" is packing them in at the Ambassador and looks like $35,000 for the first week. Business is up at all first-run houses with "Sahara" at Loew's heading the regular price parade with $23,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 17:

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
"Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(5,038) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $15,800)
"Sahara" (Col.)
"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average, $16,900)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average, $12,500)
"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $7,300)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $6,900)
"The Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $6,000)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
"Spitfire" (RKO)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (35c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $4,400)

Gravitz in War Job

NEW HAVEN, Nov. 17.—Philip Gravitz, M-G-M exchange booking manager, one of the first in this territory to receive an "essential industry" notice from his draft board, has taken a war job but will continue to hold down his exchange position.

'Guadalcanal' Neat $73,000 At 4 in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 17.—Preceded by Hollywood's first arc-lighted premiere in almost two years, "Guadalcanal Diary" ran up a $73,000 gross at the Chinese, Loew's, State, Uptown and Carthay Circle. "A Lady Takes a Chance" held firmly in its second week at the Pantages and Hillstreet, getting $41,700. The Paramounts foreshortened their week to institute a Tuesday-opening policy.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 17:

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"The Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $8,400)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"The Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $14,050)
"The Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) days. Gross: $12,800. (Average, $12,000)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
FOUR STAR—(900) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) days, 4th week. Gross: $7,300. (Average $3,250)
"The City That Stopped Hitler—Hero Stalingrad" (Para.)
"Campus Rhythm" (Mono.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) days, 4th week. Gross: $2,250. (Average $5,260)
"The Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO) 2 week
"Doughboys in Ireland" (Col.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) days. Gross: $22,200. (Average, $15,240)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"The Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75-90c) 7 days. Gross: $28,000. (Average $20,750)
"The Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (45c-55c-75-90c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average $13,000)
"The Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO) 2 week
"Doughboys in Ireland" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) days. Gross: $19,500. (Average, $12,810)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Hollywood)—(1,407) (44-55c-65c-85c) 5 days, 4th week. Gross: $[illegible]000. (Average, $10,800)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Downtown)—(3,595) (45-55c-65c-85c) 5 days, 4th week. Gross $12,490. (Average, $19,760)
"The Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
RITZ—(1,376) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days Gross: $10,000. (Average, $9,410)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"The Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(1,715) (45c-55c-75c-90c) days. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $10,000)
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER BROS. (Hollywood)—(3,00[illegible] (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross $16,950. (Average, $13,650)
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER BROS (Downtown)—(3,40[illegible] (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross $19,380. (Average, $16,090)
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER BROS (Wiltern)—(2,200) (45-55c-75c-90c) 3rd week. Gross: $15,930. (Average, $12,790)

'Youth in Crisis' Show

BOSTON, Nov. 17.—March of Time "Youth in Crisis" was previewed in the Hotel Statler here today before 150 state and local government officials, welfare executives, clergy, press and radio writers and theatre executives. Heading those present were Mayor Maurice J. Tobin, Ernest Pinanski and Phil Williams, the latter from MOT, New York.

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Oct. 23	THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME Chester Morris George E. Stone Jeanne Bates (1943-'44) D—(5034)	(First Block) ABOVE SUSPICION D—90 mins. (402)	THE UNKNOWN GUEST Victor Jory Pamela Blake D—(309)	(First Block) LET'S FACE IT Bob Hope Betty Hutton M—76 mins. (4301)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN THE RETURN OF THE RANGERS THE UNDERDOG Barton McLane (316)	MAN FROM THE RIO GRANDE John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O—55 mins. (363)	(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C			YOU'RE A LUCKY FELLOW, MR. SMITH Allan Jones Evelyn Ankers M—(8033)	PRINCESS O'ROURKE Olivia DeHavilland Robert Cummings D—(305)
Oct. 30	IS EVERYBODY HAPPY? Ted Lewis and his Band M	BEST FOOT FORWARD Lucille Ball M—94 mins. (405) (Technicolor)	BULLETS AND SADDLES A Range Buster O—(268)	TRUE TO LIFE Mary Martin Franchot Tone Dick Powell C—94 mins. (4303)		MAN FROM MUSIC MOUNTAIN Roy Rogers Ruth Terry O—(257)	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D	(Re-Issues) IN OLD CHICAGO D—94 mins. (406) BANJO ON MY KNEE M—95 mins. (407)	THE WOMAN OF THE TOWN Claire Trevor Albert Dekker D	FLESH AND FANTASY Edward Robinson Charles Boyer Barbara Stanwyck D—(8062)	
Nov. 6	SILVER CITY RAIDERS Russell Hayden Adele Mara O—(5202)	DR. GILLESPIE'S CRIMINAL CASE Lionel Barrymore D—89 mins. (407)	MYSTERY OF THE 13th GUEST Dick Purcell D—(211)	HOSTAGES Luise Rainer Arturo de Cordova Paul Lukas D—88 mins. (4305)	THE DEVIL RIDERS Buster Crabbe O—(460)	OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY "Wild Bill" Elliott Ann Jeffreys	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C	GUADALCANAL DIARY Wm. Bendix Lloyd Nolan D (412)		SON OF DRACULA Robert Paige Louise Allbritton—D	FIND THE BLACKMAILER Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson D—(306)
Nov. 13	RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE Nina Foch Bela Lugosi D	GIRL CRAZY Mickey Rooney Judy Garland C—99 mins. (409)	NEARLY EIGHTEEN Gale Storm Bill Henry D—61 mins. (226)	THE GOOD FELLOWS Cecil Kellaway Helen Walker James Brown C—70 mins. (4302)		HERE COMES ELMER Al Pearce Dale Evans C—(303)	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D	BATTLE OF RUSSIA (U .S. Government Feature) 80 mins. (414)		THE MAD GHOUL Evelyn Ankers David Bruce—D	NORTHERN PURSUIT Errol Flynn Julie Bishop D—(307)
Nov. 20		LASSIE COME HOME (410) Roddy MacDowall D (Technicolor)	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43) M—(210)	TORNADO Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—83 mins. (4304)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN BOSS OF RAWHIDE O—(452) HARVEST MELODY M—(402)	MYSTERY BROADCAST D—(304) OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY O—(376) DEERSLAYER Bruce Kellogg O—67 mins. (306)	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C	DANCING MASTERS Laurel and Hardy C—63 mins. (413)		NEVER A DULL MOMENT The Ritz Brotherss Frances Langford Mary Beth Hughes C	
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal D—(5017)	SALUTE TO THE MARINES Wallace Beery Fay Bainter D—(401) (Technicolor)	TEXAS KID Johnny Mack Brown O—(351)	(Special Release) THE CITY THAT STOPPED HITLER—HEROIC STALINGRAD 58 mins. (4331)		DRUMS OF FU MANCHU (Adapted from Serial) Henry Brandon D—(305)	(Second Block) THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)		HIS BUTLER'S SISTER Deanna Durbin Pat O'Brien Franchot Tone D—(8004)	OLD ACQUAINTANCE Bette Davis Miriam Hopkins D—110 mins. (308)
Dec. 4	THE HEATS ON Victor Moore William Gaxton Mae West Hazel Scott	SWING SHIFT MAISIE (404) Ann Sothern C—86 mins.	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer) O—56 mins. (361)	(Second Block) RIDING HIGH (Technicolor) Dorothy Lamour Dick Powell Victor Moore M—89 mins. (4307)		CANYON CITY John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O	GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)	HAPPY LAND Don Ameche Frances Dee Ann Rutherford 75 mins. (415)		SO'S YOUR UNCLE Billie Burke Elyse Knox Donald Woods C—(8042)	(Re-Issues) CRIME SCHOOL Humphrey Bogart Dead End Kids 86 mins. (327)
Dec. 11	THE CRIME DOCTOR'S STRANGEST CASE Warner Baxter Rose Hobart Lynn Merrick	ADVENTURES OF TARTU (406) Robert Donat Valerie Hobson D—103 mins.	MR. MUG STEPS OUT East Side Kids D—64 mins. (301)				GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)			CALLING DR. DEATH Lon Chaney Patricia Morrison Ramsey Ames	GIRLS ON PROBATION Jane Bryan Ronald Reagan 63 mins. (328)
Dec. 18	KLONDIKE KATE Tom Neal Ann Savage	YOUNG IDEAS Susan Peters (408) Mary Astor D—77 mins.	SMART GUY Rick Vallin D—63 mins. (227)	NO TIME FOR LOVE Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Ilka Chase C—83 mins. (4309)	THE DRIFTER Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John (461)		GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)			SHE'S FOR ME David Bruce Grace McDonald George Dolenz D—(8041)	
Dec. 25	SWING OUT THE BLUES Bob Haymes Lynn Merrick COWBOY IN THE CLOUDS Charles Starrett Walter "Dub" Taylor	THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER D—103 mins. (411) I DOOD IT D—102 mins. (403)	WOMEN IN BONDAGE Gail Storm 71 mins. (304)	HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith John Litel C—73 mins. (4306)		OH, MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Frank Albertson WHISPERING FOOTSTEPS John Hubbard Rita Quigley	THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D	THE GANG'S ALL HERE Carmen Miranda Alice Faye James Ellison 103 mins. (416) (Technicolor)		MOONLIGHT IN VERMONT Gloria Jean Fay Helm Sidney Miller Ray Malone	
Jan. 1	WHAT A WOMAN Rosalind Russell Brian Aherne Willard Parker D	WHISTLING IN BROOKLYN Red Skelton Ann Rutherford C—87 mins. (412)	SULTAN'S DAUGHTER Ann Corio Charles Butterworth C—64 mins.	MINESWEEPER Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—67 mins. (4308)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN GUNSMOKE MESA James Newill		NORTH STAR Anne Baxter Walter Huston Dana Andrews D—105 mins. (451)			GUNGO HO Randolph Scott Alan Curtis David Bruce Noah Beery, Jr.	

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses.]

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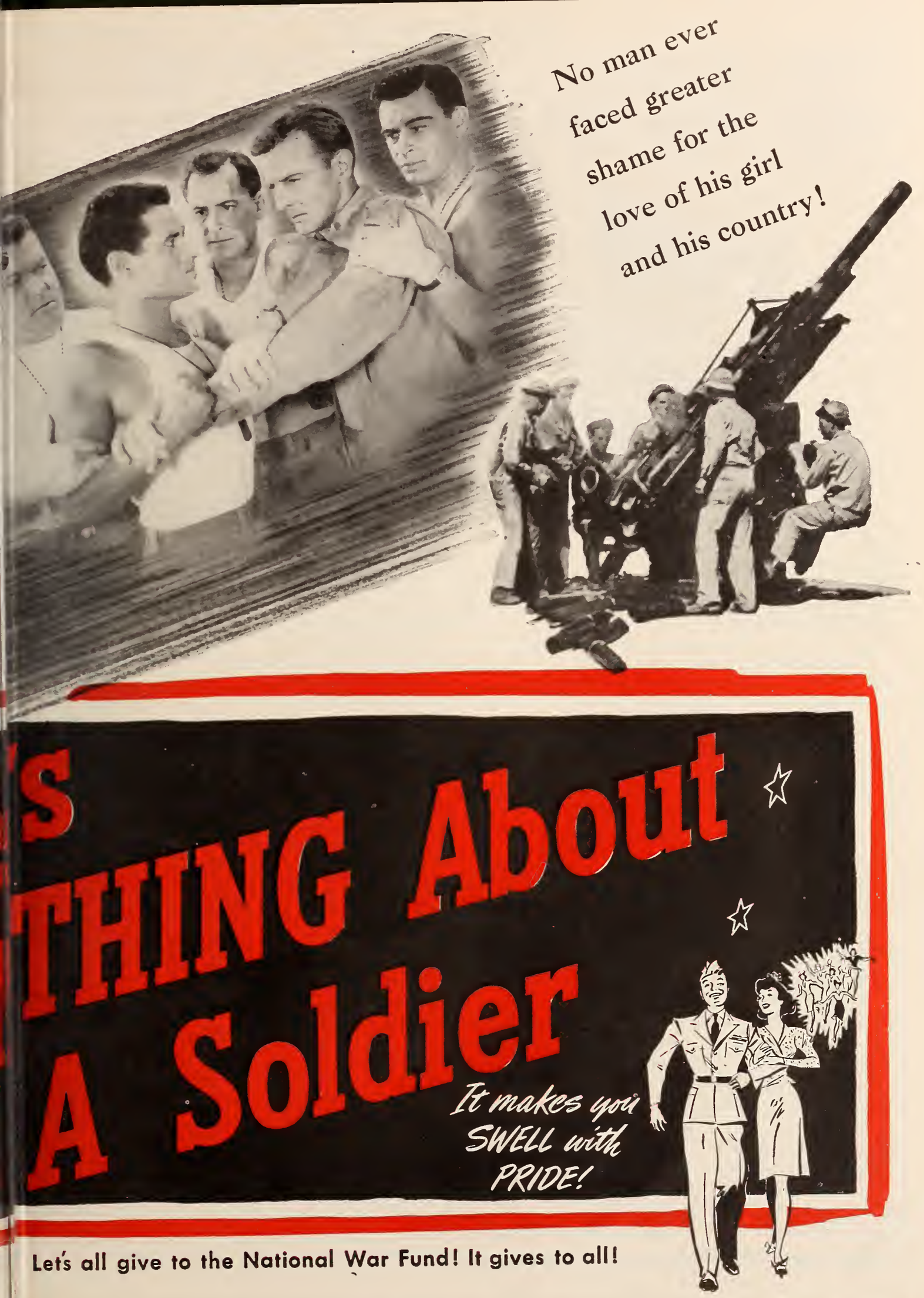
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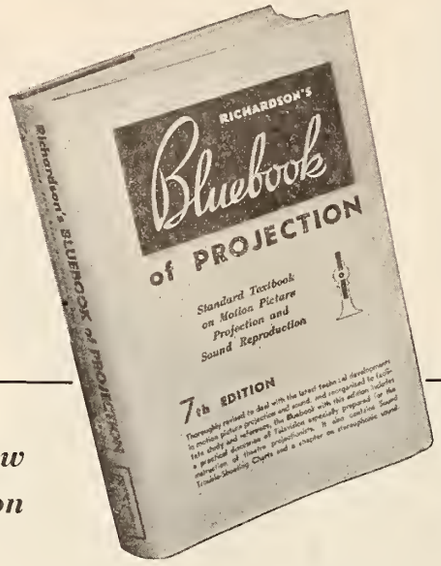
THE BOOK *FOR THE* TIMES!



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Film Production at Low Level in Brazil

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Brazil has produced only one regular feature film during the past year, the Film Division of the U. S. Department of Commerce reports here. Most of the films made were Government propaganda shorts and news reels. In 1941, that country produced a total of 623 films, of which five were dramas; two, musical revues; two, comedies; 144 shorts; 405 news reels and 65 propaganda films.

More films are imported from the U. S. than from any other country, including the United Kingdom. All Axis imports in 1942 were confiscated, as well as films from the U.S.S.R.

Indianapolis Likes 'Elmer' and 'Tartu'

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 17.—"Here Comes Elmer" at the Indiana and "Adventures of Tartu" at Loew's were running neck and neck this week; each was expected to reach $11,000. At the Circle "Paris After Dark" will gross $8,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 16-18:

"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $11,000)
"Here Comes Elmer" (Rep.)
"The Iron Major" (RKO)
INDIANA—(3,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $11,500)
"Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $9,900)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"Someone to Remember" (Rep.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, moved from Indiana. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $4,500)

'Salute' and 'Battle' Dual Best in Omaha

OMAHA, Nov. 17.—"Salute to the Marines" and "The Battle of Russia" proved one of the best combinations here in recent weeks, hitting $12,100 at the Paramount. The Orpheum, without a stage show for the first time in months drew $10,900 with the dual "Hostages" and "Henry Aldrich Swings It." Weather was warmer over the weekend but again turned cold.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 17-18:

"Spitfire" (RKO)
"Sleepy Lagoon" (Rep.)
BRANDEIS — (1,200) (40c-55c) 8 days. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,500)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $6,900)
"Hostages" (Para.)
"Henry Aldrich Swings It" (Para.)
ORPHEUM — (2,900) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,900. (Average: $9,000)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
"The Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $9,800)

Pringle in New Post

William J. Pringle has been appointed manager of the Los Angeles office of Foote, Cone & Belding, advertising agency, according to Don Belding, chairman of the board. Pringle has been a vice-president and director of the company since it was formed.

Short Subjec Reviews

"Tropical Sportland"
(*Warner Bros.*)

Amazing beauty of Florida's gra ful flamingoes and ostriches is p tographed against the colorful ba ground of the famed Cypress G dens. The camera has caught al the loveliness of this paradise. S of outdoor sports are also presente a maze of glorious color. Directed Andre De La Varre and produced Blumenthal and Heilner, this is of the finest in the "Sports Para series. Excellent narration by Sid Blackner adds much to this inter ing production. Running time, 10 m Release date, Oct. 9.

"Wagon Wheels West"
(*Warners*)

Another in the series of "Santa Trail" Westerns, "Wagon Whe West" is the tale of the boy, Rol Shane, who sees his father murde at the hands of renegades and vo vengeance. He returns in later ye as a federal marshal and uncover ruthless band of robbers and murd ers. the same ones who had shot father. Plenty of action and "blo and-thunder" characterize the fi Shayne and Nina Foch turn in g performances. Direction by B. Rea Eason is better than average and n ration by William Haworth is exc lent. Running time, 20 mins. Rele date, Oct. 30.

"Behind the Big Top"
(*Warners*)

This Technicolor "special" is a vi picture of life "under the big top" the summer when Ringling Broth Barnum and Bailey troupe memb rest at Sarasota Springs for the W ter season. Shots of the Waller family, famed aerial artists and ot well known performers are hi lighted in scenes depicting the r orous training and rehearsing wh goes on in the so-called "rest peric Good subject, excellent photograp and good narration, combined w Andre DeLaVarre's expert direct makes this release unusually go Produced by Blumenthal and Heilr Running time, 20 mins. Release da Nov. 27.

"Daffy, the Commando
(*Warners*)

Daffy raids Nazi headquarters "No Man's Land" and also takes Berlin on a non-stop flight out o cannon. This Looney Tunes cart depicts the enemy as rather stupid a is excellent satire. Produced by L Schlesinger. Highly amusing, w good musical background by Carl Stalling. Running time, 7 mins. R lease date, Nov. 20.

"A Feud There Was"
(*Warner Bros.*)

The old story of the Kentu mountaineers "a feudin'" makes an entertaining cartoon. Elmer, preacher, can't stand the fighting a gets buckshot in his holy pants interfering. Musical direction by C W. Stalling is appropriate and ad much. Leon Schlesinger produced Feud" as one of the Merrie Melod series. Running time, 7 mins. Rele date, Sept. 11.

olivia Now Has 44 heatres Operating

ASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—American s are well received in Bolivia, al-gh most of the features are at t two years old. The delay is at-ted to the indirect route by which films arrive from the United es, according to the U. S. Depart-t of Commerce, based on reports U. S. agents in Bolivia.

ome news reels are being imported plane and are received promptly, some five year old films are still g shown in provincial theatres. documentaries, educationals, or nated cartoons are presented. nish subtitles are provided for s from the U. S., the Soviet on, England and France.

olivia now has 44 theatres, two ones having been opened in La in 1942. Total seating capacity stimated to be about 13,200, with l annual attendance estimated at 0,000.

razilians are reported to prefer enture and sentimental stories and animated cartoons. Three-fourths he nation's 2,000 theatres are lo-d in the central and southern parts he country, according to the film sion.

orkers' Shows Worry Canadians

ORONTO, Nov. 17. — Theatre men rally are concerned over the wide-ad development of the Govern-t-sponsored circuit of film shows war workers being conducted by industrial circuit division of the ional Film Board.

xtent of their growth was re-ed this week at a meeting here of division, with Harry R. Keele, ario, division supervisor, presid-and at which he reported that the sion, created last January, is now ing to more than 200,000 workers ar plants monthly.

anadian Performing Rights Soci-(equivalent to Ascap in the U. S.) applied to the Government for per-ion to charge factories a license for showing films containing the ic of its members.

Blubaugh to Omaha

MAHA, Nov. 17. — Clarence Blu-h of Minneapolis has joined the -M staff here as a salesman. augh formerly covered this terri-and will take over Fred Thort-post during the latter's illness. ge Turner of the Minneapolis -M office who has been relieving return to Minneapolis.

lover Rejoins Mono.

enry B. Glover, former Mono-exchange manager in Memphis, pa and Atlanta, has received a cal discharge from the Army, and rejoin Monogram in charge of ida and Southern Georgia ter-ies.

Grovas in Deal

EXICO CITY, Nov. 17. — J. A. as, president of the National matographic Chamber, and a pro-r, has signed with Fernando J. es & Sons in Puerto Rico to dis-te his pictures in Puerto Rico Santo Domingo.

Short Subject Reviews

"The Voice That Thrilled the World"
(Warner Bros.)

This is the interesting story of Talking Pictures. It follows the progress of sound films through the years, from the time John Barrymore was presented in "Richard III" and Giovanni Martinelli sang the aria "Vesti La Giubba," representing a milestone in music. Shots of Al Jolson and Ethel Waters in the jazz age and "Disraeli" and "Louis Pasteur" show sound films making progress. The release is climaxed with shots of "Sergeant York" being dubbed in several languages and the sound triumph of "Yankee Doodle Dandy." The film represents a fine treatment of an interesting and educational theme. Jean Negulesco's direction is excellent as is Art Gilmore's commentary. Running time, 20 mins. Release date, Oct. 16.

"Fannie Hurst And Her Pets"
(Universal)

Another in the series of "Person-oddities," this release features the famous author, Fannie Hurst and her collection of pets. Other interesting sequences include Andy Anderson and his hobby of wood carving; Mark Thrash, reputed to be the oldest man in the United States at 123; William Firstenberger, pipe collector who doesn't smoke and "Pigtails" Kickler, 23-year-old former office worker, who handles a 20-ton crane in a gun plant in Texas. Good direction and better than average continuity, plus interesting subjects and commentary make this a particularly good short. Running time, 9 mins. Release date, Nov. 22.

"Corny Concerto"
(Warner Bros.)

Bugs Bunny and Porky Pig are teamed up in this Merrie Melodies cartoon in Technicolor. The lilting strains of "Tales From the Vienna Woods" and the "Blue Danube" provide the background for this entertaining little number. Good musical direction by Carl W. Stalling and a pleasing fairy-tale story by Warren Foster make for a clever short. Running time, 7 mins. Release date, Sept. 25.

"Fin N'Catty"
(Warner Bros.)

Cartoon in Technicolor concerning a cat who chases a goldfish into a shower and nearly drowns in his attempt to capture her. Cat finally concedes defeat and lets the fish go back to her bowl. An entertaining Merrie Melodies release with good music. Produced by Leon Schlesinger. Running time, 7 mins. Release date, Oct. 23.

"Choo-Choo Swing"
(Universal)

Featuring Count Basie and his band, this short holds much for jitterbugs and jive addicts. The Delta Rhythm Boys swing out with some novel arrangements of popular songs and Bobby Brooks, recently discovered boy soprano, is featured in a close harmony quartet. Running time 15 mins. Release date, Nov. 24.

"Mr. Chimp Raises Cain"
(Universal)

This release features Mr. Chimp, a young chimpanzee, domesticated by a farm family. His almost human antics are photographed as he chases animals around the farm yard, throws the kids' clothes in the river while they are swimming and "hits up" the cider jug in the pantry. Interesting and educational subject with good direction and amusing commentary. Running time, 9 mins. Release date, Dec. 27.

"Inki & the Minah Bird"
(Warners)

Hero of this Technicolor cartoon is a little Minah bird who makes himself conspicuous by his silence as he hops through the reel, to the accompaniment of Carl Stalling's clever musical patterns, keeping Inki, the pygmy out of trouble. Leon Schlesinger's Minah bird should provide some stiff competition for Donald Duck. This Merrie Melodies number is entertaining, amusing and clever. Running time, 7 mins. Release date, Nov. 13.

"The Old Army Game"
(RKO)

Walt Disney's latest release features Donald Duck in the role of a buck private taking a beating in the Army. Pvt. Duck goes AWOL for a crap game and Sergeant Pete discovers the game and a mad chase ensues. A clever Technicolor cartoon; it has many laughs and a good musical background. Running time, 7 mins. Release date, Nov. 5.

Five Take Posts For War Husbands

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 17.—Assignment of Mrs. James Crain as manager of the Moffit Theatre here, replacing her husband, who enlisted in the Merchant Marine, was announced by Harry C. Arthur, Jr., general manager of Fanchon & Marco.

Other wives of former F. & M. managers now employed in theatre posts are: Mrs. William Abeln, treasurer, Fox Theatre, whose husband is in the Navy; Mrs. Kenneth Kroh, treasurer, Ambassador, whose husband is in the Army, and Mrs. Marvin Stiver, relief manager for neighborhood theatres, whose husband is an Army sergeant. Mrs. Howard Harris, whose husband is now in the Navy, is employed as a secretary in the F. & M. general office.

All of the wives received special training in exhibition at a school created several months ago by Fanchon & Marco for the training of all managers' wives to assure positions for the latter when and if their husbands entered war service. More than 35 women attended a series of lectures given by department executives.

Sunday Films Out

JACKSON, Tenn., Nov. 17.—Led by the local pastors a referendum defeated Sunday pictures here. Theatres were opened for Sunday afternoon screenings three months ago, at the insistence of leading citizens. City council declared that a vote would be taken. Sunday schedules were cancelled immediately following this week's election.

MESH

The work Altec Service is performing, under military secrecy, for the nation's armed forces *meshes* perfectly with the equally essential war-time work Altec Service carries on in the nation's theatres. The technical knowledge gained in both pursuits *meshes* perfectly with the knowledge that will be required to take the theatre through the technical evolutionary changes that lie ahead—both in the immediate and the remoter future.

ALTEC SERVICE CORPORATION

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Protecting the theatre — Our "first line of morale"

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

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Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 97 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1943 | TEN CENTS

14 Already Set by 20th For 1944-45

Lineup Includes Much Escapist Material

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 18.—Twenty-four pictures and "The Song of Bernadette," to be sold separately, are already are scheduled as definite for 1944-45 by 20th Century-Fox. Lead-off will be "Wilson," Darryl F. Zanuck's second after his return to the studio. He resumed active production with "The Purple Heart," 1943-44 release.

"Wilson," which has an eight-month shooting schedule, is slated to start Monday with Alexander Knox in the title role, and with Charles Coburn, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Thomas Mitchell, Vincent Price, Mary Anderson, Ruth Nelson and William Eythe in the cast. Henry King is directing in Technicolor.

Second on the list, which does not

(Continued on page 6)

Renew Marsh Appeal Board Term Today?

Approval of a petition for the extension of the term of Robert McC. Marsh as a member of the industry arbitration appeal board is expected following a hearing before Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard in U. S. District court here this afternoon.

The petition for the continuation of Marsh's term "until a further order of the court is entered" is to be made by the appeal board itself under pro-

(Continued on page 10)

Allied Against Rise In Admission Taxes

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 18.—The National Allied Board today went on record as saying that it sincerely believes there should be no increase in admission taxes. The present rate is as much as the public can stand without adversely affecting its acceptance of motion pictures as a medium of moderately priced entertainment and information.

Plans for prompt action on legislative matters in all territories were perfected and the need for accurate

(Continued on page 11)

Readying U. S. Films for Captured Lands Showing

Office of War Information has accepted an offer, advanced by European representatives of Axis-occupied countries, of the United Nations Information Service film committee to pass on the suitability for their respective countries of the 40 American features selected by Hollywood and OWI for showing abroad when the Allies wrest them from the Nazis, George J. Janecek, director of films for UNIS, said in an interview with MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday. The offer has already become effective.

OWI has already approved the 40 films in several European languages and many have already been shipped overseas to Allied-occupied countries.

(Continued on page 3)

Alperson Sets RKO Theatre Changes; McDonald Advanced

Charles B. McDonald, veteran metropolitan division manager for RKO Theatres, has been promoted to assistant to Edward L. Alperson, general manager, the latter announced yesterday.

The appointment headed a number of changes in the home office and metropolitan theatres setup of the circuit, some of which have been made while others still are in work. The new appointments are effective as of Monday.

Max Fellerman, metropolitan book-

(Continued on page 6)

124 Released, 198 In Work for '43-44

Totalling more than 70 per cent of 1943-44 product 11 companies have released, through November, 124 features with 118 completed or editing and 80 in production, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today. And less than three months of the playing season have been spent.

Columbia has released eight films,

(Continued on page 6)

Pioneers to Induct 47 at Tonight's Meet

Forty-seven candidates will be inducted into Picture Pioneers at the annual Harvest Dinner to be held tonight at the Waldorf-Astoria Starlight Roof. Two will receive gold honorary membership cards. One is Air Cadet Schilling Cohen, formerly of Loew's Paradise Theatre, Bronx, tail-gunner and aerial photographer, who completed 52 flights over enemy territory in the European and African war theatres and wears the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with

(Continued on page 6)

"Madame Curie"

[M-G-M]

DISTINCTION is added to the screen and its production horizons are widened with the appearance of M-G-M's "Madame Curie." The drama inherent in this most unusual and difficult screen subject is in the laboratories of scientists, almost within a single test tube. That drama not only is made apparent and understandable to all who view it in this production, but it also is made poignant in the failure of experiments, tense in the frustration and thrilling, even exalting, in success.

The story of Marie and Pierre's unflagging work over the years to give to the world that new element of matter, radium, has been humanized, made comprehensible and universally appealing by the skill of all those who contributed to its filming, a skill that preserved the essential dignity of the subject and the people who were a part of it. Much of the effect has been accomplished through the expert portrayal of the love and mutual respect for each other of Marie and Pierre Curie, depicted by Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon. It appears certain that it will add not only to the coffers of the theatres which play it, but to their standing in the community, as well.

Miss Garson completely convincing as the beautiful, serious-minded

(Continued on page 6)

Reorganizing Toronto Trade After Fire

Damage Is $150,000; One Man Killed

By W. M. GLADISH

TORONTO, Nov. 18.—Herbert Naiman, projectionist in the Monogram Pictures office here, died today from burns received in the $150,000 four-alarm fire which as reported exclusively in the trade press today by MOTION PICTURE DAILY, swept the Film Exchange Building last night.

All film vaults were found to be intact following the blaze and booking records in many offices can be salvaged, but many were lost by smoke and water.

Early this morning Col. John A.

(Continued on page 11)

Coe Denies He Is Quitting MPPDA

Charles F. Coe, vice-president and general counsel of the MPPDA, when questioned yesterday concerning a published report that he would leave the organization soon, said: "I have no thought of resigning at this time. My contract with the MPPDA has nearly two years to go."

Coe will leave next Thursday for

(Continued on page 10)

That's All, Brother!

The three-year trial period of the industry consent decree, which began Nov. 20, 1940, will end tomorrow. But that's all that will end. The operating provisions of the decree remain in full force and effect and will be continued until the Government and consenting companies agree on provisions for revising it or, failing that, on wending their ways to court.

New decree provisions are scheduled to be formally presented to Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark by company representatives in Washington early next week.

Personal Mention

EDWARD SCHNITZER, United Artists' Western division manager, will leave this weekend for a business trip to Chicago, Indianapolis, St. Louis and Omaha.

•

BOB KING, former Quigley Publications' correspondent, visited here yesterday. He is in the East, from Hollywood, shooting Technicolor backgrounds at Princeton for "The Life of Woodrow Wilson."

•

M. A. SILVER, Warner Pittsburgh zone manager, BEN STEERMAN, Pittsburgh contract manager, and CHARLES A. SMAKWITZ, Albany assistant zone head, arrived here yesterday for home office conferences.

•

SERGEANT ELIOT O. PREBLE, former theatre manager at Newburyport, Mass., is in a Nazi prison camp, according to word reaching Boston Film Row.

•

IRVING A. MAAS, 20th-Fox assistant director of foreign distribution, left yesterday for Mexico City on a ten-day business trip.

•

HENDERSON M. RICHEY, M-G-M director of exhibitor relations, left yesterday to attend the Allied Convention in Milwaukee.

•

JOHN LEROY JOHNSTON, publicity director for Frank Ross Productions, will leave for Hollywood today after a visit here.

•

A. A. SCHUBART, RKO manager of exchange operations, will return to New York Dec. 1 from a tour of exchanges.

•

SOL SCHWARTZ, RKO Theatres Western zone manager, is expected back from Cincinnati at the weekend.

•

CARL BERGER, Paramount news photo-reporter for short subjects, has arrived in Sarasota, Fla., from New York.

•

PHIL ENGEL, Warners' New England field representative, will leave here over the weekend for Buffalo.

•

JAMES WINN, United Artists' New England district manager, visited the home office yesterday.

•

GERTRUDE KLEINMAN, assistant editor of RKO's house organ, will leave for a vacation today.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal Canadian and Southern sales manager, is in Louisville.

•

WILLIAM S. SHARTIN, United Artists' New Haven branch manager, visited the home office yesterday.

•

ROBERT BUCKNER, Warner producer, has returned to the Coast from the East.

•

JACK LEVEL of RKO is confined to his home by illness.

U.S. Completes Its Racket Case Today

The government plans to rest its case early this morning against the seven Chicago racketeers and a Newark union official accused of extorting $1,000,000 from the industry in the trial in U. S. district court here, government attorneys stated yesterday.

Trial Adjourned

The trial was adjourned early yesterday afternoon until today, due to a sudden attack of illness which prevented a witness, George B. McLane, former boss of the Bartenders' Union in Chicago, from continuing his testimony. Prior to being stricken, McLane, who scuttled a 1940 attempt to take the Al Capone gang out of the labor movement, but who subsequently was ousted from the Bartenders' Union by the gang, suffered from stage fright when asked by Boris Kostelanetz, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, to identify some of the defendants in the courtroom.

Several years ago, after his ouster, McLane fought the Capone gang long enough to have some of them indicted in Chicago but, on the trial, he refused to identify any of the gangsters. He repeated his bad-memory routine yesterday.

"Is is fear that prompts you to refuse to identify these men?" asked Kostelanetz.

"No," replied McLane, slowly, glancing hastily toward the defendants.

Queried on Meeting

Kostelanetz had asked McLane about a meeting he had attended a few years ago at a Chicago restaurant at which McLane said he met Frank Nitti, Louis Campagna and Paul Ricca. Nitti, named in the indictment, committed suicide on the day the true bill was returned. The others are on trial. It was when Kostelanetz asked McLane to step down from the witness stand and identify Campagna and Ricca that McLane became panicky. Campagna and Ricca stared stonily at McLane.

"The two men on the end look like them," McLane said finally.

The two men "on the end" were Frank Diamond, Chicago gangster, and Louis Kaufman, business agent of Local 244, Motion Picture Operators Union of Newark.

Defense Undecided In Goldman Case

Philadelphia, Nov. 18.—Counsel for the Warner Theatre Circuit and the major distributors made no decision today as to whether they would enter a defense in the William Goldman anti-trust suit or will permit the case to go to the court as it now stands.

The trial was adjourned until Monday after Goldman unexpectedly rested his case after three days of trial. The defense will make its decision on its future course before the trial reopens Monday.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 18

ULRIC BELL, Coast head of the motion picture department of the Office of War Information, is due back here Monday from conferences with Elmer Davis in San Francisco regarding the order banning Jap atrocity pictures and other OWI matters.

•

Columbia is planning a comedy-drama about the first member of the WAC to return to the United States from overseas with a military decoration. The picture will be based on a story, "The WAC Comes Back," by William Bloom and Julian Blaustein.

•

Walter Thompson, for eight years with the Fox studio, today joined International as production assistant to William Goetz.

•

"Madame Curie," MGM's Academy contender, opens Dec. 16th at the Chinese, Loew's State, Uptown and Wilshire.

•

Producer Harry Sherman will leave the hospital Saturday following treatment for a fracture.

•

Republic today announced "Hep Cat Madness," an original musical, being scripted by Gertrude Walker.

•

Richard Rosson was today signed by Lester Cowan to direct "Here Is Your War."

•

Fox today signed Michael O'Shea for the leading role in "Where Do We Go from Here?"

•

Jackson Lighter will leave here Sunday for the East to confer with Orson Welles on Mercury's product.

•

Steve Edwards, Republic publicity representative, arrived here today from New York for two-weeks' visit.

•

Charles Skouras, president of Fox West Coast, is due here tomorrow.

•

M. J. Siegel, Republic production head, left here yesterday for the East.

•

William Henry today was given a seven-year contract by Republic.

Yergin Named W. B. Special Events Head

Promotion of Irving Yergin to head the special events bureau of the Warner home office publicity department, succeeding Will Yolen, now in service, was announced yesterday by Mort Blumenstock, head of advertising and publicity in the East.

Yergin's appointment was the second promotion made recently in line with the company's policy of elevating men from the ranks. He has been a member of the home office staff for the past year, coming here from the company's Chicago publicity office where he served for two years as field representative.

Before joining Warners, Yergin was a Chicago newspaper man and Midwest representative for Quigley Publications.

Deliveries of Raw Stock Better No

Due to a lessening of consump by Army, Navy and other Gove ment agencies of raw film, needs the industry are being met more ea and quickly now than they were months or a year ago, according representatives of Eastman Kodak Jules Brulatour. Although film c panies have been getting all the stock they required since the within the limits of War Product Board priorities, delivery has b speeded in the last few months.

William J. German, vice-presid and general manager of Brulat says that the point has been reac "where we have nothing to wo about in taking care of the ind try's requirements." Richard Br of Eastman warns, however, t availability of 16mm stock, Ko chrome and other film for gene public use is still uncertain. "have a little more of this stock av able now than we had a few mon ago," he said, "but there hasn't b much of a change yet in the total o put."

NEW YORK THEATRE

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
"CLAUDIA"
with DOROTHY McGUIRE
ROBERT YOUNG INA CLAIR
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Gala Stage Show Symphony Orchestr
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-460

'I DOOD IT'
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
Red SKELTON
Eleanor Powell
IN PERSON
WOODY HERMAN
Paul Winchell
Marion Hutton
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—CI 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

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'Lassie Come Home'
In Technicolor!
Roddy McDOWALL
Donald CRISP
In Person
LOU WALTERS presents
The Famous N. Y.
LATIN QUARTER REVUE
Starring
DAVE APOLLON

RICHARD TREGASKIS'
GUADALCANAL DIARY 20th
with
Preston FOSTER • Lloyd NOLAN
William BENDIX
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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ouse Receives New 0% Tax Measure

ASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—New tax providing for the doubling of the ent levy on admissions was for- ly introduced in the House today Chairman Robert L. Doughton, of Ways and Means Committee. The sure is scheduled to be taken up consideration next week.

the same time the Treasury is- new estimates of 1944 receipts n present taxes bearing out charges members of Congress that the de- tment consistently underestimates revenue on expectation of higher onal income next year. The Treas- revised its estimate of tax receipts ard by $2,637,300,000 which, with $2,047,500,000 which it figures will raised by the new tax bill, will vide new revenue to the extent lmost half the $10,500,000,000 Sec- ry Morgenthau has asked of Con- ss.

he bill was given the approval of Ways and Means Committee be- Doughton introduced it, but the rt on the measure explaining the cy followed with respect to the asury's recommendations, and the sequent action of the committee will be filed until late tomorrow.

onciliation for British Disputes

ONDON, Nov. 18.—British film in- ry is understood to have decided n establishing permanent conciliation machinery to deal with disputes veen exhibitors and distributors n as the present serious difficulties veen the Cinematograph Exhibitors ociation and the Kinematograph ters Society over exhibitor com- nts against the up-grading of films the renters.

his is the most significant move yet he stalemated conflict which neared isis this week after planned meet- s between the CEA and individual ributors were suddenly called off.

harles Kranz Quits Film Classics Post

harles Kranz, sales manager for n Classics, yesterday resigned his t. No successor has been chosen Kranz will announce his future s shortly.

ranz, before joining Film Classics, president of Select Attractions held sales posts with Goldwyn tures, American Newsreel and ted Artists. He also was a form- xchange manager in Cleveland for ducers Releasing and assistant to president of Pioneer Pictures.

lms Not Affected By Truck Rate Rise

nterstate Commerce Commission's nting of a general four per cent ease in common carrier truck rates New England and between points Eastern and Southeastern New k and Northern New Jersey and w England does not affect film riers, according to representatives lm carriers here.

Truck operators had asked for an ease of 12.5 per cent.

Readying U. S. Films for Captured Lands Showing

(Continued from page 1)

The films are now being considered for sub-titling and dubbing in additional languages. Nineteen have already been designated as okay in these additional languages. Due to Army regulations, the nature of the European languages cannot be divulged.

Nineteen films already approved by the OWI and submitted to UNIS film committee to determine whether any contents are objectionable to their respective countries, include the following: "You Were Never Lovelier" and "The More the Merrier," from Columbia; "Remember the Day," "Sun Valley Serenade" and "My Friend Flicka," 20th Century-Fox; "Young Tom Edison," "Seven Sweethearts" and "Pride and Prejudice," M-G-M; "The Gold Rush," United Artists; "I Married a Witch" and "Magic in Music," from Paramount; "Tom, Dick and Harry" and "No, No, Nanette," RKO; "It's a Date," "It Started With Eve," "Appointment for Love" and "If I Had My Way," Universal; "Air Force" and "Action in the North Atlantic," Warner Bros.

An arrangement similar to the one being adopted by UNIS and OWI here is in operation in London between the British Ministry of Information and the European film representatives on the Inter-Allied Information Committee to consider British-made pictures, Janecek revealed.

UNIS Film Unit Ready

"UNIS film committee, in existence here for the past two years, also stands ready to act as an advisory group when requested, to American film companies desiring to ascertain the suitability of films for exihition in any one or all of the 19 United Nations countries represented on the committe," Janecek explained.

Some insight into the type of American pictures which will not be exhibited in Allied-occuped countries can be gleaned from Janecek's opinion that films like "The Moon Is Down" and "Edge of Darkness" will not be suitable for exhibition in Norway, for instance, since "they would tend to disrupt the country rather than unify it."

Frudenfeld Is WAC Head in Cincinnati

Col. Arthur Frudenfeld, divisional director for the RKO Midwest Corp., has accepted the post of exhibitor chairman for the War Activities Committee in the Cincinnati exchange area, Si Fabian, WAC theatres division chairman, announced here yesterday.

Frudenfeld, who has been active in WAC affairs with the late Isaac Libson since the inception of the WAC, has been acting chairman of the area since Libson's death.

SMPE Meets April 25-27

Society of Motion Picture Engineers will hold its 55th semi-annual technical conference at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York on April 25-27, it was announced yesterday by W. C. Kunzmann, SMPE convention vice-president.

Warners Supported In Contract Action

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 18.— Olivia De Havilland's suit against Warners claiming legal termination of an even year contract by calendar expiration, notwithstanding suspensions which the studio contends prolongs the pact period by 26 weeks, promised to assume industry-wide proportions today when Loeb & Loeb, representing Loew's, M-G-M and Republic, filed petition as a friend of the court, setting forth views supporting the Warner stand.

Superior Judge Charles S. Burnell, who has the case under advisement said the final decision is some weeks off, prior to which he may again hold a court hearing to consider additional submissions. The Loeb brief cites seven suspensions taken by the actress during her contract, reiterates the Warner view that California law construes these as "time out" in the life of a contract, and calls the case precedential with far-reaching potentialities important to all talent employers. Screen Actors Guild previously filed a brief with the court, stating the opposite contention.

Monogram Hosts 250 At 2 Film Screenings

Monogram was host yesterday to 200 exhibitors, circuit buyers, club women and newswriters and radio commentators at a screening of "Women in Bondage" followed by a luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Among those present were: Edward L. Alperson, Harold Mirisch, Mathew Polan, Joe Becker, Jack Shea, Maury Shea, J. Benas, Al Reid, I. Renner, J. Hattem, S. Steifel, L. J. Furman, Norman Elson, Don Jacocks, Harry Brandt, John Nolan and Martin Harris.

Last night the company screened "Unknown Guest" for 50 members of the New York chapter of the American Institute of Banking at Lloyd's projection room. The screening was followed by a dinner at the Hotel Edison, arranged by Madeline White, Eastern publicity representative.

Some-Run Complaint Withdrawn in Detroit

Some-run complaint of Detroit Consolidated Theatres, Inc., operating the Grand Theatre, Detroit, against 20th-Fox has been withdrawn at the Detroit arbitration tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday. Withdrawal followed an agreement, the terms of which were not disclosed.

SLRB Laffmovie Vote

State Labor Relations Board will hold an election of employees of the Laffmovie Theatre in New York today to determine a collective bargaining agent between Motion Picture Theatre Managers and Employees Guild and Local 171B, IATSE.

Ask Maximum Use of Non-theatrical Films

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Representatives of the eight national non-theatrical film organizations closed a two-day meeting with OWI officials today with adoption of a program calling for maximum use of non-theatrical films and complete mobilization of all 16mm projectors in the country for the war information program.

Group met with Stanton Griffis, chief of the OWI Bureau of Motion Pictures, and C. R. Reagan, head of the non-theatrical division, to discuss distribution of the large library of non-theatrical films which the OWI has built up.

Organization representatives comprising the national advisory and policy committee on non-theatrical films urged the release of additional informational films treating military developments and problems of the home front in "realistic fashion" and recommended that films produced and released by Government agencies be channeled through the OWI to the 236 cooperating 16mm distributors.

Committee also stressed the desirability of making full utilization of existing media, radio and motion pictures to meet the demands of the public for completed and detailed information on the progress of the war.

South America Seen As Rich 16mm Field

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Nathan D. Golden, chief of the film unit of the Bureau of Foreign Commerce surveys the 16mm film and sound-equipment picture in Latin America in an article titled "Post-War Visual Education Potentialities" in this week's issue of Foreign Commerce Weekly and foresees "a waiting market for American equipment and manufacturers and pedagogic film producers" in that field.

Golden finds that in 21 Central and South American countries the retarding factor for the moment is "insufficient funds to equip properly the schools of Latin America with visual education equipment. The program of showing educational films now being carried on by the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs in Latin American countries is doing more to develop the use of motion pictures in teaching, than any medium yet devised, he declared.

'U' Eastern Division District Men to Meet

A meeting of Universal district managers in the company's Eastern sales division will be held at the home office this morning with Fred Meyers, Eastern division manager, presiding, it was announced here yesterday.

Among district heads who will be present are: Salem Applegate, David Levy, Dave Miller and Barney Rose, and several home office sales officials.

Shea Managers Meet

E. C. Grainger, president and general manager of the Shea Theatrical Enterprises held a meeting of Shea managers in Zanesville, Ohio, this week. Managers from Southeastern Ohio who attended were Joe Scanlon, Jr., Forney Bowers, John Woodward, E. J. Hiehle, Duke Prince, Harold Schneider, Dale Tysinger and R. C. Hickman. Grainger left Zanesville to visit Shea houses in Pittsburgh and Youngstown.

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

BANG! "LASSIE COME HOME"
BANG! "SALUTE TO THE MARINES"
BANG! "SWING SHIFT MAISIE"
BANG! SAY HAPPY NEW YEAR WITH "THOUSANDS CHEER"
MGM
RECORD PACKIN' PAPA!
HITS! HITS! HITS!

24 Already Set by 20th For 1944-45

(*Continued from page* 1)

necessarily indicate contemplated order of release, will be "One World." Zanuck will produce, as previously reported. Production is scheduled for January. So far, no cast has been set. "Greenwich Village," as reported Tuesday, is a musical co-starring Don Ameche, Carmen Miranda and William Bendix. In Technicolor, William Le Baron is producing and Walter Lang directing. A second Technicolor musical will be "Where Do We Go from Here?" Kurt Weill and Ira Gershwin will furnish the score, and William Perlberg produce, but the cast designations are yet to come. Betty Grable is the probable star in "Something for the Boys," which makes it a musical, of course, and very likely in color. Perlberg will produce. Aside from production by Joseph Mankiewicz and Gregory Peck's assignment to the role of Father Chisholm, no further plans have been determined for "Keys to the Kingdom," another entry in the 1944-45 lineup.

Benny Goodman in Musical

Benny Goodman will star and Le Baron produce "Moment for Music," obviously a musical and based on Goodman's life and career. Louis D. Lightman, inactive for some time, returns as a producer with "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn." Aside from an intention to make it for the season following this, no further plans have been developed as yet. Another musical on Perlberg's list will be "Louisville Lou." "A Wing and a Prayer," drawn from Jimmy McHugh's song hit, will be produced by Walter Morosco and directed by Henry Hathaway. William Bendix and Perry Como are the likelies for male leads in "Bowery After Dark," designed as a musical in color with Morosco as producer. As reported earlier, this will be a song version of "The Bowery," previously made by Zanuck and released in 1933.

Monty Woolley will play the lead in "Centennial Summer," which Otto Preminger will produce. Perlberg will produce as a Technicolor musical, "State Fair," adapted from the drama of the title made by Fox and released 10 years ago. Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II will write the score. Michael O'Shea and Peggy Ann Garner will have the leads in "Nob Hill," drama of San Francisco in color. Andre Daven will produce. "House of Chedworth" is in the dramatic division. Robert Bassler will produce and, if a loanout can be arranged, Ida Lupino will star.

'The Bandwagon' in Color

"The Bandwagon," another musical in color, will be produced and directed by Gregory Ratoff. Planned as Ernst Lubitsch's next, illness carries the assignment over to Preminger. This will be a war-time comedy in color. Miss Grable currently is pencilled in as star of "Diamond Horseshow." still another musical in Technicolor. Perlberg will produce. William Bacher, former radio producer, will make "Stars and Stripes Forever," drama-musical, based on the life of John Philip Sousa. It will be in color. Damon Runyon will produce "Chica Chico," musical.

"Laura" is a mystery to be made by Preminger. Woolley will be starred. "Son of Flicka," sequel to "My Friend Flicka," with Roddy McDowall, Preston Foster and Miss Garner. Bassler will produce in color, and Louis King will direct. "Tower of Steel," drama, is on Bacher's list either before or after "Stars and Stripes Forever."

"The Song of Bernadette" will be roadshown here and in New York, at least.

"Madame Curie"

(*Continued from page* 1)

science student, who meets Professor Curie, and is aided by him in her work . Their laboratory association progresses to romance, and romance to marriage. Then begins their untiring work over a period of years, involving great labor under difficult conditions, to discover and isolate radium. Their trials, disappointments, discouragement; their inability to admit failure, then their eventual success, all are brought to the screen in a manner to be understood and shared by all who behold, for it is a manner that is of the essence of drama.

There follows the accidental death of Pierre Curie on the streets of Paris; the determination of Marie to carry on with her two small children, and the ultimate acclaim bestowed upon her by an appreciative world as exemplified by its great men of science. The picture's total effect is inspirational, as well as being a complete dramatic experience.

MERVYN LEROY'S direction is superb. It carries the difficult theme, fraught with pitfalls for even such able performers as those who adorn the production, through to a splendid whole. Miss Garson is always the scientist, yet always essentially the woman, greatly devoted to her husband. Pidgeon is equally fine as the scientist-husband. A splendid supporting cast endows the production with a warmth and humanness which the professorial background requires. Albert Basserman, as the kindly professor who befriends Madame Curie as a girl student in Paris and throughout her later life, is particularly impressive. Henry Travers and Dame May Whitty are splendid as the parents of Pierre Curie, and so, in lesser parts, are Robert Walker, C. Aubrey Smith, Victor Francen, Elsa Basserman, Reginald Owen, Van Johnson and Magaret O'Brien.

Particular credit is due Paul Osborn and Paul H. Rameau for their screenplay, based on the book, "Madame Curie," by Eve Curie, and to Sidney Franklin for a production that has the earmarks of a cinematic event in all departments. Herbert Stothart's musical score and Joseph Ruttenberg's photography direction are on the high plane of the production as a whole. Introductory and other narration is spoken by James Hilton.

Running time, 126 minutes. "G."* SHERWIN KANE

*"G" denotes general classification.

Many Musicals, Much Color Next Season

If the subject matter of the 24 features lined up to date by 20th Century-Fox for 1944-45 is any barometer on what Hollywood has in mind for next season, exhibitors can expect many musicals and an unprecedented number of color features.

Ten of the 24 are pegged as musicals, one as a musical-drama and ten are to be in color. Out-and-out war material is practically out, except for what might be contained in Wendell Willkie's "One World," and war material of varying nature in one or two others.

Equity to Meet

Council of the Actors' Equity Association will hold a quarterly meeting Friday, Dec. 17, at the Hotel Astor.

124 Released, 198 In Work for '43-44

(*Continued from page* 1)

with 13 editing and seven shooting for a total of 28, as against 44 announced. M-G-M has 12 released, 16 editing and six shooting, a total of 34, with 36 announced. Monogram lists seven released, seven completed and six in production, totalling 20 with 40 announced.

Paramount has 10 released, 16 editing and 12 shooting, a total of 38 against a scheduled 30. PRC has 10 released and six completed, with 40 announced. Republic has 12 released, 11 editing and seven in production, a total of 30, with 68 scheduled. RKO has released 11, completed 10 and is shooting eight, totalling 29, with an announced 40.

United Artists lists eight released, eight editing and four shooting, making 20, with 25-30 announced. Twentieth-Fox has 14 released, nine completed and seven in production, a total of 30, with 36-40 announced. Universal has 17 released, nine editing and 16 shooting, totalling 42, with 55 announced. Warners lists 15 released, 13 completed and seven in production, making 35, against a scheduled 24-31.

Photographers' Benefit

Screen, stage and radio stars will appear at the annual dance of the Press Photographers Association of New York to be held Feb. 4 at the Waldorf-Astoria. Proceeds from the affair will be turned over to the American Theatre Wing War Service, which operates stage door canteens.

Alperson Sets RK Theatre Change McDonald Advance

(*Continued from page* 1)

er for the circuit, has resigned. H successor has not been named yet l reports are that J. La Mont, co-he of the metropolitan booking depa ment, will be placed in full charge the department. A. W. Dawson, merly assistant treasurer of B. Keith Corp. and Keith-Albee-C pheum Corp., has been elected tre urer. Dawson fills the vacan created by the recent appointment Leon Goldberg as RKO Radio stu manager in Hollywood.

McDonald, whose division includ all RKO theatres in Manhattan a a part of the Bronx, comes to t home office as general assistant Alperson. His divisional success was not announced but it was report that it may be split between H. Emde, who has the Westchester, U per Bronx and Northern New Jers division, and Louis Goldberg, charge of the Brooklyn and Quee division.

Pioneers to Induc 47 at Tonight's Mee

(*Continued from page* 1)

ten clusters and Squadron citatio The other is Staff Sergeant Le Goldberg, recently honorably di charged as a result of wounds r ceived in the Solomons. Goldbe is now with 20th-Fox. Among h decorations are the Distinguished Fl ing Cross, Air Medal, Silver St and Purple Heart with three cluste and the Distinguished Service Cro

Guests of honor on the dais wi Jack Cohn, house manager of Pictu Pioneers, will be Capt. Eddie Ricke backer, Judge Ferdinand Pecor Harry Cohn, Jimmy Walker, Barn Balaban, Harry M. Warner, Adol Zukor, Capt. Leland P. Lovett U.S.N., Col Kirke B. Lawton, C R. H. Magee, Lt. Col. Frank Capr Lt. Col. Emanuel Cohen, Col. S. Singer, Lou Nizer, Gregory Rato and Bill Robinson.

New Members Inducted

New members to be inducted are Leslie Winik, Michael Edelstein, H Russell Emde, Louis Goldberg, Harr M. Pimstein, F. L. McNamee, W. A White, Edmund H. Reek, Russell A Muth, Capt. Emanuel H. Jacobs, Jac G. Leo, Arthur Ungar, W. B. Brer ner, M. S. Fine, Lt. Col. Emanu Cohen, H. L. Needles, U. F. Smit S. N. Wheeler, Tony Sudekum, Wa ter J. Moore, Harry M. Warner, Wir field R. Sheehan, John Eberson, W J. Kupper, W. C. Gehring, John A Norling, I. M. Rappaport, Beverl Griffith, Jack Davis, Dave Miller, H K. Abbott, Allyn Butterfield, Mc Goldman, Harry Ross, W. J. Heine man, Jack Levy, Robert Daru, G. F Giroux, Gradwell Sears, Lee L. Gold berg, John L. McCurdy, W. A Scully, William Finkel, H. R. Eber stein, J. J. O'Connor, Fred Meyer and John LeRoy Johnston.

To Re-issue 'Snow White

RKO will re-issue "Snow Whit and the Seven Dwarfs" sometime afte Jan. 1.

"Some one to remember at Christmas"

He's the Star of the Greatest Show on Earth. He's the lad whose sacrifice makes your happy holiday possible.

Remember him by reminding your patrons to buy War Bonds for Christmas Gifts.

Show your audience the powerful trailer starring Bette Davis. FREE at National Screen Branches, its powerful message cannot be resisted. Get the gratis holiday War Bond wrappers from Federal Reserve Banks. Use the free posters and campaign book.

When Christmas comes to your family it will be all the merrier in the knowledge that you saluted the Star in the Window with showmanship at your Bond Booth!

War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, New York City

ROY ROGERS
KING OF THE COWBOYS
MAKE HIS
HARRY
ARTHUR
N PERSON! ROY ROGER

AND TRIGGER

SMARTEST HORSE IN THE MOVIES

RY IN ST. LOUIS!

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H J YATES

REPUBLIC PRODUCTION INC

4024 RADFORD AVE

NO HOLLYWOOD CALIF

IN ROY ROGERS AND TRIGGER YOU HAVE THE GREATEST COWBOY STAR AND HORSE COMBINATION SINCE TOM MIX AND TONY. LINES BLOCKS LONG WAITING TO GET INTO FOX THEATRE CAN BEST TESTIFY TO THEIR TREMENDOUS DRAWING WITH ADULTS OUTNUMBERING CHILDREN IN ATTENDANCE. ON THE SCREEN THEY ARE ACCLAIMED WITH ENTHUSIASM EQUAL TO THEIR STAGE APPEARANCE. ENGAGEMENT HERE OF ROGERS AND TRIGGER RANKS WITH THE BIGGEST ATTRACTIONS EVER TO PLAY THIS 5000 SEAT THEATRE. I BELIEVE NO SHOWMAN IN THE COUNTRY CAN NOW OVERLOOK THE BOXOFFICE CAPACITY AND THE EXPLOITATION POSSIBILITIES OF THIS POPULAR TEAM. THEATRE-GOERS HERE ARE GIVING FULL RECOGNITION AND THE PRESS TOO WITH FRONT PAGE PUBLICITY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE THEATRICAL HISTORY OF ST LOUIS. MY CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND THE REPUBLIC ORGANIZATION FOR THE SPLENDID HANDLING OF ROY ROGERS AND TRIGGER.

HARRY C ARTHUR JR GENERAL MANAGER
FANCHON AND MARCO

$1,300 Over Par for 'Pursuit' on Dual

NEW HAVEN, Nov. 18.—"Northern Pursuit" and "Always a Bridesmaid" took $7,700 at the Roger Sherman, over par by $1,300. At Loew's Poli, "Guadalcanal Diary" and "Dancing Masters" beat the "no more war pictures" bugaboo to a $10,000 take, over by $700, and the bill moves to the College for a second week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 18:

"The Man From Down Under" (M-G-M)
"Harvest Melody" (PRC)
BIJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,800. (Average, $3,500)
"In Old Chicago" (20th-Fox)
"Banjo on My Knee" (20th-Fox)
COLLEGE—(1,565) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,300. (Average, $3,200)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
LOEW POLI (3,005) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $9,300)
"Hostages" (Para.)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,373) (40c-55c) 9 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $6,800)
"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
ROGER SHERMAN—(2,037) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $7,700. (Average, $6,400)

Two-thirds of N. Y. Tele. Sets Working

More than two-thirds of the 5,000 television receivers in the New York area are in good operating condition with only 11 per cent out of commission, John T. Williams of NBC's television department reveals here.

An NBC survey also reveals that the average family group viewing television programs comprises eight persons, (six adults and two children) as compared to an audience of 41 adults and five children attracted to images on televisors in public places.

GTI Retires Bonds

TORONTO, Nov. 18.—General Theatre Investment Co. here, through Thomas J. Bragg, its president, has called for the redemption of first mortgage serial bonds maturing in 1944-45-46 on Dec. 1. Premium of two per cent for the 1944 issue and 2½ per cent for the two following years will be paid.

New Russian Film Here

"Heroes Are Made," an Ashkbad Studio production, directed by Mark Donskoy, and released by Artkino Pictures, Inc., will open at the Stanley Theatre following the present run.

Off the Antenna

TOTAL of 112 hours were devoted to the war effort by the Blue web in October, compared to 81 hours a year ago. . . . Board of directors of the Philco Corp. have declared a dividend of 20 cents per share on common stock payable Dec. 13 to stockholders of record Nov. 27. Previous dividend payments this year were at 15 cent per share. FCC has approved the sale of WMCA to the Cosmopolitan Broadcasting Corp., and at the same time has denied the petition of Donald Flamm, owner of WMCA prior to 1941, to intervene in the proceeding. FCC found that "Cosmopolitan Broadcasting Corp. is legally, financially, and technically qualified to operate WMCA and that the proposed assignment is in the public interest."

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Purely Personal: *Edward J. Mc. Crossin, Jr., attorney in NBC's New York office, has been assigned to handle legal work in NBC's Central division in Chicago. . . . Julian Boone has been appointed to the sales promotion staff of WJZ in New York, replacing Robert L. Hutton, Jr., who has become a copywriter on the Blue web sales promotion staff. . . . Murry Salberg has joined WOR's publicity staff as feature service editor.*

• • •

Program Notes: CBS, in conjunction with Henry Souvaine, Inc., will present a weekly serial based on the characters of M-G-M's "Mrs. Miniver" starting Dec. 3. Sustainer will present a complete episode each week dealing with the experiences of the Miniver family in the United States where they will meet wartime conditions as they were and are. . . . Burns and Allen, Danny O'Neil, Elsie Janis, Edgar Bergen, Charlie McCarthy, Ed Gardner, Ginny Simms, Alvina Rey, Robert Young, Jose Iturbi and Susanna Foster will be heard on a special two-hour CBS show sponsored by Elgin Watch Co. on Thanksgiving Day. . . . Franchot Tone and Maureen O'Sullivan will play the lead roles in a radio adaptation of "Immortal Sergeant" on CBS "Screen Guild Players" program Nov. 22. . . . Betty Grable has been set for a CBS "Silver Theatre" broadcast this Sunday. . . .

'I Dood It' Does $9,500 for Week

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 18.—"I Dood It" at the Criterion with $9,500 and "Guadalcanal Diary" at the Midwest with $9,000 were both top-notch grossers for well over the average mark this week. "In Old Oklahoma" at the Tower for a second week held up good for $3,500. Weather began to get cold here and there was no other competition.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 17:

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
CRITERION—(1,500) (25c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average, $8,300)
"Battle for Russia" (20th-Fox)
"Henry Aldrich Swings It" (Para.)
LIBERTY—(1,200) (20c-25c) 7 days. Gross: $3,600. (Average, $3,500)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
MIDWEST—(1,500) (25c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $8,300)
"Victory Through Airpower" (RKO)
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
STATE—(1,100) (25c-45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,750. (Average, $6,500)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
TOWER—(1,000) (20c-25c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average, $2,900)

Coe Denies He Is Quitting MPPDA

(*Continued from page* 1)

his Palm Beach, Fla., home to spend the holidays and plans to return to New York after the first of the year, he said.

Commenting on a report that he might accept a post involving war work, Coe said it has been his desire to serve in a useful capacity in that connection and to contribute his services wherever they would do the most good, but that he has no specific offer under consideration at this time. Coe joined the MPPDA in March, 1942, at the invitation of the special industry "committee of five," consisting of home office and West Coast counsel. He was given a three-year contract.

He has directed a national campaign for betterment of the industry's public relations, during the past year, as a part of which he has appeared before numerous public groups in all parts of the country to bring the story of the industry's war contributions before key civic organizations.

Renew Marsh Appeal Board Term Today?

(*Continued from page* 1)

visions of subdivision seven of Section 22 of the consent decree, which permits one or more members of the board to move for appointment of a board member to fill a vacancy. Marsh's term will expire tomorrow, he having been appointed by the court to serve the unexpired portion of the three-year term of the late Van Vechten Veeder, who was named Nov. 20, 1940.

Radio for 'MOT'

March of Time's November release, "Youth in Crisis," will inaugurate a new policy of radio campaigns to precede each March of Time issue. Regular March of Time program will feature highlights of all new releases.

OWI-Radio Helping To Beat Japs: Davis

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18.—Prediction that the Office of War Information here will continue to gain importance as the South Pacific war heightens, with outposts at Hawaii and Australia being strengthened, was made by Elmer Davis in a Commonwealth Club talk here today.

Davis revealed that the British are stationing a hand-picked staff of short wave experts at the OWI headquarters in San Francisco to work with American broadcasters propagandizing the Far East for ultimate Japanese defeat.

He declared that letters from listeners smuggled out of Occupied China prove that American programs are heard there. Result of OWI programs will be a situation in which all Asiatics who prefer to be on the American side can help defeat Japan and shorten the war as American range operations extend closer to the central position of the Japs, Davis added.

RKO Policy Changes At Cincinnati Houses

RKO has inaugurated a stage show policy at the first-run Albee in downtown Cincinnati with the initial bill of "Iron Major" on the screen and Glen Gray and his band on the stage, E. L. Alperson, general manager of RKO Theatres, reported yesterday. The move was made from the smaller-capacity Shubert, which is now a moveover house, following the Palace.

Plans will be completed over the weekend, on the return of Sol Schwartz, RKO Western zone manager, for other theatre policy changes in Cincinnati where RKO operates nine houses. It is understood that the Lyric will use films on a moveover from the Capitol and the Keith will be a moveover house following the Grand. The Family will continue to be operated first-run.

Blue Leases Theatre

Blue Network has leased the 900-seat Ritz Theatre in New York to accommodate the increase in programs requiring studio audiences, with the Philco Corp. "Radio Hall of Fame" which goes on the air Dec. 5, being the first program set for the theatre.

'Around World' Advanced

Trade showings for the New York area of RKO Radio's musical, "Around the World," starring Kay Kyser, originally scheduled for Monday, Dec. 6, have been moved forward to Tuesday, Nov. 23.

Oscars to Be Given Minus Food Spread

Hollywood, Nov. 18.—Annual awards by Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, scheduled for March 2, will take place in a theatre instead of the traditional banquet hall. Decision by the Academy board to forego the dinner which has been a feature of the affair for 15 years, was based on wartime shortages, both of victuals and waiters to serve them.

(Change in Date)

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING

OF

"AROUND THE WORLD"

WILL BE HELD

TUES., NOV. 23, at 11 A. M. and 2:30 P. M.

at RKO Projection Room, 630 Ninth Ave., New York City, and not on December 6, as previously advertised.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Nov. 18

AST three Westerns in Universal's series of seven for 1943-44 will before the cameras shortly after ew Year's. They are now in the st stages of script preparation under pervision of associate producer ver Drake with J. Karth, maga-e writer and William Lively, reenplay writer, scripting. Tentative les are "Trail to Gunsight," "Boss Boomtown" and "Rodeo Cyclone,' to star Tex Ritter with Fuzzy night featured.

•

Three new pictures are on the stages Warners with two others scheduled start within a week or so. New es rolling are: "Hollywood Can-n," starring Ann Sheridan with lmer Daves directing for Jesse L. sky; "The Horn Blows at Mid-ght," with Jack Benny starred and oul Walsh directing for Mark Hel-ger and "My Reputation," starring rbara Stanwyck with Curtis Bern-rdt directing for Henry Blanke. ac two in final stages of preparation e: "Cinderella Jones," which Busby rkeley will direct for Producer lex Gottlieb and "Mask for Dimit-os," with Jean Negulesco doing his st as a feature director for Pro-ecr Henry Blanke.

•

Walt Wanger has changed the tle of his picture about the Wo-en's Air Ferry command from When Ladies Fly" to "Ladies Cour-geous," for early Universal re-ase. . . . Hal Holley has arrange-ents nearly complete for the Hol-wood Palladium's "Yankee Doodle all" for servicemen's benefit on ec. 9 with the Harry James, Teddy well and Spike Jones bands fea-red and a number of studio celeb-ties as guests of honor. Funds to the Hollywood Guild Canteen; ars will be furnished through the ollywood Victory Committee.

heaffer Sells 1,400 'U' Shares

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 19.—Sale by niel M. Sheaffer, Philadelphia di-ctor in Universal Pictures, of 1,400 iversal common voting trust certi-ates, leaving him with 18,700, was e largest film corporation transac-n reported by the Securities and change Commission in its Septem-r summary.

Another September transaction re-rted was the purchase by Loew's, 296 shares of Loew Boston The-es common stock of which the par-t company now holds 120,010 shares.

Belated reports filed for Keith-Al-e-Orpheum showed the sale by Wil-m F. Whitman, New York director, 30 shares of preferred in July and shares in August, ending his hold-gs in that class.

Reports on the holdings of persons coming officers or directors of reg-ered companies showed no stocks ld by George D. Burrows, Los An-les, when he became an officer in onogram Pictures on Aug. 31, or alcolm Kingsberg, New York, who came an officer in Radio-Keith-Or-eum on Sept. 20.

Allied Board Is Against Rise in Admission Taxes

(Continued from page 1)

statistics on all matters affecting Allied members was discussed with methods for securing same.

Suggestion was made for special committees to be formed in all territories for the purpose of following up bulletins which come out of Washington. This is especially necessary where activities in this respect have been lacking.

Proposal of an enlarged bulletin service, made at the last quarterly meeting, was not acted upon. Consideration was deferred until the annual meeting to be held in January.

Chairman M. A. Rosenberg reported on the progress of the Caravan committee with the agreement being made that its missionary work be continued.

Cites OPA Study

In a general discussion of film rentals, Col. H. A. Cole called attention to a study being made by the OPA. Although it has no power to control prices in the industry, the study is expected to result in definite recommendations being made by that board. Here the discussion included contract provisions and trade practices.

Economic conditions affecting the industry were also presented by Col. Cole. In this respect the prevailing wage rates and the manpower situation were covered. Rotus Harvey told of the practice which is being tried on the West Coast of classifying the industry second to essential war work in the matter of inductions.

The policy of blind pricing failed of approval before the board.

Date for the next meeting, which is the regular annual meeting of the entire association, will be set by A. F. Myers, general counsel, after a canvass of the executive committee.

ITPA Opens Fifth Annual Convention

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 18.—The first session of the fifth annual convention of the Independent Theatres Protective Association of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan was opened by President William L. Ainsworth with a report on the most successful year in the organization's history. Nearly 200 independent exhibitors and representatives of other branches of the industry were present. The organization was reported in excellent financial condition with several outstanding accomplishments in the past season to its credit. Adverse tax legislation was halted and plans of the state legislature for future action are being carefully studied. The trend toward higher rentals with its effect on individual situations has had the attention of the entire board with beneficial results.

Harry Perlowitz, secretary, reported the growth to where 60 per cent of the exhibitors of the state are now represented. A reduction of from two to 19 cents per $100 in insurance rates on booth equipment only has been secured for 96 theatres. The association is working with the state insurance commissioner on other parts of theatre property.

Paul Mooney spoke on the service which National Screen is rendering under wartime conditions.

Reviews Tax Situation

The tax situation in Washington was reviewed by Dave Palfreyman of the MPPDA. Any further consideration of the proposal, which has been reduced from a 30 per cent to a 20 per cent tax on admissions, will be made in the House of Representatives under rules which will permit very limited debate. Following this it will go to the Senate Finance Committee where its action may be behind closed doors. Expeditors can do their share in presenting the industry's stand by telling members of this committee just how the public will take it in their own communities.

Charles Trampe, vice-president, reported on the unfair competition of games of chance in Wisconsin. Efforts of the association have been successful in combating them with the State Supreme Court ruling that they were gambling whether they were sponsored by clubs, civic groups, churches, etc., or not.

Urges Showing of Delinquency Films

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 18.—In line with National Allied's program in support of the production and wide circulation of short subjects teaching youngsters to refrain from vandalism, M. A. Rosenberg, Allied president, has issued an appeal to all exhibitors to show two new anti-delinquency shorts: "Children of Mars," RKO Pathe and "Youth in Crisis," March of Time-20th-Fox.

He said that both reels are the result of requests by exhibitors to producers to make such subjects available and which requests were transmitted to studios by a committee headed by Jack Kirsch, Illinois Allied president.

Mexico Making Shorts

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 28.—Sponsored by the Government, short subjects featuring Mexican composer-musicians, have been produced here.

Feature on Delinquency

CHICAGO, Nov. 18.—"Teen Age," feature treating with juvenile delinquency, has been booked for a Loop run at the Studio Theatre, following the Paramount reissues of "Union Pacific" and "College Swing" which are also having their repeat first run there. It was produced by J. D. Kendis of Continental Pictures in Hollywood.

Al Dezel Road Shows is handling Midwest distribution of "Teen Age" which is the first picture bearing the seal of the Hays office to be distributed by this organization.

Exhibitors in Housing

WATERBURY, Nov. 18.—Schwartz & Quatrano, Inc., of Waterbury has filed with the secretary of state a certificate of organization showing Fred Quatrano of the Lido, Waterbury, president, and Robert M. Schwartz of the Park, Thomaston, secretary-treasurer. The new corporation is engaged in a Government defense housing project.

Reorganize After Fire In Toronto

(Continued from page 1)

Cooper, chairman of the Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, began arrangements for reorganizing the trade here with cooperation coming from film companies whose offices were not burned out, and to provide for servicing of films to all 425 theatres in Ontario.

In the building were United Artists, Monogram Pictures, Universal, Republic, M-G-M, Pioneer Films, Alliance Films, Producers Releasing Corp., Esquire Films, Cosmopolitan Films, Peerless Films, Sovereign Films, Mavety Film Delivery Service, Perkins Electric Co., Canadian *Moving Picture Digest*, Odeon Theatres of Canada and associated theatres.

The flames did not reach nearby buildings accommodating 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, Warner Bros. and Columbia, and these companies will carry the load until the other companies reorganize and those with print losses bring in a fresh stock of prints.

Meeting Called Off

Somewhat ironical was the scheduled meeting of the Film Board of Trade at noon today to deal with safety measures as well as Government controls and trade problems, but this was called off for an emergency meeting of all general managers to work out distribution cooperation. Government inspectors worked through the night in a preliminary examination of the building to determine the cause of the blaze.

Telegrams sent to exhibitors throughout Ontario said film shipments will not be interrupted although picture substitutions are necessary in some cases.

Despite shortages of building materials and furnishings steps were immediately taken to restore offices because the building proper had been found safe, though charred and windows and doors blown. Temporary offices of the Odeon theatres have been opened in the Royal Bank Building while others have taken available space at 105 Bond street nearby. Combined telephone exchange in film building today became a single live wire.

Accessories Destroyed

Big distribution loss was the destruction of huge quantities of advertising accessories, including stills, posters, ad mats and press books. Many cannot be replaced, particularly for reissue films and for British and Soviet pictures.

Silence prevails regarding the number of films left outside of vaults because of alleged crowded conditions and it is understood that even the film companies are yet unable to ascertain the extent of such loss. Films ready for late night shipment and also just received from outside points are included in this loss. At height of fire film delivery trucks loaded with prints arrived on the scene but were taken to the 20th-Fox Building on Bond street for temporary keeping.

This was the first real film exchange fire in Canada. There is no talk as yet of erecting individual exchange suits in outlying sections.

THI$ TELL$ THE WHOLE $TORY!

WESTERN UNION

1201

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NT = Overnight Telegram
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

A. N. WILLIAMS, PRESIDENT
NEWCOMB CARLTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

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DIDN'T THINK WE COULD DO ANY BETTER BUSINESS THAN WE DID WITH "HERS TO HOLD" OR CORVETTE K-225" BUT WE WERE WRONG. STOP YOUR MAGNIFICENT "FLESH AND FANTASY" TOPPED BOTH TO SET A NEW OPENING DAY RECORD AT LOEW'S CRITERION THEATRE STOP BOX OFFICE SMASHES ARE GETTING TO BE A HABIT WITH UNIVERSAL BEST REGARDS=CHARLES B MOSS.
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K-225.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

FLESH AND FANTASY!

THE PRESENT WITH A FUTURE.
WAR BONDS FOR CHRISTMAS.

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Fir
Film and
Radio News
Brief,
Accurate
and
Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert,
Intelligent
and
Indispensable
to the Motion
Picture
Industry

L. 54. NO. 98 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1943 | TEN CENTS

nother 'Free lovie Day' for ond Selling

orthwest Is First on Special Promotion

irst formal call to exhibitors to the Government's "A Present h a Future" special Thanksgiv-to-Christmas war bond cam-gn by staging another "Free vie Day" was sounded at the ekend with receipt of a report by War Activities Committee here m John Friedl, WAC North-st chairman, that Dec. 21 has n so designated in the Northwest a in support of the drive.

Exhibitors elsewhere are ex-ected to quickly fall in line, uplicating their efforts in the hird War Loan, when their Free Movie Day" resulted in ales of millions of dollars in onds in return for admission o theatres without charge.

VAC said Friday that the project

(Continued on page 8)

TO of Wisconsin enames Ainsworth

ILWAUKEE, Nov. 21.—William L. sworth was re-elected president to e his fifth consecutive year as was ry Perlewitz, executive secretary; rles Trampe was re-elected vice-sident; Russell Leddy, owner of Orpheum Theatre, Green Bay, elected secretary to succeed Mark rgan, and George Langheinrich, er of the Burleigh Theatre, Mil-kee, was elected treasurer to suc-

(Continued on page 8)

ickenbacker Pays Tribute to Films

apt. Eddie Rickenbacker paid ing tribute to motion pictures the industry in wartime at the ual Harvest Dinner of the Picture neers at the Waldorf-Astoria Fri-night.

ecounting the fact that he is prob-the only living person who has ted every fighting front in this , Rickenbacker stated that he has d the greatest morale builder on

(Continued on page 8)

U. S. Fifth Army in Italy Asks for More And Newer Pictures

Soldiers of the U. S. Fifth Army fighting in Italy, who, Maj. Ray Novotny, special services officer, states are now receiving only three pictures a month, want more features, and newer ones, it is disclosed in a broadcast from Italy to the *New York Times*.

Troops are hungry for newsreels, cartoons and band shorts, since they like music, and they crave reasons for laughter in their entertainment, Maj. Novotny reports. They do not want dramatic war pictures or Westerns, he added.

Pictures listed as making the biggest hits include: "Girl Trouble," with Don Ameche and Joan Bennett; "My Favorite Blonde," with Bob Hope; "Panama Hattie," and all the

(Continued on page 5)

No Advance Scales For 'Lady in Dark'

Paramount's "Lady in the Dark" will not be sold on advanced admission terms similar to those prevailing for "For Whom the Bell Tolls," Neil Agnew, general sales manager, declared at the weekend, refuting reports to that effect. Picture will be released as a special; a number of key city bookings are planned for Easter.

Selection of the Los Angeles theatre which will have the film's world premiere in February will soon be

(Continued on page 8)

'U' Pays 25% Bonus To Its Servicemen

Universal is understood to be paying former employees now in the Armed Forces a bonus of 25 per cent of their yearly salary computed on the basis of the time they have already spent in the Services. Those with Universal two years or more are eligible. Thus an employee who has been in the Services for two years and had been paid a salary of $3,000 a year before he left the company can anticipate a check of approximately $1,500.

U.S. Control of Film Rentals Out—OPA

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—Renewed discussions at last week's Milwaukee convention of the Wisconsin-Michigan ITPA over the possibility of the Government placing a ceiling on film rentals brought the usual answer over the weekend from Office of Price Administration officials, and that was reference to the film ceiling prohibitions contained in the Emergency Price Control Act.

The law, they pointed out, specifically exempts motion pictures from the definition of "commodities" on which prices may be controlled; in fact, films are named in three instances: in the definition of commodities, in a prohibition against licensing distribution and in a ban on the regulation of theatres.

30,000,000 U. S. Service Admissions In 1st Two Years of USO-Camp Shows

USO-Camp Shows will commence their third year of entertaining Americans in service all over the world on Thursday. Thirty million admissions will have been counted in this country alone when the project reaches its second anniversary on Thanksgiving Day, witnessing performances by motion picture, stage and radio players. There have been additional untold millions abroad.

With overseas spots now strategically located, USO this winter will develop a domestic program of wide enough diversification to meet the entertainment needs of all troops still stationed in this country. Forty-nine "Victory Shows" and 60 "Tabloid Troupes" will be maintained.

In the motion picture division, 35 Hollywood stars voluntarily toured camps overseas in USO's first year. In the winter of 1942-43, 62 screen players trouped the USO circuit. In 1941, eight camp show entertainers went overseas; in 1942, 207 went abroad; to date, 509 have gone out of the country. Some 500 will be entertaining servicemen abroad on Christmas Day.

Stars of screen, stage and radio who have toured will appear Thanksgiving Day on a round-the-world air pageant over NBC at noon in a "Soldiers in Grease-paint" program for men stationed both here and abroad.

Industry Reply To England's Charges Asked

U.S. Agents May Counter British Campaign

American distribution representatives in Great Britain have asked home offices here for authorization to counter what they believe to be "a studied and considered campaign against American film companies" being conducted in the British lay and trade press, and linked with the post-war plans of the British film industry, it was learned at the weekend.

The communications to home offices call for immediate and forceful replies to a variety of charges and implications being leveled against the American industry in the British press. Most recent of the outbursts causing concern to the American representatives in London is an article by Michael Balcon, which appeared in the *London Evening Standard*, Nov. 12. The article charges that regardless of quality and production value of British pictures, they are kept

(Continued on page 5)

Goldberg and Emde In Higher RKO Posts

Louis Goldberg and H. R. Emde, division managers for RKO Theatres, have been promoted to zone managers, in addition to the previously announced appointment of Charles B. McDonald, division manager, to home office duties, and the realignment of the film booking department, Edward L. Alperson, general manager, announced at the weekend.

Michael Edelstein, John Hearns and Edward Sniderman, district managers, have been advanced to division managers, with the first two working

(Continued on page 9)

Committee Discloses Tax Rise Reasons

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—Decision of the House Ways and Means Committee to double the present tax on admissions was based on the belief that "most types of amusement are greatly profiting from the expanded national income," it was disclosed late last week in the committee's formal report.

"The two-cent rate appeared to our committee to be desirable in order to

(Continued on page 8)

Personal Mention

W. F. RODGERS, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution, is expected to return today from the Coast and a tour of key cities.

•

ALLEN M. NOYE, 20th-Fox manager for Colombia, South America, left over the weekend for his office in Bogota, with a stopover at Miami.

•

HUGH HUBER, vice-president of Hal Roach Studios, returned to the Coast at the weekend after a two-week visit here.

•

J. R. GRAINGER, president of Republic Pictures Corp., left here yesterday for Toronto and Boston. He will be gone one week.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, will leave today for Jacksonville, Fla., on a one-week business trip.

•

A. W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox Eastern sales manager, returned to New York Friday from a tour of his territory.

•

JESS DAY and L. E. WEGENER, Tri-States circuit district managers, were visitors at the Des Moines home office at the weekend.

•

STANTON GRIFFIS, OWI film division head, was here from Washington over the weekend to confer with WAC officials.

•

CONSUELO RODRIGUEZ, woman film sound engineer in Mexico, was married in Mexico City recently to AMERICO MIRANDA, studio technician.

•

SAM WHEELER, Film Classics franchise holder in Washington, has returned to that city from a New York visit.

•

PVT. NORMAN ROLFE, former manager of the Webb Playhouse, Weathersfield, Conn., is in Hartford on furlough from a Florida air base.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M circuit sales manager, returned here over the weekend from Boston.

•

WILLIAM J. FADIMAN, M-G-M studio story head, left for Hollywood over the weekend.

•

MIKE SIMONS, editor of M-G-M's *Distributor*, returned from Washington over the weekend.

•

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M studio managing director in England, arrived in London late last week.

•

FORREST CLARK, of the RKO Des Moines exchange, has been inducted into the Army.

•

WILLIAM PINE left Hollywood yesterday for New York.

•

LOUIS KREIGER, Pittsburgh independent exchange operator, is in town.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

J. ARTHUR RANK'S postwar plan for the British film industry is reduced to its simplest form in an article by Michael Balcon, entitled "Why British Films Fail in America," to which the *London Evening Standard* devoted three-quarters of a page in its issue of Nov. 12. Copies of the article have just been received in New York.

Rank's plan is described therein in this nutshell form: "The plan is to maintain British production by selling more British films abroad and especially to America."

Nothing startling about that. But the implications of Balcon's article, and his outright charges that British films, regardless of quality, are barred by a suggested conspiracy from the theatres of America, are startling no matter how often repeated. Executives of home office foreign departments, moreover, would not be surprised if later developments in the British press and trade, disclose Balcon's article to be the opening gun in a prolonged and concerted campaign to impress British films upon the postwar American market through public and official pressure aroused by the methods suggested therein. This, as contrasted with the selling of American films in the British market on their merits.

• •

Just how officially Balcon speaks, whether for himself, for Rank, for the British industry or for any part of it, is impossible to guess at this distance. However, Balcon makes the suggestion in his article that Rank's recent large-scale acquisitions of theatres "which buy American films" implicitly suggests his power to "back his large-scale production plans with the threat of reprisals." It is not often that one writing for the press points out the power, if not the intention, of another to exercise a boycott in international markets unless that writer is unusually certain of his subject.

No possible aggregation of facts or experiences concerning British pictures in this market ever could be assembled to substantiate Balcon's charge that those films fail in this market because of an "agreed policy of a small group of American industrialists who control American cinemas and, therefore, the purchasing power of films."

If a conspiracy to doom British films to failure in this market does exist, it is a conspiracy of the tastes and preferences of the American people. Such a conspiracy might as well be charged to the British public, too, which also shows a marked preference for American motion pictures over the home grown variety.

And would you be surprised to know that Balcon bases Britain's postwar film plans on the writings of the American political columnist, Walter Lippmann, whom Balcon quotes as saying: "All nations (of course, Mr. Lippmann refers in particular to the United States, says Balcon) must realize that in international trade wherever there is a sale there must eventually be a purchase."

No recognized economist yet has said that the reciprocal purchase must be in kind or in equal amount. Individual domestic markets determine what the reciprocal purchase will be and how much.

• •

The current indeterminate status of the industry consent decree, particularly with respect to its probable future restrictions on theatre acquisitions, is affecting non-decree operations currently, equally as much as decree signatories. One of the largest deals for acquisition of an independent circuit (and we do not mean the Walter Reade Circuit) by another independent operator in many years is being held in abeyance on the private counsel of the Department of Justice. The Department has advised the prospective purchaser to defer the closing "for a few weeks." That may be a tip-off as to the time by which the Department expects the decree's future to be determined.

• •

When the defendants in the William Goldman anti-trust suit, the Warner Circuit and the major distributors, go back into Federal court in Philadelphia this morning after a four-day adjournment of trial, a safe bet would be that they will have decided not to enter a defense.

Coming Events

Nov. 22—"All-Out Industry Dinner," Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Philadelphia.

Nov. 26—Warner Club Thanksgiving Day party for servicemen, Henry Hudson Hotel, New York.

Nov. 29-Dec. 1 — M-G-M district managers and home office representatives meeting, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago.

Dec. 7—NEIC Service Flag dedication, New York.

Dec. 17—Quarterly meeting of the council of Actor's Equity, Hotel Astor, New York.

Marsh Appeal Board Term Is Extended

Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard at the weekend extended the term of office of Robert McC. Marsh as a member of the arbitration appeals board established under the consent decree, to Jan. 31, 1944, when the terms of his two associates, George W. Alger and Albert W. Putnam, expire.

Attorneys for the five consent decree signers were present at the hearing and filed no objections. Marsh's term would have expired Nov. 20, expiration date of the three-year trial period, during which, Alger explained, there was a "closed season" on changes in the decree.

Robert L. Wright, special Assistant U. S. Attorney General in charge of film litigation for the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice, recommended the extension of Marsh's term. He told the court, "We are in the midst of negotiations which may or may not be concluded successfully." He said that by the end of the extended term (Jan. 31) the Government "will be in a better position to advise what the future of the decree will be."

Griffith Pre-Trial Conference Resumed

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 21.—Pre-trial conferences in the Government anti-trust suit against Griffith Amusement Co. were resumed here on Friday following a three-day adjournment after Columbia, United Artists and Universal were dismissed from the case by Federal Judge Edgar S. Vaught last week on motion of defense counsel which went unopposed by Assistant U. S. Attorney General Holmes Baldridge.

With the dismissal of the distributor defendants the pre-trial conferences now are attended only by Government and Griffith counsel. Friday's session was concerned mainly with efforts to agree on stipulations designed to simplify Government charges and defense replies.

Rubin, Lichtman Delayed

J. Robert Rubin, M-G-M vice-president and general counsel, and Al Lichtman, Loew's vice-president, have deferred their projected visit to London until early January.

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First

a SATURDAY EVENING POST story!

Then

a RUNAWAY BEST SELLER!

Next

a READER'S DIGEST FICTION story!

and Now

"Definitely one of 20th's big pictures of the year. There can be no question of its boxoffice potentialities!"
—M. P. Daily

This great American novel comes to the screen!

"Tremendous grosses will be realized everywhere! One of the finest screen achievements of the year!"
—Film Daily

"Looms as a highly profitable grosser! Has an extensive ready-made audience!"
—Variety

MacKinlay Kantor's

HAPPY LAND

DON AMECHE · FRANCES DEE
HARRY CAREY · ANN RUTHERFORD
and Cara Williams · Richard Crane · Henry Morgan · Minor Watson · Dickie Moore

Directed by IRVING PICHEL · Produced by KENNETH MACGOWAN

Screen Play by Kathryn Scola and Julien Josephson

PRE-SOLD TO MULTI-MILLIONS!

in the 20th Century-Fox tradition

U. S. Fifth Army in Italy Asks for More And Newer Pictures

(Continued from page 1)

Maisie pictures, and "Star Maker," with Bing Crosby.

Among the stars they like best are Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Betty Grable and Deanna Durbin. "Any of their pictures are sure of enthusiastic audiences," it was said.

Two films that were emphatically disliked were "Pacific Blackout" and "Hi Buddy." The latest picture to reach the Major's area is "Star-Spangled Rhythm." Soldiers read about films like "Let's Face It," with Bob Hope and Betty Hutton, and long to see them, he said.

"There is nothing so popular in the entertainment line as films. They always draw huge crowds, even in the worst weather and sometimes under bombing and shelling conditions," the broadcast recorded.

Recall Gov't Racket Case Witness Today

The Government failed to complete its case against seven Chicago racketeers accused of extorting $1,000,000 from the industry, before adjournment of the Federal court trial here on Friday, end of the seventh week of the trial. A Government witness, Andrew J. Roach, member of the New York operators' union, will be recalled for cross-examination when the trial resumes this morning, before the Government rests its case.

Roach testified Friday that he carried a sealed envelope from the New York home of Louis Kaufman, business agent of Local 244, Newark, to Frank Nitti in Chicago. Kaufman is charged with being the Capone gang's Eastern collector in the industry shakedown. The testimony was the first in the trial which appeared to be damaging to Kaufman.

George McLane, former boss of the Chicago Bartenders' Union, returned to the stand Friday and again denied that he had ever met defendants Louis Campagna or Paul De Lucia. He testified that in 1938, Nitti told him that he, Nitti, had made George E. Browne president of the IATSE and offered to make McLane president of the Bartenders International, and that Browne and William Bioff would be directed to use their influence in labor circles to accomplish it. McLane later identified Browne and Bioff in the courtroom but denied knowing Nick Circella, one of the defendants, who stood between Browne and Bioff.

Doane Replaces Travis

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 21.—Harold Hopper, head of the film department of the War Production Board, has announced the transfer of Warren Doane from the Washington unit of WPB to replace Merwin Travis, formerly in charge of the Hollywood office. Travis resigned to become general manager of Smith & Aller.

Schecter Promoted

CINCINNATI, Nov. 21.—Noah Schecter, former booking agent and exploiter, has joined the RKO advertising staff here.

Settle Three Hub Arbitration Cases

New clearance complaints have been filed at the Boston and Buffalo tribunals and three consent awards entered at Boston, the American Arbitration Association reported here on Friday.

At Boston, Joseph L. Carrolo, operating the Midway Theatre, Oakland, R. I., filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies. The complaint alleges that the 30 day clearance of East Greenwich on all respondents' product except Paramount, is unreasonable and asks a reduction to 30 days after first run Providence theatres.

George J. and Dorothy Gammel, doing business as the Gammel Theatres, operating the Columbia Theatre, Buffalo, filed a clearance complaint against the five consenting companies. It alleges that the present clearance, immediately following the Broadway, is unreasonable and seeks a run prior to or equal with the Broadway.

Consent Award in Boston

A consent award was entered at the Boston tribunal in the complaint of the Newport Theatre Co., operator of the Paramount, against all five companies and New England Theatres, Inc., and Opera House, Inc. Stipulation states that the maximum clearance of the Opera House and Strand, first runs, shall be 45 days over the Paramount, provided it continues as a second run house. Costs were assessed equally among all parties.

A second consent award entered at Boston was in the clearance complaint filed by the Watertown Square Theatre, Inc., operating the Strand, Watertown, Mass., against the five consenting companies, stipulating that the maximum clearance of the Coolidge over the Strand, provided the latter continues as a second run, shall be 14 days. All costs are borne equally by the interested parties.

Complaint vs. 20th Dismissed

In the clearance complaint of Consolidated Theatres, Inc., operators of the Plymouth, Worcester, against the five companies, a consent award was entered, also at Boston, dismissing the complaint against 20th-Fox and providing that the maximum clearance of the Warner, Loew's Poli Palace, Elm Street and Capitol over the Plymouth, as long as the latter continues as a second run, shall be 30 days. It further provides that the clearance of product immediately carried over from Poli Palace to Elm shall be computed from the conclusion of the run in the latter theatre without prejudice, however, to the right of the complainant to reopen the question as to whether or not clearance shall begin to run from conclusion of showing in the Palace.

Empire Trial Resumes

Trial in the action brought by some members of Empire State Operators to prevent Empire officials from continuing the union's merger with Local 306, is scheduled to resume today in Kings County Supreme Court.

'Happy Land' in Iowa

DES MOINES, Nov. 21.—"Happy Land," MacKinlay Kantor story with an Iowa setting, will have a statewide premiere in 25 theatres over the weekend of Dec. 2.

Mexico Makes Ticket Tampering a Felony

Mexico City, Nov. 21.—An amendment to the national penal code makes the forging or falsification of theatre tickets in Mexico a felony and provides jail terms up to three years, depending upon the gravity of the offense. A fine may also be added.

Formerly, tampering with tickets was considered a misdemeanor, punishable only by a small fine. Increase in ticket offenses necessitated the more severe legislation.

Majors' Breakdown Demands Attacked

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 21.—Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania in a bulletin to members issued at the weekend, attacks growing demands of distributors for "exact breakdowns" of exhibitors' operating costs in relation to the calculation of percentage payoffs. "Distributors are getting more and more aggressive" in the practice, which Allied calls "unfair, unwarranted and has no justification."

Organization charges that arbitration under the decree "is very close to being a total failure in the Eastern Pennsylvania territory," giving as reasons those mentioned by Abram Myers, National Allied counsel, in Allied's decree brief to the Department of Justice, namely: "The tremendous influence held by Warner Bros. in the territory; the predominantly 'big business' complexion of the Philadelphia (arbitration) panel and the 'ganging up' of counsel for the distributors."

Pennsylvania Allied also has made demands upon Samuel Gross, local 20th Century-Fox exchange manager, to discontinue commercialized public trade showings of new pictures.

Farley Arrives for Para. Product Talks

Frank Farley, European representative of the Paramount home office production department, who is located at Paramount's London office, has arrived in New York with Mrs. Farley for a visit of about three weeks. Trip was made by boat.

While here, Farley will confer regarding production matters with Russell Holman, Eastern head of production and other home office officials. Farley formerly had headquarters in Paris. When the war started he was transferred to the London office.

ATW Gets $1,000,000, 'Canteen' Royalties

Check for $1,000,000 was presented by Sol Lesser to Antoinette Perry, chairman of American Theatre Wing over the weekend for the first royalty payment on proceeds of "Stage Door Canteen," Lesser film released by United Artists. Lesser was presented with a scroll expressing the organization's thanks.

Industry Reply To England's Charges Asked

(Continued from page 1)

from American screens through the efforts of "a small group of industrialists who control American theatres."

"My critics will tell me," Balcon's article states, "that there are thousands of independent theatres in America. So there are, but most of the important ones are in some way tied in with a production agreement with the American producers and are influenced by their policy."

Balcon also charges that while American companies' revenue was frozen in England they bought British films and sent them to America to be played and liquidated their balances. So far as he knows, he writes, no British films have been bought by the companies since their funds in Britain were unfrozen. He also implies that their failure to comply with the Quota Act since the war on the grounds of inability to obtain production facilities is a subterfuge.

Balcon's article calls for governmental as well as united trade action against the American industry and suggests reprisals by theatre owners in Britain, as well as a concerted film production effort.

"The more good films we make in this country, which takes away screen time from imported films," he asserts, "the better bargaining position are we in as far as America is concerned. Eventually, they will have to exchange their screen time for our screen time."

Defense Bureau May Be Forced to Dissolve

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 21.—Theatre Defense Bureau, which was formed the day after Pearl Harbor to organize exhibition ranks for the emergency, and in which all circuits and independents participated, faces dissolution, due to the withdrawal of Fox West Coast's financial support, unless the remaining sponsors can work out a new plan of operation in a meeting next week.

FWC, which had been meeting 40 per cent of the expenses, cited relaxation of coastal defense regulations, tantamount to termination of TDB's usefulness, as its reason for withdrawal, asserting that informal cooperation between theatre men would now be sufficient to serve the purpose.

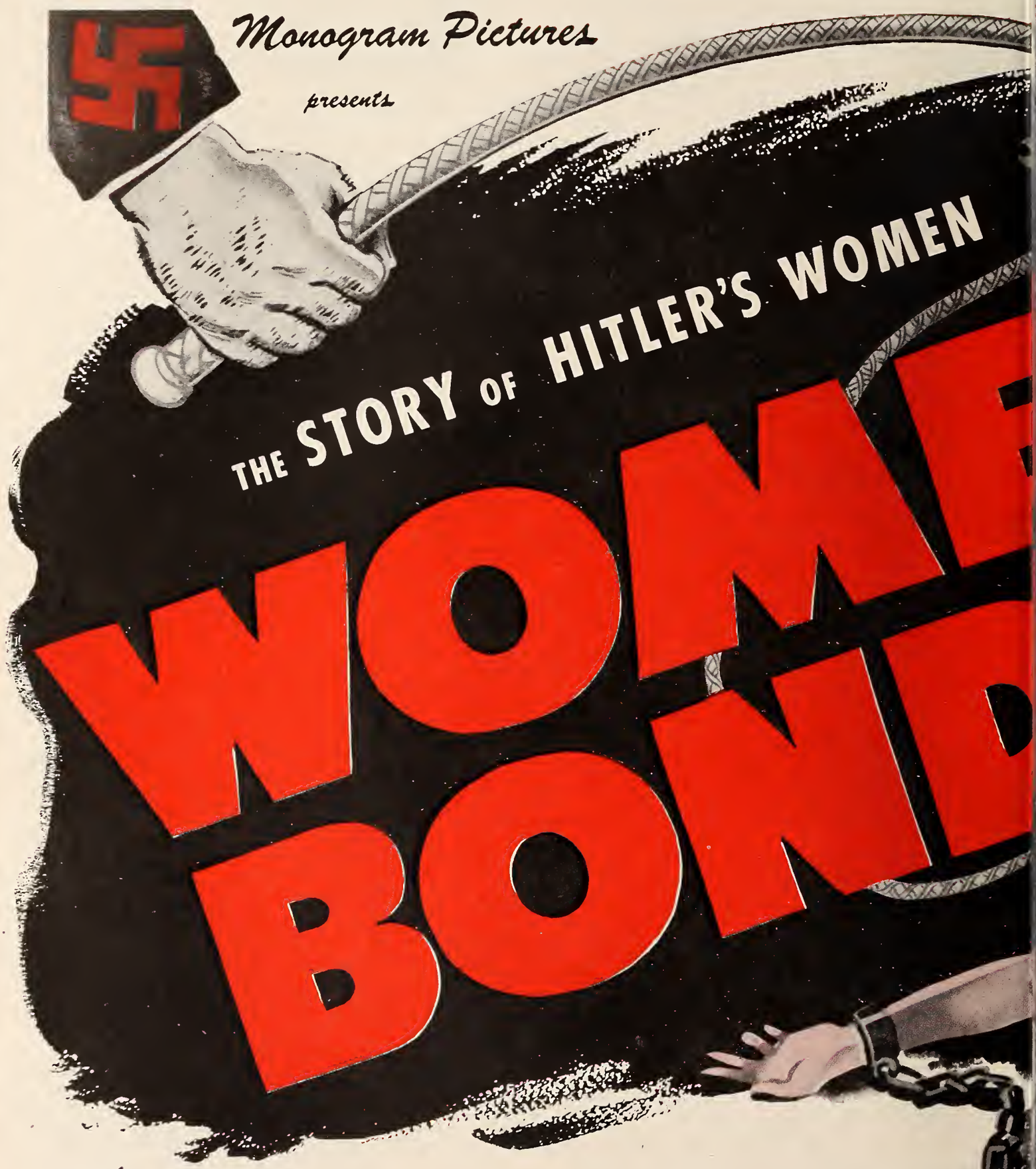
Fire at B'way Para.

Fire in a ventilation duct in the basement of the Paramount Theatre on Broadway was extinguished on Friday without disturbance to the theatre's audience. A call was sent in by James McBride, fireman on duty at the house, when smoke was observed near the duct.

Lee Beggs Dead at 72

Lee Beggs, 72, actor, died late last week in Lenox Hill Hospital here. He began his career in stock 35 years ago in San Francisco. He is survived by his widow and a son, Malcolm Lee Beggs.

ANOTHER BIG MONEY



with

GAIL **PATRICK** NANCY **KELLY** BILL **HENRY**

GERTRUDE **MICHAEL** H. B. **WARNER** MARIS **WR**

SMASH from MONOGRAM!

"Graphically and tensely presented. Catching attention in the opening scenes, it moves through episodes to point up the destruction of morality and womanhood under the Nazi. A strong women's picture, it also holds possibilities for extensive exploitation that can lift grosses to surprising levels."

. . . DAILY VARIETY

"Compares in theme, treatment and execution with 'Hitler's Children.' Exploitation in similar vein would appear to promise similar box-office results. The film reflects extreme care and an expanded budget."

. . . MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"Top offering! Title is a natural for everyone, especially the women."
"Endowed with fine direction and splendid characterization."
"We know it will keep the spectator absorbed."

. . . SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

Produced by
HERMAN MILLAKOWSKY
Associate Producer, JEFFREY BERNERD
Directed by STEVE SEKELY
Screenplay by HOUSTON BRANCH
Original story by FRANK BENTICK WISBAR

MONOGRAM PICTURES

N TALA BIRELL ANNE NAGEL ALAN BAXTER

Another 'Free Movie Day' for Bond Selling

(Continued from page 1)

will be a facet of the industry's assist to the Treasury in boosting the sale of war bonds as Christmas gifts.

The industry was specifically called upon at the weekend for a new type of war bond cooperation with the Government. Ted R. Gamble, national director of the Treasury's War Finance Division, issued, through Oscar A. Doob, of Loew's, chairman of the War Activities public relaitons division, a request to the many hundreds of poster artists in the industry to submit suggestions to be used by the Treasury in the Fourth War Loan in January.

Gamble said, "From this group of film poster artists should come ideas for some of the best war bond posters created." The Treasury will use millions of posters—24 sheets, one sheet, 40 x 60's, 22 x 28's, car-cards and other sizes.

Doob's announcement advised that there is no time to be lost in preparing printed material. Artists who are interested in submitting designs will be supplied with a "fact sheet," giving possible "themes," slogans and approaches for the Fourth War Loan which the War Finance Division is considering. They may be obtained from Doob at 1501 Broadway, New York.

Theatre artists as well as artists in producer publicity offices and theatre sign shops are to participate. Rough sketches should be received by Dec. 10. WAC will send all of them to Washington.

'Cry Havoc' Marks Astor's 18th Year

The Astor Theatre on Broadway will celebrate its 18th anniversary as a film house with the world premiere tomorrow of M-G-M's "Cry 'Havoc'." First picture shown there was "The Big Parade," also M-G-M, which opened Nov. 19, 1925, setting an all-time long-run record of close to two years.

"Cry 'Havoc'" is the 45th M-G-M film to show at the Astor, although actually there have been 46 engagements, "Gone With the Wind" having returned for a continuous-run after its roadshowing.

Ohio Independents Call Rental Meeting

DAYTON, Nov. 21.—A "cooperative conference" of local independent exhibitors and independent theatre representatives from Cincinnati and Columbus will be held at the Biltmore Hotel here tomorrow.

Chief topic to be discussed are alleged exorbitant film rentals charged by major distributors, besides other theatre operating problems.

'Around World' Premiere

"Around the World," RKO Radio musical, will have its world premiere at the Globe Wednesday. Film stars Kay Kyser and his band.

Ainsworth, Perlewitz Are Renamed by Wisconsin ITO

(Continued from page 1)

ceed August Berkholtz, at the final session of the Independent Theatre Protective Association of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan convention Friday.

L. V. Bergtold, of Westby, and Jack Yeo, of Burlington, were elected as new members, and Harry Melcher, of Milwaukee, Lucille Forbes, of Merrill, J. P. Adler, of Marshfield, William Smith, of Menomonie, and George Fisher, of West Allis, all Wisconsin, were re-elected as members of the board.

The ITPA of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan will hereafter be known as the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, following a change voted by members. The members heard a complete report on activities of the Allied States Caravan, which was making its annual visit to the association. M. A. Rosenberg, Col. H. A. Cole, Abram F. Myers, Rotus Harvey, William L. Ainsworth and Sidney Samuelson, who make up the Caravan committee, made the report.

Caravan Operation Discussed

There was considerable discussion on its methods of operation and objects at a prolonged session. Exhibitors expressed the opinion that results for the first year were satisfactory and a necessary part of Allied activities. Cited as an example of its functioning was the manner in which Wisconsin exhibitors responded within 24 hours to the request for action on the proposed increase in the Federal admission tax. With reference to other details, however, the customary secrecy was maintained.

Independent Theatres Protective Association at its concluding session approved the report and conclusions of Allied's general counsel, Abram F. Myers, concerning the summary of National Allied's questionnaires to exhibitors on their stand on the consent decree. Group adopted a resolution congratulating Jack Kirsch and his committee for their work in stimulating production of films combating juvenile delinquency, also expressing appreciation to RKO and March of Time-20th Century-Fox for "Children of Mars" and "Youth in Crisis," anti-delinquency films which the resolution recommends to all exhibitors for showing in all theatres. ITPA also adopted a resolution reaffirming National Allied's stand on Columbia Pictures.

The fifth annual banquet attracted an overflow crowd of 550 persons from Milwaukee and nearby territory.

Exhibitor Organization Strength Is Stressed

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 21.—In earlier sessions of the convention here of the Independent Theatres Protective Association of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, delegates heard Abram F. Myers, National Allied general counsel, describe advantages of having a trade association, and heard Al Steffes of Minneapolis suggest necessity for strengthening of the Allied organization.

Not a single industry of any size today would be able to function satisfactorily without a trade association, Myers stated. Other industries have the same problem of adjusting differences between wholesaler and retailers that the motion picture industry has and bargaining power will be equalized if one side has the same information as the other, he declared, adding:

"There is a great need for exhibitors to exchange information and secure the cooperation and support of each other with the problems to be faced by reduction in releases, advancing prices, increased percentage and playing time. No exhibitor can afford to be an isolationist," he declared.

Hope for Allied Expansion

Territories with well established organizations have been quicker to combat adverse legislation and it is hoped that Allied will soon extend into every Congressional district in the country. The experience and activities of Allied in Eastern Pennsylvania, especially in relation to dealings with distributors was told by Sidney Samuelson of Eastern Pennsylvania Allied.

Jack Kirsch, Allied Illinois leader and chairman of National Allied's committee on juvenile delinquency, urged interest in this problem not only for the protection of theatre property but to forestall any effort to place the blame on motion pictures and to impose burdensome and unnecessary local regulations on theatres.

Steffes urged the National Allied board to withdraw from its fight for better terms from distributors. Under present conditions there is a breach which cannot be healed by present tactics, he said. Rather, Allied should spend its time enlarging and perfecting the organization to a point where it will be in a position to demand terms which will be acceptable.

Steffes has fully recovered from the illness which forced him to relinquish his former executive position with Allied. He reported that in the past few years he has contacted approximately 1,000 independent exhibitors personally.

New Northwest Unit

He announced the formation of a third exhibition association in the Minnesota territory. It is known as the Motion Picture Theatre Owners Union of the Northwest and its application to become a member of Allied was submitted by Steffes.

In the absence of William F. Rodgers, M-G-M sales head, who was ill in Chicago, H. M. Richey of M-G-M delivered an address. He welcomed the return of Al Steffes and said that the stronger organization which he mentioned would be welcomed.

"By no means are all of the ills of the industry the fault of one side," he declared. Richey read the remarks of Rodgers which were prepared for the occasion. "A free expression of opinion on subjects vital to the welfare of the business is too often avoided," he said. "Divorcement as a cure-all is antiquated. Exhibitors should prefer affiliated competition to ill-advised competition of independent circuits," Rodgers' message continued.

"Our conviction that every picture must earn its way has met with overall approval," he added. "If a picture does not prove itself at the box-office it can drop fr 1 top allocation to a lower bracket

Rickenbacker Pays Tribute to Films At Pioneers Fete

(Continued from page 1)

all fronts is the motion picture. In his tribute to the industry he said: "It has done more to win for us the good-will of the world than any other factor."

Rickenbacker, who spoke for 90 minutes, discussed his experiences and viewpoints on numerous vital international subjects derived from his extensive wartime travel. He made a fervent plea for tolerance and racial amity here and throughout the world.

H. M. Warner, addressing the gathering, cautioned that the war could be lost at home through prejudice and ignorance even after the victory is won. He reminded producers that they have a greater power than the press to combat and correct public and international evils. Warner was presented with a scroll of honor in recognition of his company's work in first producing films designed to awaken the nation to the dangers of this era. An honorary scroll was also presented to Bill Robinson for his work in entertaining servicemen.

Induction of 47 new members, among them Air Cadet Schilling Cohen, formerly of Loew's Paradise Theatre, and Staff Sergeant Lew Goldberg of 20th Century-Fox, both distinguished service men, was a feature of the evening. Jack Cohn, Picture Pioneers' house manager, presided. Others at the dais included Adolph Zukor, Judge Ferdinand Pecora, Harry Cohn, Barney Balaban, Jimmy Walger, Lt. Col. Frank Capra and other officers representing all branches of the services.

Committee Discloses Tax Rise Reasons

(Continued from page 1)

secure additional revenue and would create no great hardship," it was added.

The increased rate on admissions, which is expected to raise $163,000,000 annually in additional revenue, is to become effective "on the first day of the first month which begins more than ten days after the enactment of the act" and is to continue "until the first day of the first month beginning six months or more after the date of termination of hostilities in the present war."

No Advanced Scales For 'Lady in Dark'

(Continued from page 1)

made, as well as the house for the New York engagement which will follow soon after. Picture will then be made available for pre-release bookings in March, prior to its release as an Easter attraction.

In Film Classics Post

Muriel Dollinger has been appointed publicity director of Film Classics, George A. Hirliman, president of the company, announced at the weekend.

Miss Dollinger was formerly on the staff of Stephen Day, New York publishing house and recently completed a survey of the motion picture industry for Film Classics.

Two-Cities Shows 'The Demi-Paradise'

LONDON, Nov. 21.—"The Demi-Paradise," a DeGrunwald-Two Cities production, directed by Anthony Asquith, was previewed by the press here in advance of an ambassadorial-socialite opening at the Odeon Theatre at the weekend. The film revealed itself as a further step forward in Two Cities' remarkable pace-making in the British production field.

Following Hollywood only in the matter of quality, the criterion set by American critics for American playing-time, it succeeds in portraying the essence of the Anglo-Russian entente in the impact on the characteristic happy-go-lucky, determinedly "understatement" English scene of an earnest, naive, all-for-state Stakhanovite engineer sent to superintend ship construction. Mutual incomprehensions and misunderstandings are resolved in a triumphant denouement.

The picture is a parable which avoids the perils of manifest sermonizing in the consummate delicacy of its direction and the infusement of subtle humor throughout. Laurence Olivier surpasses his best as the Stakhanovite. The whole is perfectly cast with a galaxy of known stage stars.

The picture's release now is admirably timed to the British mood, lauding Soviet military successes and the Moscow agreement, but it would be a sure money-maker at any time in fashionable houses and honky-tonks alike, with clearly abundant U. S. potentialities. General Films will distribute here.

PETER BURNUP

RKO Will Screen Five Productions

Five RKO pictures will be tradescreened nationally on Dec. 6 to 9, it was announced Friday by Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio president.

Screenings follow: "Higher and Higher," Dec. 8, except St. Louis, which will be on Dec. 9; "Around the World," Dec. 6, except St. Louis, which will be on Dec. 7, and New York on Nov. 23; "The Ghost Ship" on Dec. 6, except St. Louis, which will be on Dec. 7; "Tarzan's Desert Mystery" on Dec. 7, except St. Louis, Dec. 8; "Rookies in Burma," Dec. 7, except St. Louis, Dec. 8.

$77,500 to National War Fund from Loew

Loew's Inc., has contributed $75,000 to the National War Fund. Amount has been allocated among the cities in which there are Loew theatres and M-G-M exchanges. In addition, Loew's Employees Welfare Fund has contributed $2,500 from its treasury. Simultaneously, Loew's contributed $2,500 to the Employees Welfare Fund so that its treasury remains the same.

Deliquency Film Preview

Monogram's "Where Are Your Children?" first juvenile delinquency feature to reach the screen, will be previewed here Nov. 24 at 2:30 P.M. at the Waldorf-Astoria. A reception will follow.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Nov. 21

WITH Harry Revell as associate producer already commissioned to supply four original songs for the enterprise, PRC's Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of production, who became producer in his own right with the making of the musical, "Jive Junction," is negotiating for picture rights to five more songs for his second venture, "Minstrel Man." They are the imperishable "Ida," the Eddie Leonard theme song; "Memory Lane," "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee," "When You Wore a Tulip" and "Can't You Hear Me Calling, Caroline?" Gerra Young, the 14-year-old songstress introduced in "Jive Junction" is to follow through in the second Fromkess film.

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David O. Selznick is having room trouble at RKO-Pathe studios where his "Since You Went Away" is in its ninth week. He recently signed Dore Schary to a producer contract and the lot is so crowded with various companies shooting he's hard pressed to find space. . . . First Technicolor film of blitzed London arrived here with Alex Saville, brother of Victor, who will use it for background in his "Tonight and Every Night," starring Rita Hayworth and Janet Blair. . . . Producer Sam Zimbalist has Capt. Ted Lawson's okay on the script for "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo." . . . Steve Hardin, formerly with Fox West Coast publicity, has opened his own office in Hollywood.

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Before he left for New York, Herbert Yates handed Vera Ralston a new contract with a salary increase and she'll star as a ballet dancer and dramatic actress in Republic's "The Lady from Lisbon" after she finishes "The Monster." . . . Warners lifted Dolores Moran's contract and gave her a top role in "The Horn Blows at Midnight." . . . Charles Boyer is preparing an as yet untitled story for his next producer-star picture at Universal. . . . Anne Shirley is set opposite Michael O'Shea in Republic's "The Man from Frisco." . . . Title of "Outward Bound," remake with a present day wartime setting, has been changed to "Between Two Worlds" by Jack L. Warner.

Richey Speaks Today At Philadelphia Meet

H. M. Richey, head of exhibitor relations for M-G-M, will speak at the Philadelphia Motion Picture Forum in that city tonight. Richey's address will be talk on "Movies at War," about the job the film business is doing in the war.

Other speakers will include Paul Longhead of the Department of Visual Education of the Philadelphia Board of Education, talking on "The Part Films Will Play in Post-War Plans."

MOT Advances Press Book

March of Time has inaugurated a new policy of sending its press book directly to exhibitors approximately two weeks in advance of each reel's opening date.

'Wintertime' Is Hot On $13,500 Gross

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 21.—"Wintertime" at the Orpheum was headed for the biggest gross, some $13,500, in a week in which most first-run houses are doing slightly better than average. "Watch on the Rhine" is drawing an average $12,000 at the State and "This Is the Army," in its fifth week, is doing $5,000 at the Lyric.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 20:

"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
WORLD—(350) (40c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $2,200).

"This Is the Army" (WB)
LYRIC—(1,250) (40c-55c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,500).

"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
STATE—(2,300) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000).

"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
CENTURY—(1,600) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,000).

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,600).

"The Oklahoma Kid" (WB reissue)
GOPHER—(998) (35c) 7 days. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $3,400).

"Submarine Base" (PRC) 4 days
"Souls at Sea" (Para.) 3 days
ASTER—(900) (20c-30c) 7 days, midweek change. Gross: $2,800. (Average: $2,300).

Goldberg and Emde Advanced at RKO

(*Continued from page 1*)

under Emde's supervision and the latter to work under Goldberg. All appointments are effective today.

Max Fellerman, head metropolitan booker for the circuit, who resigned late last week, will remain at his post until about Jan. 1, he said at the weekend. He will announce his future plans in a few weeks. The film booking department will be realigned, with Jack Lamont moving up as chief booker, under Harold Mirisch, head film booker. He will be assisted by Matthew Polon and Joseph Backer.

The following Metropolitan theatres will be under Goldberg's supervision: Palace, Albee, Bushwick, Dyker, Greenpoint, Kenmore, Madison, Orpheum, Prospect, Republic, Shore Road, Tilyou; and the Columbia and Strand, Far Rockaway; Keith's Flushing; Midway, Forest Hills; Alden, Jamaica; Keith's Richmond Hill, and the 23rd, 81st, 58th, Colonial and Jefferson Theatres, Manhattan.

Emde will supervise these theatres: Proctor's in Mt. Vernon, Newark and New Rochelle, the Castle Hill, Chester, Fordham, Franklin, Pelham, Capitol, Union City; Keith's White Plains, and Proctor's and Strand Theatres, Yonkers; the Coliseum, Hamilton, Marble Hill, 86th Street, Regent, Alhambra, 125th Street and Royal Theatres.

RKO Theatres' Bonus To Exceed $100,000

Christmas bonuses which are expected to exceed $100,000 will be given this year by RKO Theatres to zone, division, district and theatre managers and others, Edward L. Alperson, general manager, admitted at the weekend.

Bonus has already been approved by the corporation's directors and the War Labor Board, but amounts of individual bonuses await final WLB approval.

Short Subject Review

"Sailors All"

(*RKO*)

Frederic C. Ullman, Jr., has dedicated his latest "This Is America" release to the U. S. Coast Guard auxiliary, that unknown and unsung group of men who are too old, or too essential as war workers to go into full-time armed service, and who "go down to the sea" once a week, don Coast Guard uniforms and sail small launches and yachts along our shores. Film takes the audience through the rigid Coast Guard training period required of these men who patrol Coast waters seeking enemy submarines, floating mines or saboteurs and who assist in emergencies arising along the Coast.

There are impressive shots of the patrol as it sets out for a day's work. Credit is due to Slavko Vorkapich for excellent direction from Richard O. Fleischer's timely and well-written script; to Harry W. Smith for unusually good camera angles; to Dwight Weist for his interesting commentary, and to Max Pilzner and Herman Fuchs for a fine musical score. Ullman has produced a dynamic and inspiring picture of "behind the scenes" branch of the service. Running time, 20 mins. Release date, Nov. 19.

RCA Patent Eases 'Counting the House'

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—A U. S. patent was issued last week to James H. Owens of Camden, N. J., for an invention designed to improve theatre safety lighting through the use of low intensity ultra-violet radiation throughout interiors. Fluorescent seat upholstery and carpeting would catch the illumination, thus making visible both the theatre aisles and unoccupied seats.

The patent rights were asssigned to Radio Corp. of America. It includes a suggestion for ultra-violet sunrays being made available for theatre patrons while watching performances.

Two to Be Tradeshown

Two M-G-M features, "A Guy Named Joe" and "Broadway Rhythm" will be tradeshown Dec. 28 in exchanges throughout the country. Spencer Tracy and Irene Dunne are co-starred in "A Guy Named Joe" and Ginny Simms and George Murphy head the cast of "Broadway Rhythm."

Looking For a Show-Woman?

Miss Executive Secretary in Person! Direct from the Pacific Coast. Many years with major theatre circuit and studio. Experienced in all phases of showmanship — general theatre operation, good statistical background, advertising, etc.

Full of pep and personality — fit well in "Never a Dull Moment" office.

Reasonable but not cheap. Box 223, Motion Picture Daily.

"Here's Lookin' At You!
Let every American GIVE so the National War Fund may LIVE!
Here's to you Mister Exhibitor... I would rather be associated with you... than with any other businessman I've met... for you are tops... The way you turn your screen, your organization and your best individual efforts over to Uncle Sam when he needs you... puts you in a class all by yourself... When the war came along and upset the fine service to which you've become accustomed... and which we always want to give you ... you were reasonable, you were patient, you understood what we were up against... I've been doing business with you for a long time... and I wouldn't trade your fine friendship... for all the gold in Fort Knox... So here's to your health ... and your family's good health... and your continued business success... I'm for you... and I want your dealings with this company to be always such... that you will be... for me.
NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 99 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1943 | TEN CENTS

No Defense Entered in Goldman Suit

Court May Rule Today On Case's Validity

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 22.—The Warner circuit and major distributor defendants in the William Goldman anti-trust suit in Federal District court today permitted the case to go to Judge William H. Kirkpatrick for a decision without entering a defense. They will make a formal motion tomorrow for dismissal of the suit.

Their action came as the trial was resumed this morning following an adjournment taken last Wednesday when Goldman, in an equally surprising move, rested his case after three days of testimony with himself as the sole witness. Defendants' decision not to offer a defense obviously was based on their belief that Goldman, in his three-day session on the stand,

(*Continued on page* 10)

7 Houses File Clearance Cases

Six new clearance complaints have been filed at the Boston tribunal, and one combined clearance, some run and designated run complaint filed at Buffalo, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

E. M. Loew's, Inc., operating the Winchester, Winchester, Mass., filed a clearance complaint against all five companies. Operator alleges that the 14-day clearance of the Strand, Capitol and Medford, and the University's

(*Continued on page* 10)

Rodgers Ill, M-G-M Sales Meet Delayed

Illness of William F. Rodgers, the company's general sales manager, has caused a postponement of the annual mid-season meeting of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer district managers and home office sales personnel. The meeting, originally scheduled to start Monday, Nov. 29, will get under way Dec. 5 at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, it was reported here yesterday by Edward M. Saunders, assistant general sales manager.

Rodgers, who has been visiting the Culver City studios and a number of key cities, is recovering from a very heavy cold in Milwaukee. He will return to New York today.

Einfeld Works on Measures to Avoid Peace-Time Slump

Plans for post-war film merchandising to meet any possible aftermath from the current box-office bonanza which is said to be causing some exhibitors to relax showmanship efforts, were discussed at a series of Warner Bros. home office meetings by Charles Einfeld, director of advertising and publicity, who planed back to the Coast yesterday following a three-week stay in the East.

Charles Einfeld

In a final session before leaving yesterday, Enfield declared that not enough is being done to make permanent patrons of the many additional millions brought into theatres during the past two or three years. Institutional advertising on a wider scale, he said, should be used to establish films solidly with new fans as well as older

(*Continued on page* 10)

WAC Chiefs to Talk Today in Washington

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22. — WAC executives Arthur Mayer and Si Fabian, Edward L. Alperson, Oscar Doob, Lou Metzger and Edward Schrieber are due here in the morning from New York to confer with officials of the War Manpower Commission and the War and Treasury departments on industry problems pertaining to manpower, Army films and the forthcoming Thanksgiving-Christmas and Fourth War Bond drives, respectively.

Council Engineer Warns on Lighting

New Haven, Nov. 22.—R. E. Simpson, illuminating engineering consultant for the state War Council, has warned theatre managers here that although marquees may now be lighted as much as they were prior to the dimout, "there is a voluntary nationwide conservation campaign in effect and if it fails in its purpose there is every likelihood that conservation 'recommendations' will become directives."

"Recommendations" specify that there be no daytime marquee lighting and a reduction in night illumination, "consistent with public safety consideration."

Semi-Essential Status Given L.A. Theatres

Theatres in the Los Angeles area have been placed in a "semi-essential" category by the War Manpower Commission, according to a bulletin sent to exhibitor unit chairmen by the War Activities Committee's theatres division. Lou Metzger, in charge of exhibitor manpower problem for the WAC, stated yesterday that because of the "Los Angeles experiment," staffs of theatres in that area have been frozen as of Oct. 1, and are permitted to replace personnel losses as of that date by filing applications with the U. S. Employment Service.

With the success of the Los Angeles endeavor, the WMC has recommended the same process of manpow-

(*Continued on page* 6)

Agreement Seen on Major Issues In New Consent Decree Conference

Washington, Nov. 22.—Indications that major points in the new consent decree are largely agreed upon were seen here today in conferences between Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark and exhibitors, which may continue at intervals throughout the week.

Today, Clark talked with Russell Mack and Jack Meltzer and tomorrow he will see representatives of New England exhibitors. No more meetings have been set, but exhibitors are expected to be dropping in from time to time to talk over the new decree.

No further meeting with distributors, who are engaged in refining proposals which they sent to Washington last week, has been set, but it is not expected that they will submit their revised draft until next week.

WPB Rulings On Equipment 'Streamlined'

New Order Seen Aiding Distress Cases

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—War Production Board controls over the distribution of 35 mm projection equipment and accessories was streamlined today with the issuance of limitation order L-325, under which dealers will have to secure authority to lend or sell equipment.

The new order will supersede several existing regulations, effective Dec. 6, when restrictions on sales and loans of new equipment will go into operation. The order was prepared by Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section, who will administer it.

Sales or loans of new equipment may be made only on written permission from the WPB, except for the

(*Continued on page* 10)

Jap Atrocity Ban Eased for Hollywood

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 22.—The order eliminating film depiction of Jap atrocities came through the War Department at the instigation of the military High Command, which regards the step as necessary to avert enemy reprisals. MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned this today following the return of Ulric Bell, Coast OWI head, from San Francisco, where he conferred with Elmer Davis.

In a detailed clarification furnished

(*Continued on page* 10)

Names Leaders for 'March of Dimes'

Nicholas M. Schenck, national chairman of the industry drive on behalf of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, has announced the following film leaders for the drive, scheduled for Jan. 24-30: executive committee, E. L. Alperson, Barney Balaban, Harry Brandt, Oscar A. Doob, Gus Eyssell, Harry Kalmine, Charles C. Moskowitz, Spyros Skouras, Richard Walsh; chairman, exchange committee, Tom Connors; public relations chairman, Ernest Emerling; chairman, vendors committee, Frank Meyer; chairman, home offices, Leonard Goldenson; treasurer, Walter Vincent.

Personal Mention

M. J. SIEGEL, president of Republic's production company, is in New York from Hollywood. He will be here for 10 days.

•

JOHN CASSIDY, RKO Theatres publicist, won 100 silver dollars over the weekend, door prize at a social event held by the Elks Club of Queens County.

•

JACOB WILK, Eastern production head for Warners, is expected back this week from a vacation at Hot Springs.

•

JOSEPH A. MCCONVILLE, Columbia vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, arrived in Buenos Aires over the weekend.

•

LEON FROMKESS, PRC production head, left for Hollywood yesterday after a visit of several days in New York.

•

ANDY SHARICK, contact for Universal's sales department, will be in Philadelphia tomorrow.

•

WALTER E. GREEN, president of National Theatre Supply, was a New Haven visitor late last week.

•

SAM GALANTY, Columbia division manager, was in Cincinnati late last week.

•

SOL LESSER, United Artists producer, returned to Hollywood over the weekend from New York.

•

EDWIN KNOPF, M-G-M producer, has returned to the Coast from an Eastern trip.

•

HERBERT J. YATES arrived here yesterday from Hollywood.

•

MARVIN SCHENCK left for the Coast yesterday.

Next War Loan Drive Will Start on Jan. 18

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—The Fourth War Loan, with a goal of $14,000,000,000, will begin Jan. 18 and will run until Feb. 15, Secretary Morgenthau announced here yesterday.

Three previous drives raised over $50,000,000,000, much of which was raised by the film industry. Each drive thus far has exceeded its goal.

John Harkins Joins Rawson at Vanguard

John Harkins, formerly of Warner Bros.' West Coast publicity department, will join Vanguard Films as assistant to Mitchell Rawson, publicity director. Harkins has been with Warners for six years, writing publicity in the East from 1937 until this year, when he left to take the West Coast position.

Roosevelt Hails Part Of Theatres in War

President Roosevelt, in a letter made public here, has praised the role that theatres are playing in maintaining public morale. Occasion for the letter, addressed to John Golden, chairman of New York Defense Recreation Committee, was the issuance of the 5,000,000th free ticket to service men here by that organization. This "is a further evidence of the patriotism and the generosity of the managers of entertainment of New York City," the letter said.

"A free theatre in a free world is one of the objectives for which we shall continue to fight," the President further wrote.

20th-Fox Gives Party To Martin Moskowitz

Sixty-five of 20th Century-Fox's home office last night tendered Martin Moskowitz a bachelor dinner at the Warwick Hotel, prior to Moskowitz's marriage to Dorothy Speier of New York next Saturday.

Moskowitz is executive assistant to William J. Kupper, general sales manager of 20th-Fox. The wedding, will be held at his Kew Gardens home.

Among those who attended the dinner were Tom Connors, W. J. Kupper, W. C. Gehring, L. J. Schlaifer, S. Towell, W. J. Eadie, W. C. Michel, Joe Moskowitz, Charles Moskowitz, Harry Moskowitz, Arthur Moskowitz, Dan Michalove, Hal Horne, Sam Shain, Charles Schlaifer, and others.

See No Early Trial Of Griffith Action

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 22.—Indications that an early trial date for the Government anti-trust suit against Griffith Amusement Co. is most unlikely developed at the pre-trial conference between Federal attorneys and counsel for the circuit, held here late last week.

Government attorneys revealed that they plan to take a number of depositions before trial and that many of them will be of a time-consuming nature. In addition, it was learned that the Government also plans to send investigators back into the field to collect additional data for the action and that this, too, may take an unpredictable amount of time.

Healy Will Succeed Hoyt at OWI Post

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—George W. Healy, Jr., managing editor of the New Orleans *Times-Picayune*, has been named to succeed Palmer Hoyt as head of domestic operations of the Office of War Information, when Hoyt leaves the organization soon after Jan. 1.

Hoyt will return to the *Portland Oregonian*, where he is publisher. Healy is president of the Associated Press Managing Editors Association, and is a vice-president of the *Times-Picayune* Publishing Co., which also publishes the *New Orleans States*.

Films Next After AFM Record Row

Joseph A. Padway, American Federation of Musicians counsel, warns that the union will be ready "to open a second front" against the film industry after it has established the principle of fee payments to the AFM on records from platter manufacturers for a union unemployment fund.

Padway's statement was made before a special War Labor Board panel in New York over the week-end hearing the recording controversy between AFM and the three recording companies who have refused to sign to resume the making of transcriptions. Padway indicated that AFM will "go after" films when "it is feasible", in answer to comment about films and juke boxes by Ralph F. Colin, counsel for the record-company subsidiary of CBS.

AFM May Ask for House Musicians

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 22.—Responsible opinion here, admittedly without definite information, inclines toward the belief that the American Federation of Musicians' "second front" against industry will take the form of insisting upon a minimum number of musicians in theatres, even in the face of a preponderant all-sound policy prevailing generally throughout the nation.

Industry's relationship with musicians employed in production are said to be amicable and the prevailing wage scale is described as satisfactory. Joseph A. Padway, AFM general counsel who made the "second front" statement before a special War Labor Board panel hearing the case of the union and the recording companies, is expected here at the weekend.

Charge of Bad Faith Made by CBS Counsel

The AFM, in seeking to force recording companies to pay a fee on each record into a union unemployment fund, is guilty of dishonesty and bad faith, according to charges made yesterday by Ralph F. Colin, counsel for the recording subsidiary of Columbia Broadcasting System, at a hearing before a special WLB panel.

Colin further charged that the union's object is not to care for its present unemployed but "to set up a subsidy in the future for any one who wants to take up music and can't make enough money."

Ohio Censors Cut 9

COLUMBUS, O., Nov. 22.—Ohio censors ordered eliminations in nine films out of a total of 148 features and shorts reviewed in October. In September they ordered 18 cut out of 201 seen.

Tells of Vital Role Of Industry in Wa

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 22.—The i portance of motion pictures to the w effort and in military tactics w emphasized by Henderson M. Rich director of exhibitor and public re tions for M-G-M, in a luncheon a dress here today before the Mot Picture Forum at the Bellevue Str ford Hotel speaking on "Motion P tures at War."

Richey stated that since the st of the war the Army alone has ask for more film than has been norma produced by all the producers co bined. He also showed how produc were conserving raw film material meet increasing demands of the arm forces for training films. Richey fu ther stressed the educational value pictures to the general public.

Epstein, Republic Branch Mgr., Di

Morris Epstein, manager of Repu lic Pictures' New York exchange, d yesterday morning at Bronx Hospit He was 55.

A veteran of the film industry, E stein had been associated with I public as branch manager of the N York office since 1938. Services w be held tonight at 8 o'clock at Park West Memorial Chapel, 1 West 79th St. His widow, Rose E stein, survives.

NEW YORK THEATRE

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
"CLAUDIA"
with DOROTHY McGUIRE
ROBERT YOUNG INA CLAIR
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Gala Stage Show Symphony Orchest
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-46

'I DOOD IT'
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
Red SKELTON
Eleanor Powell
IN PERSON
WOODY HERMAN
Paul Winchell
Marion Hutton
PARAMOUNT TIME SQUAR

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—Cl 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Screen
'Lassie Come Home'
In Technicolor
Roddy McDOWALL
Donald CRISP
In Person
LOU WALTERS presents
The Famous N. Y.
LATIN QUARTER REVUE
Starring
DAVE APOLLON

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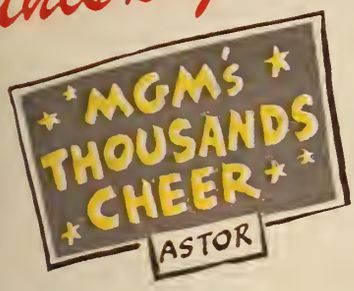

has now changed to this sign

and there's another great M-G-M attraction on Broadway!

Greatest All Feminine Cast

MARGARET
SULLAVAN
ANN
SOTHERN
JOAN
BLONDELL
FAY BAINTER
MARSHA HUNT
ELLA RAINES
FRANCES GIFFORD
DIANA LEWIS
HEATHER ANGEL
DOROTHY MORRIS

Directed by Richard Thorpe
Produced by Edwin Knopf
Screen Play by Paul Osborn
Based Upon the Play by
Allan R. Kenward

Let's All Give! National War Fund + Which Gives To All!

THE SCREEN'S FUL

THE FLEA

Starring

Mae WEST ★ Victor MOORE ★ William GAXTON

with LESTER ALLEN ★ ALAN DINEHART ★ LLOYD BRIDGES

Original Screen Play by Fitzroy Davis, George S. George and Fred Schiller

Directed by GREGORY RATOFF ★ A COLUMBIA PICTURE

OF EXCITEMENT!

7'SSON

AZEL SCOTT
Swing Pianist

and Xavier CUGAT *The Rhumba King* AND HIS ORCHESTRA

Semi-Essential Status Given L.A. Theatres

(*Continued from page 1*)

er control for Detroit, Akron and Hartford, with extensions to Cleveland and Buffalo to be made shortly after, it was said. The "privileged" rating was due to the theatres' active participation in projects to further the war effort, as well as the need for entertainment films as a war morale factor, it was understood.

Theatres were placed in Group 2 of three groups designated by the WMC on recommendation from the Washington office of the Office of Civilian Requirements. Group 1 comprises essential or war industries; Group 2, semi-essential, and Group 3, non-essential. WAC states that several businesses in Southern California which were placed in Group 3 have been forced to close for the duration.

Basis of the entire set-up was originated in offices of the WMC in Washington with the three general classifications set up for the industry having been tested in five Southern California cities. Los Angeles is one of these cities.

Ten-City Opening For Monogram Film

Steve Broidy, Monogram sales manager, reported here yesterday that "Women in Bondage" will have a ten-city opening in key Wisconsin places on Dec. 9, set around the key premiere at the Fox Milwaukee Theatre. Nine others will also be at Fox houses. Nancy Kelly, H. B. Warner and other Monogram players in the picture will attend the Milwaukee premiere. Monogram's "What a Man" will be on the same bills.

Deal was closed by Harry Thomas, Monogram Eastern sales executive, Charles Trampe, Monogram Milwaukee franchise holder, and Harold Fitzgerald and Verne Touchett, Fox circuit officials.

Pay Rise Hearing Scheduled for Today

Minimum wage of at least 40 cents an hour for all theatre workers is expected to result from today's hearing at U. S. Department of Labor's local headquarters, Room 1001, 165 West 46th St.

Hearing was set following reports of union officials that many ushers, charwomen and other film house employees are receiving less than the 40 cent rate and the Labor Department started an investigation. The investigating committee held a series of hearings last month at the Victoria Hotel here.

W.E. Exhibit Today

Western Electric will hold an exhibition of war communications instruments today in a building next to the Hotel New Yorker at West 34th St. and Eighth Ave. Following the exhibition, W. E. will be host at a reception in the New Yorker.

Admission Taxes for October Set Record At $16,499,395

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Federal admission tax collections set a new high record in October at $16,499,395, increasing $2,500,000 over September's $13,926,347, and slightly less than $2,000,000 above the $14,694,997 recorded in October, 1942, it was reported here today by the Internal Revenue Bureau. Previous high was $16,178,306, touched in August.

The heavy October receipts brought the total for the first 10 months of the year to $136,293,040, compared with $119,138,541 in 1942, the bureau reported.

Improvement in business indicated by the figures was well distributed throughout the country, it was shown by the special report for the third New York (Broadway) district, where collections increased only from $1,706,121 in September to $2,043,582 last month.

The gain on Broadway was shared by all categories, with box-office collections increasing from $1,531,457 to $1,849,364.

Nov. 30, New Date For Trust Hearing

Skouras Theatres, Metropolitan Playhouses, Rosewelt Realty and 19 other defendants, including Paramount Pictures, Loew's, 20th Century-Fox and other majors, were granted an extension until Nov. 30 by Federal Judge Edward A. Conger yesterday to answer the Sherman anti-trust suit brought against them by Royal Amusement Corp. of Jersey City.

Complaint alleges that the defendants control 75 per cent of all films produced and distributed and conspired to restrain trade in Hudson County, N. J., which includes, in addition to Jersey City, Bayonne, Hoboken, Union City and North Bergen.

Plaintiff corporation, operator of the Cameo Theatre in Jersey City, charges that five theatre circuits are given special privileges by the defendants in obtaining first-run pictures and pay less for the pictures than the plaintiff is compelled to pay. Terms fixed by the defendants must be accepted by independent operators in the territory if the independents want to remain in business, the complaint alleges.

Legion of Decency Puts 4 in Class B

National Legion of Decency this week placed "Frontier Law," "Hands Across the Border," "Happy Land," "Henry Aldrich Haunts a House," "Minesweeper" and "Raiders of Sunset Pass" in Class A, unobjectionable for general patronage.

The following were listed in Class B, unobjectionable for adults: "The Falcon and the Coeds," "Gangway for Tomorrow," "She's for Me" and "Son of Dracula."

Gaudette to Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Nov. 22.—Gene Gaudette, RKO exploitation man, has been transferred here from Indianapolis to replace Hank Howard, now in the army.

Gov't's Racket Case Still Incomplete

The Government was delayed again yesterday in closing its case in the $1,000,000 extortion trial of Chicago gangsters in Federal court here. A final witness, Corp. Jerome Kugel, former projectionist at the Palace, Orange, N. J., had to be put on the stand yesterday by the defense in order to avoid his overstaying an Army leave. That prevented the final Government witness, Andrew J. Roach, also an Orange projectionist, from completing his testimony. He will be recalled to the stand this morning.

Over the weekend, Roach charged that John Portem, member of the executive council of Local 244, IATSE, threatened him. Portem was held in $15,000 bail on a charge of intimidating a Government witness, when arraigned before a U. S. Commissioner in Newark. Although Roach was on the stand again today, no mention of the alleged threat against him was made in court.

Defense attorneys yesterday endeavored to break down Roach's earlier story of having acted as a messenger for Louis Kaufman, business agent of the Newark local, in delivering a sealed envelope to Frank Nitti in Chicago. Corp. Kugel testified that Roach had told him that he had gone to Chicago to "see a girl friend." Roach testified that that was what Kaufman had instructed him to say if he was asked about the Chicago trip.

Shayne Is Defendant In Projectionists' Suit

CHICAGO, Nov. 22.—Peter Shayne, president of the Chicago Projectionists Union, was made a defendant in the Chicago Projectionists suit today when Judge Julius Miner approved an amendment to the complaint. The Judge also ruled that officers of the union would be held in contempt of court if any of the plaintiffs should lose their jobs because of the action.

David Riskind, attorney for the complainants, said that he intends to subpoena all executives of motion picture companies who have testified on the New York trial. Reply of the defendants is due on or before Dec. 5.

Empire MembersRest Case in Merger Suit

Counsel for members of Empire State Motion Picture Operators Union seeking to prevent the union's officials from continuing to carry out provisions of the recent merger of Empire with Local 306, IATSE, rested their case in a surprise move in Kings County Supreme Court yesterday after putting only one witness on the stand.

Defense took over late yesterday and an early decision in the action is expected.

Circuits Buy Reissues

Four New York circuits, Loew's, Skouras, Century and Randforce, have booked two United Artists reissues as a dual, "That Hamilton Woman" and Trade Winds," for their entire circuits, Ca l Leserman, UA general sales manager, reported yesterday. The two pictures will start their engagements over Loew's chain Dec. 7.

'Claudia', $96,000 'Diary', $92,00 Are Broadway's Bes

Servicemen and women compri 25 per cent of the audience which h viewed "Guadalcanal Diary" and t stage show headed by the Ritz Br at the Roxy on Broadway, the resu ant reduced admission price to the keeping grosses down in the fir week to near $92,000. "Claudia" a a stage show in the third week of four week engagement at the Mus Hall is expected to gross an estimat $96,000. "Flesh and Fantasy" is me ing wide approval at the Criteri and will get about $41,000 in its fir week, which is very big.

"North Star" at two houses Broadway, Palace and Victoria, w gross in the neighborhood of $40,0 at the former and $14,000 at the latt theatre. "I Dood It" is having ea sailing at the Paramount whe with Woody Herman and his band the stage, the bill did an estimat $55,000 in the second week and hol over. "For Whom the Bell Toll should gross about $38,000 in t sixth week of a continuous run p icy at the Rivoli.

"Princess O'Rourke" and Sh Fields and his band on the stage the Strand will gross an estimat $35,000 in the final six days of three-week stay at the Strand. "O Acquaintance" is heading for a $2 000 estimated gross in the third we at the Hollywood. "Battle of Russi in the final four days of its 11-d stay at the Globe will gross abo $7,000, while "Thousands Cheer" the final six days of a 10-week st at the Astor grossed an estimat $10,000.

Broadway Houses List New Pictures

RKO's "Around the World" w have its Broadway premiere at t Globe tomorrow. Warner's has book "Northern Pursuit" for a Thank giving day opening at the Strand wi Glen Gray and his band heading t stage show. Columbia's "What Woman" will open at the Radio C Music Hall Dec. 2 with a stage sho while the Roxy has booked 20th C tury-Fox's "Happy Land" and stage show for Dec. 8.

The Astor on Broadway will ce brate its 18th anniversary with t showing of Metro's "Cry Havo which opens at the house today.

Stars Tour Hospita During the Holida

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 22.—Betwe 100 and 150 film personalities will fa fare throughout the country betwe Christmas and New Years in respo to the War Departments' call to t Hollywood Victory Committee celebrities to visit all possible hospi installations with holiday cheer.

William Miekeljohn, and Willi K. Feldman, drive co-chairmen combing all studios and agencies i talent lineup.

Joseph Bernhard Spea

PHILADEPHIA, Nov. 22.—Jos Bernhard, general manager of War Bros. Theatres, spoke last night at National War Fund dinner held the local motion picture industry the Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

41 Shooting, 50 Preparing, 84 Editing

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 22.—Fifteen pictures wound up shooting schedules during the week while only seven new ones were put before the cameras, dropping to 41 the total number shooting. Fifty new ones are in preparation and 84 are editing. Previous week saw eight finished, five started, 49 shooting, 66 preparing and 72 editing. The production scene:

Columbia

Started: "Empire of the West" with Charles Starrett, Vi Athens, Walter "Dub" Taylor, Jimmy Wakely, Lloyd Bridges, Netta Packer, William Gould.

Shooting: "Nine Girls," "Yes, Sir, That's My Baby" (formerly "Curly"), "The Wedding Guest."

Finished: "Beautiful but Broke." "Cover Girl."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Dragon Seed," "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed," "The Canterville Ghost."

Finished: "Gaslight."

Monogram

Started: "Hot Rhythm" with Dona Drake, Robert Lowery, Jerry Cooper, Harry Langdon, Robert Kent, Tim and Irene, Fred Skinner, Fred Cook, Sidney Miller.

Shooting: "Raiders of the Border."

Paramount

Started: "You Can't Ration Love" with Betty Jane Rhodes, Johnnie Johnston, Marie Wilson, Bill Edwards, Mabel Paige, Marjorie Weaver, D'Arega and his Girl Band, Johnny (Scat) Davis, Roland Dupree, Christine Forsythe.

Shooting: "Take It Big," "Incendiary Blonde," "Tomorrow's Harvest," "The Hitler Gang," "Rainbow Island," "Double Indemnity," "I Love a Soldier."

RKO-Radio

Started: "Marine Raiders" with Pat O'Brien, Robert Ryan, Ruth Hussey, Frank McHugh, Barton MacLane, Richard Martin, Barbara Hale, Russell Wade, Tommy Bryson, Richard Davies, Don Dillaway, Edmund Glover, Robert Anderson, Joseph Vitale, Michael St. Angel, James Jordan, Steve Winston, Lawrence Tierney, Robert Dane.

Also, "Seven Days Ashore" with Gordon Oliver, Wally Brown, Alan Carney, Marcy McGuire, Freddie Slack and band, Dooley Wilson, Elaine Shepard, Amelita Ward, Virginia Mayo, Marjorie Gateson.

Shooting: "Are These Our Children?" "Gildersleeve, Detective," "Show Business," "International Zone."

Republic

Started: "Rosie the Riveter" with Jane Frazee, Frank Albertson, Vera Vague, Frank Fenton, Maude Eburne, Frank Jenks, Lloyd Corrigan, Ellen Lowe, Louise Erickson.

Shooting: "Mojave Firebrand," "Fighting Seabees."

Finished: "Pistol Packin' Mama," "The Monster."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Greenwich Village," "Four Jills in a Jeep," "The Purple Heart," "Home in Indiana."

Finished: "The Sullivans," "Eve of St. Mark," "Lifeboat."

Review

"Where Are Your Children?"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Nov. 22

THE first juvenile delinquency picture produced in response to an organized demand for screen treatment of the problem, this Jeffrey Bernerd production starring Jackie Cooper tackles the subject without gloves, shows delinquency rampant, places the responsibility upon parents and furnishes a substantial amount of entertainment in addition. Both because of its timeliness and the explosive type of exploitation indicated, the film looks like a money-maker from scratch.

Until slowed down in the final minutes for a courtroom sequence in which responsibilities are fixed and conclusions drawn, the picture rolls rapidly from a jazz opening in a tawdry cafe where the heroine's Coca-Cola is spiked, through sequences showing the home life of tired war-plant workers, a night ride in a stolen car, a murder, a fight between delinquent girls in detention, and similar incidents. All this is staged in the freehanded style of pictures released in the "Flaming Youth" era following the last war. The Hilary Lynn-George W. Sayre script, from Lynn's story, lays these sequences firmly end to end to make a solid springboard for the closing denunciation of delinquent parents.

Gale Storm, as the girl, turns in a sparkling performance. Patricia Morison, John Litel, Gertrude Michaels, Addision Richards and Herbert Rawlinson round out the realism under the direction of William Nigh, displayed here at its best.

A departure from the routine in subject matter and treatment, the picture lacks any precedent by which to calculate its audience effect. With a wealth of exploitation possibilities at hand, however, there is no lack of basis for the expectation that it will reap lush grosses.

"G."* WILLIAM WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

Legal Preliminaries In Crescent Suit End

NASHVILLE, Nov. 22.—Legal preliminaries in the Crescent Amusement appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court apparently have come to an end here when Assistant U. S. Attorney General Robert L. Wright notified the local office of the U. S. attorney general that a planned "counter praecipe" by the Government has been abandoned.

Crescent Amusement and affiliated defendants had filed an appeal to the Supreme Court on the basis of assignment of errors; a plea that punishment proposed in the decree filed in the case is too severe and that proposed regulation of film licensing is too indefinite.

United Artists
(Arnold Productions

Shooting: "It Happened Tomorrow."

(Benedict Bogeaus)

Finished: "The Bridge of San Luis Rey."

(P. C. A.)

Shooting: "Knickerbocker Holiday."

(Vanguard Films)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

Universal

Shooting: "Cross Your Fingers," "Three Cheers for the Boys," "Gypsy Wildcat," "Patrick the Great."

Finished: "Weekend Pass," "Moonlight in Vermont," "Her Primitive Man," "The Impostor."

Warners

Started: "Hollywood Canteen" with Bette Davis, Ida Lupino, Humphrey Bogart, Alexis Smith, Dane Clark, Bob Hutton.

Shooting: "Mr. Skeffington," "Between Two Worlds" (formerly "Outward Bound").

Finished: "One More Tomorrow."

W.Va.ExhibitorAsks For Graduating Tax

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Nov. 22.—In a sharply worded plea to U. S. Senators Harley M. Kilgore and Chapman Rovercomb, as well as Rep. John Kee, protesting against the contemplated 20 per cent tax on admissions, J. C. Shanklin, West Virginia exhibitor and executive vice-president of the West Virginia Managers Association, pointed out that experience has proved to more than 6,000 small-town theatre owners that added taxes "will have a tendency to drive patrons away from their most popular entertainment and thereby reduce revenue to a point where many theatres will have to close their doors."

As a counter-proposal, Shanklin asked the officials that, since all theatres already have a 10 per cent admission tax, no additional taxes be added for any theatre in towns with population of less than 500; a five per cent tax be added for towns of 500 to 2,500, and the proposed 10 per cent additional tax be added in cities of greater population, provided that "there is a general sales tax placed on other businesses."

In addition to his protest Shanklin included the resolution adopted by West Virginia Managers Association at a special meeting held here also protesting against the proposed tax and urging the adoption by Congress of a general sales tax.

'Labor Front' Released

"Labor Front," latest of the "World in Action" series of the National Film Board of Canada, has been released here by United Artists. Film deals with current American manpower problems.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 22

TWENTIETH-FOX announced today "Kitten on the Keys," with George Jessel producing as the first under his contract, with Benny Goodman, Jimmy Dorsey bands, Dick Haymes, Perry Como.

•

RKO today signed Tim Whelan to a one-year directorial contract. He has been assigned Frank Sinatra's next, tentatively "Gals and the Army Willing," Robert Fellows producing.

•

Leon Fromkess, PRC vice-president in charge of production, will return here next Monday following home office production conferences.

•

Dr. C. E. Kenneth Mees, vice-president of Eastman, has arrived here from Rochester on his annual business trip.

•

Luigi Luraschi, Paramount censorship executive, left here today for New York and Washington.

•

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" terminates a 16-week Hollywood run at the Four-Star Wednesday.

•

Universal today announced an untitled Western for Maria Montez and Jon Hall.

•

John M. Stahl will direct "The Keys of the Kingdom" for 20th-Fox.

•

Jack Skirball left here yesterday for the East.

Texas Variety Club Elects Jas. Cherry

DALLAS, Nov. 22.—James O. Cherry, was elected chief barker of the Variety Club of Texas at the annual election here yesterday. R. J. O'Donnell, national chief barker, presided with the retiring chief barker of Texas, Claude C. Ezell.

New members of the board are W. G. Underwood, Ray Beall, Sol Sachs, R. I. Payne, Ted Deboer, Phil Isley, William O'Donnell, Julius Schepps, F. W. Allen and Lou Baxley of Houston. Underwood is new assistant chief barker, and William O'Donnell is second chief barker, with R. I. Payne as property master and secretary, and Deboer as doughguy and treasurer.

Variety Club Elects

CINCINNATI, Nov. 22.—New officers of the local Variety Club have been named as follows: chief barker, Maurice White; first assistant, Harry David; second assistant, Arthur Frudenfeld; dough guy, Allen S. Moritz. Saul M. Greenberg was reelected property master and Moritz, national committeeman. Installation dinner will be held Dec. 10.

Variety Club to Elect

CLEVELAND, Nov. 22.—Charles Rich, Warner district manager here is bringing his term as chief barker of the local Variety Club to a close. New officers will be named Dec. 4.

"FLESH AND

breaks the all

at Loew's

CRITERION

Theatre

New York

...and its

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

FANTASY"

ime record

ame story everywhere

including...

ATLANTA

CINCINNATI

PHILADELPHIA

READING

HARRISBURG

MEMPHIS

That's Universal Values!

No Defense Entered in Goldman Suit

(Continued from page 1)

had failed to establish a cause of action.

Judge Kirkpatrick is expected to rule tomorrow on whether or not Goldman succeeded in making out a case against defendants. Plaintiff is an independent theatre operator and is seeking triple damages of $1,350,000 on monopoly charges involving downtown first run theatres here.

If Judge Kirkpatrick decides that an anti-trust case has been built up by Goldman, arguments, expected to be in the form of written briefs, will be entered by both sides. In the event that the judge rules no case has been made, William A. Gray, attorney for Goldman, will immediately file an appeal, he said.

When Bernard Segal and Morris Wolf, attorneys for the defendants, stated that they could not present any defense, Gray asked for the right to reopen the case to present new documentary evidence. Judge Kirkpatrick admitted the documents in evidence over the objection of Segal and Wolf subject to the approval of all the other defense attorneys who were not in court and had no opportunity to examine the new evidence. Such procedure, it was stated, was decided upon in agreement by all the attorneys during a number of conferences held in the privacy of the Judge's chambers. The disputed documents claim that there is much film business to be had in the vicinity of Goldman's Erlanger showing figures that Warners Mastbaum, a block away, grossed $962,000 since its opening in September, 1942.

Goldman's alleged inability to purchase first-run product for the Erlanger was the basis for his anti-trust suit.

Ritchie Examination Postponed to Dec. 16

Federal Judge Edward A. Conger yesterday postponed until Dec. 16 the examination of Norton V. Ritchie, vice president of Monogram Pictures Corp., in connection with the $500,000 breach of contract suit brought by Arthus Levey against Monogram, Pathe Pictures, Ltd., of England, W. Ray Johnston, of California, and William Gell, of England. Ritchie is now in the Navy here.

Complaint alleges conspiracy by the defendants to deprive Levey of commissions allegedly due him under an agreement he entered into with Monogram in 1936, under which he was to receive five per cent of all sums received by Monogram under any agreement between Monogram and Pathe relating to the distribution and exhibition of Monogram films by Pathe in Great Britain.

Dunn Joins RKO

James Dunn, former 20th Century-Fox publicist, yesterday joined RKO to handle publicity and exploitation of the British Ministry of Information feature, "Coastal Command," which RKO will release in this country.

His Co-workers Go To Work for Him

Rochester, N. Y., Nov. 22.—Three months ago C. D. Heinrich, manager of the Regent Theatre, took on a daytime job at the Stromberg-Carlson plant when he heard WMC officials plead for more manpower. He did his managing at night.

The other night, many of the Stromberg-Carlson war workers returned the favor and supplied man and woman power in the theatre. After leaving their jobs, they moved to Heinrich's theatre and put on an all-workers show for Heinrich's customers. The workers included a band and other entertainers who have been boosting morale and entertaining in the Stromberg-Carlson lunchroom for months.

Einfeld Confers on Peace-Time Slump

(Continued from page 1)

ones. Advertising trade paper surveys were cited by Einfeld to show wide readership enjoyed by institutional ad copy and he said the Warner campaign along this line is bringing satisfactory results.

Advocating adherence to the basic fundamentals of showmanship, Einfeld pointed to cases where even the best pictures were enabled to draw bigger crowds by advertising, publicity and promotional campaigns, and stated that more intensive individual handling of pictures would be one of the first steps when present war-time theatre crowds settle down to a more normal peace-time box-office.

Since the large potential audience of today will continue to remain after the war, Einfeld said, getting the maximum of this "potential" in the years ahead will be up to the showmen.

While here, Einfeld conferred with Harry M. Warner, Major Albert Warner, Joseph Bernhard, Ben Kalmenson, Mort Blumenstock, Harry M. Kalmine and other home office executives. He worked out with Blumenstock the final details of special campaigns for "Destination Tokyo" and "The Desert Song," early winter releases, and also mapped out plans for "The Adventures of Mark Twain," which is on the Warner schedule for spring release.

Warners Bid Million For Air Force Play

Warner Bros. is understood to have offered a down payment of $1,000,000 to Army Emergency Relief for film rights to Moss Hart's Army Air Force play, "Winged Victory," which opened in New York at the 44th Street Theatre Saturday. William Goetz is reported to be another bidder.

Jacob Wilk, Warner Eastern production head, is expected back from Hot Springs, Ark., late this week when bids will be considered. It is assumed that final deal made will be similar to the one made for "This Is the Army," on which Warners paid a $250,000 advance.

7 Houses File Clearance Cases

(Continued from page 1)

seven days, over the Winchester, is unreasonable, and seeks complete elimination of clearance or a reduction to one day.

Liberty Amusement Co., operating the Regent, Arlington, Mass., in its clearance complaint against the five consenting companies, seeks a reduction to seven days of the present clearance of 30 days enjoyed by the Capitol over the Regent.

In the clearance complaint of National Theatre Co., operators of the National, Boston, against the five decree signatories, complainant alleges that the clearance of 21 days of Warners, 60 days of 20th-Fox and 30 days each of Loew's, RKO and Paramount enjoyed by the Dudley and Rivoli over the National are unreasonable, and should be eliminated or reduced to one day.

Montello Amusement Files

Montello Amusement Co., operating the Park, Brockton, Mass., filed a clearance complaint against the five companies. Complainant cites a present clearance of 30 days after the Rialto, which now is not playing product of the decree companies, and asks that the clearance be reduced to 30 days after first run Brockton theatres, and in the event the Rialto again plays decree product or should the Modern play the five distributors' product second run, the arbitrator is asked to grant the Park a 60-day clearance after first run Brockton theatre.

In the clearance complaint of the Modern, Brockton, Mass., operated by the Star Amusement Co., against the five companies, complainant seeks a reduction to 21 days of the present 60 day clearance after first run Brockton theatres.

Randolph Amusement Co., operators of the Randolph, Randolph, Mass., in its clearance complaint against the five consenting distributors, states it is subject to a 14-day clearance after first run Brockton theatres and also on all product except Paramount's after first run Quincy theatres. Complainant seeks entire clearance elimination of Quincy theatres and no change in the present clearance after the Brockton theatres.

Rivoli Seeks Former Status

At the Boston tribunal, the Rivoli Operating Co., operating the Rivoli, Buffalo, filed a combined clearance, some run and designated run complaint against the five decree signatories. Complainant alleges that the distributors refused to license their product for exhibition at the Rivoli for the run requested, and seeks to be restored to its former run and exhibition status ahead of Shea's Roosevelt, and/or 30 days after Buffalo downtown runs. Operator further complains that the present clearance granted to the Roosevelt is unreasonable and requests that the clearance be reduced to one day and in no event later than 34 days after Buffalo downtown run.

Popkin Buys Monogram

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 22.—Popkin Circuit, operating 10 in downtown Los Angeles has booked the Monogram program for 1943-44.

WPB Rulings On Equipment 'Streamlined'

(Continued from page 1)

loan of new equipment to a theatre in an emergency for a period of not more than 16 weeks, while the theatre's equipment is being repaired or replaced. This is designed to take care of houses damaged by fire, or where equipment has broken down or is about to break down.

The order does not restrict production or distribution of repair units and it is specified that theatres will continue to secure repair units in the same way as heretofore.

Controls are imposed on the manufacture of equipment, but they do not affect the situation since WPB policy does not permit the sale of new equipment to theatres except to replace installations broken down or burned beyond repair.

The general effect of the order will be to relieve exhibitors of the necessity of applying to the board for permission to replace equipment and to permit them to go to their usual suppliers. The suppliers will have to file the necessary applications, but, being more familiar with the routine, will be able to handle the matter much quicker than the average exhibitor.

Jap Atrocity Ban Eased for Hollywood

(Continued from page 1)

to Bell, Davis specified that the order applies directly only to atrocities against American prisoners of war whether military or civilian, and remains in effect "for the time being although no indication as to the probable period involved has been given.

Temporary character of the ban eases the situation for some producers with films in work, provided they proceed with film atrocity scenes in the likelihood the barrier will be lifted before the pictures reach the distribution stage.

Although the War Department asked both the OWI and the Office of Censorship to apply the order since the latter's function is essential to enforcement by virtue of its control of export licensing, Watterson Rothacker, Hollywood head of the OWI told MOTION PICTURE DAILY today that no instructions have been received.

Film Classics Gets Rights to Six More

Film Classics has acquired world reissue rights to six David L. Loew productions starring Joe E. Brown namely: "When's Your Birthday," "Riding On Air" and "Fit for a King," which were distributed by RKO in 1937; "Wide Open Face" and "The Gladiator," Columbia releases in 1938, and "Flirting With Fate," a 1938 release through Loew's.

Film Classics was represented by its president, George A. Hirliman. David L. Loew was represented by Seymour Poe, Eastern representative.

THE SINATRA SHOW FOR XMAS!

***Watch the Grosses Climb* HIGHER AND HIGHER**

WHERE MEN WERE WILDCATTE

"POWER TO PACK IN CUSTOMERS!"

Spectacular and romantic outdoor drama which packs the power to pack in the customers. The action addicts, and all with a taste for romance, are bound to get their money's worth from this often-spectacular meller whose climax is big with excitement.

The Wayne-Scott combination is highly successful casting, and the supporting players fit their assignments like proverbial gloves. —FILM DAILY

"A BOXOFFICE GUSHER!"

"In Old Oklahoma", a happy combination of entertainment values, is thrill-packed meloarama lashed across the Oklahoma prairies in the time of the early oil stampede, under the resourceful and assured direction of Albert Rogell as a box-office gusher for Republic. —DAILY VARIETY

"A SHOWMEN'S PARADISE"

One of the best the company has ever made, it has names to sell, plenty of spectacle, and is packed with action. Mark it down as a showmen's paradise, one which is bound to please the customers.

—THE EXHIBITOR

"HUMOROUS, DRAMATIC, LUSTY AND EXCITING ENTERTAINMENT!"

Humorous, dramatic, lusty and exciting entertainment that should easily find majority audience approval.

Not the least of the film's attributes is its combination of period flavor (the setting is Oklahoma in the 20th century) and the right players to bring to life the characters of Thomson Burtis' story. —SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

"TREMENDOUSLY BIG!"

Big in scope of production, big in direction, story, and performances, Republic also has in "In Old Oklahoma" a picture that can not fail to become tremendously big in a its playdates.

. . . superb performances from a cast whom superb performances are nothi new. . . . This is especially true of Jo Wayne, for whom it is the topmost rung a ladder of always interesting portray

—HOLLYWOOD REPOR

"THE FINEST THING O ITS KIND TO REACH TH SCREEN!"

A magnificent saga of the Old West that stands out as finest thing of its kind to reach the screen. It is a real achi ment from every standpoint, a forceful reminder of the fine things Republic Pictures is accomplishing and a di credit to everyone concerned in its making.

Albert S. Rogell has handled his story and cast like the he is. He got every last bit of worth out of both. He is e to a bow, several bows in fact, for one of the best dire jobs turned in in some time.

"In Old Oklahoma" should pack 'em in and please 'en —"BARRY" —THE INDEPEN

IN OLD

starring JOHN WAYNE • MARTH

ALBERT S. ROGELL—Director

AND FOUGHT LIKE WILDCATS!

ECTACLE—WITH CAPITAL 'S'!"

ming, unstintingly - produced, ertly - directed, convincingly - trayed. . . .

ere is action 'til Hades, won't ve it, riding, chases, gun fights, ticuffs, romance and Spectacle— th the capital "S" used advisedly.

—BOX OFFICE

AS NOT SPARED E PRODUCTION UDGET!"

vigorous saga of the Okla- ma oil fields in 1906 provides e story for "In Old Oklahoma." . . It is definitely one of the ompany's most ambitious under- akings, and associate producer Robert North has not spared the production budget.

—MOTION PICTURE DAILY

"ACTION AND ROMANCE"

Reproducing with nostalgic accuracy the western scene when fortunes were coming in with 'black gold' sucked from the earth and a new oil-powered era was beginning, Republic has created a picture of action and romance on a scale not previously attempted by that studio.

—MOTION PICTURE HERALD

OKLAHOMA

N THOMSON BURTIS' STORY, "WAR OF THE WILDCATS"

HT • ALBERT DEKKER • GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES • MARJORIE RAMBEAU • DALE EVANS • GRANT WITHERS

nson Burtis • Screen Play by Ethel Hill and Eleanore Griffin • Associate Producer—ROBERT NORTH

BLIC PICTURE • BUY U. S. WAR SAVINGS BONDS

'True to Life' $19,000 Over In Chicago

CHICAGO, Nov. 22.—A good increase in theatre attendance is noted here with the early appearance of Christmas shoppers in Chicago's Loop. "True to Life" at the Chicago Theatre, where "Hour of Charm" is the stage attraction, is clicking for a splendid $62,000. Reception of "Guadalcanal Diary" in day-and-date openings at the Garrick and Apollo, indicates that the attractiveness of war pictures, as such, need not be feared. Expected gross is $30,000 at the two houses.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 25:

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO — (1,200) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000).
"True to Life" (Para.)
CHICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days. Stage: Hour of Charm. Gross: $62,000. (Average: $43,000).
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $8,500).
"Top Man" (Univ.) 1 day
"Frontier Badmen" (Univ.) 1 day
"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO) 6 days
"Gildersleeve on Broadway" (RKO) 6 days
GRAND — (1,150) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000).
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c). 7 days. Stage: Carl Ravazza and his orchestra. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $22,000).
"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO) 1 day
"Gildersleeve on Broadway" (RKO) 1 day
"The Iron Major" (RKO) 6 days
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.) 6 days
PALACE — (2,500) (40c-55c-65c-75c-85c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $19,000).
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M) 5 days, 4th week
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB) 2 days
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,000).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox) 6 days, 4th week
"Old Acquaintance" (WB) 1 day
STATE-LAKE — (2,700) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $23,000).
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c). 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $18,000).
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.) 5 days, 3rd week
"Mad Ghoul" (Univ.) 2 days
"Son of Dracula" (Univ.) 2 days
WOODS — (1,200) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $7,500).

Sunday Film Case Lost in Knoxville

KNOXVILLE, Nov. 22.—Balloting on the question of having Sunday motion pictures here resulted in a victory for the opposition led by local ministers. This is the only city of its size which does not have Sunday showings and the battle, led by the Central Labor Union, was one of the bitterest ever waged. CLU had obtained a petition signed by 20,000 asking for a vote, but less than 12,000 actually voted.

Goodwin Promoted

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 22.—Albert T. Goodwin, former manager of the Orpheum Theatre here, has been named supervisor of the Blumenfeld circuit which comprises three downtown first run houses, the Orpheum, United Artists and Esquire. Goodwin has been with the circuit for ten years.

Kaufman to Warners

CLEVELAND, Nov. 22.—Joe Kaliski, Warner branch manager, has appointed David Kaufman, formerly of New York, to the local sales staff.

'O'Rourke' Does Big $20,000 at Capital

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22.—"The North Star" runs away with box-office honors this week on a splendid $20,000 at RKO-Keith's. However, it is given a strong run for the money by "Princess O'Rourke" which, in its second week at Warner's Earle also will touch a $20,000 gross.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 24:

"Top Man" (Univ.)
LOEW'S CAPTOL—(3,434) (28c-39c-44c-66c) 7 days. On stage: Milt Britton Band. Gross: $18,000. Average: $22,000.
"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (30c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000).
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (30c-40c-50c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. On stage: Mary Nash; "George Gershwin on Revue." Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,800).
"The North Star" (RKO-Radio)
RKO-KEITH'S — (1,800) (40c-50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $11,800.
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN — (1,600) (30c-44c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,900).
"Claudia" (20th-Fox))
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (28c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,600).

'Star' in Buffalo Grosses $18,000

BUFFALO, Nov. 22.—"The North Star" at the Twentieth Century is expected to lead here with a fine $18,000. "I Dood It" and "Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" at the Buffalo will probably do $17,800. Other grosses were off. Cold weather continued and snow fell almost every day.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 27:

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
BUFFALO — (3,489) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Dr. I. Q. on stage Monday night. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $16,500).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Bomber's Moon" (20th-Fox)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,400. (Average: $16,400).
"In Old Chicago" (20th-Fox)
"Banjo On My Knee" (20th-Fox)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days, both reissues. Gross: $6,700. (Average: $9,500).
"The North Star" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $10,600).
"Sahara" (Col.)
"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week for "Sahara." Gross $8,900. (Average, $10,500).

Warner Switches 4 Theatre Managers

HARTFORD, Conn., Nov. 22.—Changes in Warner houses in this area include the transfer of Al Michalski formerly at the Warner, Lynn, to manage the Circle in Manchester. He replaces Johnnie Matthews who is new manager of the Danbury Empress. John O'Sullivan, former manager of the Empress has taken over the Garde in New London, succeeding George Harvey now on leave of absence. Henry L. Needles, Hartford division manager for Warner, has moved his offices from the Strand Building to the American Industrial Building at 983 Main Street, this city.

30 Re-issues to Levine

NEW HAVEN, Nov. 22.—H. Levine will distribute for Film Classics in Connecticut 30 re-issues including several David O. Selznick pictures.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Nov. 22

PLANS to sell 50,000 "E" war bonds in this sector through a concerted theatre drive calling for the cooperation of 450 exhibitors were announced by Dave Bershon, chairman of the Theatre Committee of the War Finance Committee. With the slogan of "The Present With a Future" the drive will get under way in all theatres in hopes of encouraging the public to give the bonds as Christmas presents. Special gift envelopes will be provided purchasers.

•

Darryl Zanuck has put "Wilson" in work with an eight months shooting schedule ahead. . . . Sonny Tufts has been cast in the romantic lead opposite Veronica Lake in "Bring on the Girls" at Paramount. . . . Mary Beth Hughes has been signed for the feminine lead in "Cry of Youth," . . . William Perlberg and George Seton head for New York Nov. 30 to confer with Billy Rose on "Diamond Horseshoe."

•

Marjorie Reynolds is being tested for the feminine lead in "Up in Mabel's Room" which Joan Bennett was considered for by Edward Small. Miss Reynolds was originally cast for the second feminine lead. . . . Kathryn Scola is scripting "Victor Hugo" for producer Lamar Trotti at 20th Century-Fox. . . . C. B. DeMille has signed Renny McEvoy, son of the humorist, to a personal contract following his work in "Story of Dr. Wassell."

•

Producer Val Lewton and Director Mark Robson are cautiously shooting "Are These Our Children?" with careful attention to details which might upset the Office of Censorship, in hopes of obtaining an export license for the film. Both producer and director believe they have a script which will jell as the type of picture that the OC will pass. In shooting scenes having to do with juvenile delinquency they are being especially careful, due to experiences encountered by other producing organizations with subject matter of this nature.

The broad problem faced is that of turning out a picture on a theme championed by many social and some official organizations without sacrificing the foreign market revenue. Up to this point, nobody has come forward with a satisfactory reason for making a picture exclusively for domestic exhibition.

'Little Mother' Passes

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 22.—Mrs. Eva de la Plaza Griffin, 88, died here late last week. She was the grandmother of Bebe Daniels, screen actress, and was known to scores of film players as "Little Mother." Born in Bogota, Colombia, she was the daughter of a governor of that country. Her husband, who died in 1895, was Col. George Butler Griffin, newspaper man, lawyer and engineer.

Rosenthal Passes

Moses Rosenthal, Loew auditor, died here at the week-end. He was 73. Surviving are his widow and three sons.

'Star', $15,000 'O'Rourke', $17,50

CINCINNATI, Nov. 22.—Despite a celerated pre-holiday shopping, e ceptionally mild weather and oppos tion from stage plays, weekend bus ness maintained a high pace—wi "Princess O'Rourke" heading for a estimated $17,500 at the RKO Pala and "North Star" promising the RK Capitol around $15,000.

Estimated receipts for the wee ending Nov. 24-27:

"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-60-75c-85c) days. Stage: Richard Himber's orchest Ethel Waters, Pat Kennedy, Eunice Hea Gross: $26,000. (Average: $22,000).
"North Star" (RKO-Goldwyn)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (33c-40c-44c-55 65c) 7 days plus Saturday midnight sho Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Juke Girl" (WB)
"Texas Girl" (WB)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 4 day Gross: $1,300. (Average: $1,400).
"Find the Blackmailer" (WB)
"Cherokee Strip" (WB reissue)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 day Gross: $800. (Average: $800).
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-6 7 days plus Saturday 2nd week midnig show. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $9,500).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S — (1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) days, 3rd week, moveover from Capit Gross: $4,200. (Advance: $5,000)
"The Iron Major" (RKO)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) days, 2nd week, moveover from Alb Gross: $4,000. (Average, $4,200).
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-55 65c) 7 days plus Saturday midnight sho Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,000).
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (33c-40c-44c-55 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Pala Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).

$13,000 for 'Diary' In Baltimore Wee

BALTIMORE, Nov. 22.—Ideal weath and fairly strong attractions combin to bring out theatre-goers again a cast off a slight slump that has ho ered over first-runs for a fortnigl Openings were off to a fine start, fo lowed by substantial weekend crowc "Guadalcanal Diary" is attracting a tention at the New Theatre where is chalking up $13,000.

Estimated receipts for the week en ing Nov. 24:

"Whistling in Brooklyn" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c-50c-55c) 7 day Gross $17,500. (Average: $16,500).
"Top Man" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 day Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000).
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (28c-35c-55c) 7 days. Gros $13,000. (Average: $9,700).
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
STANLEY — (3,280) (28c-40c-55c-60c) days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Averag $16,900).
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
HIPPODROME — (2,205) (28c-39c-44c-55 56c) 7 days. On stage: John J. Anthony "Good Will Hour," Walter "Dare" Wal The Gray Family, Steve Evans, Be Walton. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,80
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (20c-40c) 7 days. 2 week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,900).

Kyser in Post-war Tou

For the first time a complete fe ture will be re-enacted off-scree when Kay Kyser and his band mak a post-war tour of the world ente taining American troops overseas.

Under plans now being formulate in Washington, Kyser and his ente tainers will make a globe-girdlin junket by clipper immediately aft signing of the peace, giving a dupl cation of his new RKO pictur "Around the World."

FAME

IN PREPARATION

THE TENTH ANNUAL EDITION

■

BOX OFFICE CHAMPIONS OF 1943

Presented with complete analysis and personnel credits.

THE STARS OF TOMORROW

Exhibitors' selection of the young film players destined for stardom.

THE SEASON'S MONEY-MAKING STARS

Evaluated and reported upon by the exhibitor showmen of the world.

THE RADIO CHAMPIONS OF 1943

As polled by Motion Picture Daily among the editors of the daily newspapers of America.

One Dollar the Copy

EDITED BY TERRY RAMSAYE

QUIGLEY PUBLICATIONS

ROCKEFELLER CENTER, NEW YORK (20)

LOTS OF MEAT AND PLENTY OF POINTS (ALL GOOD!)

PAUL TERRY *presents*

"THE BUTCHER OF SEVILLE"

LAUGHS! LAUGHS! LAUGHS!

PLUS MARVELOUS MUSIC!

AND WONDERFUL TECHNICOLOR

NOW PLAYING N.Y. ROXY WITH "GUADALCANAL DIARY"

TIMED PERFECTLY– RELEASED PROUDLY BY 20 CENTURY-FO

TERRY-TOONS

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 100 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1943 TEN CENTS

Bond, Dimes Drives to Be Simultaneous

WAC Does Not Anticipate Trouble With Conflict

For the first time, the motion picture industry is being asked to take part in two national drives simultaneously, and S. H. Fabian, chairman of the theatres division of the War Activities Committee, and Nicholas M. Schenck, national chairman of the industry's March of Dimes drive, yesterday notified exhibitors that "there is really no serious problem involved." Fourth War Loan drive will be held Jan. 18 to Feb. 15, while the March of Dimes campaign will take place Jan. 24 to 30.

Reasons for the two drives being

(Continued on page 9)

Washington, Nov. 23. — Further details of the industry's part in the Fourth War Bond drive were discussed today at a meeting between Ted Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury, and Si Fabian, Lou Metzger and Arthur Mayer of the War Activities Committee. Stress will again be laid upon sales of bonds to individuals.

40-Cent Wage Floor Ruling Is Expected

Following a public hearing held here yesterday by L. Metcalf Walling, administrator of the Wages and Hours division of the Department of Labor, a ruling is expected shortly setting a minimum wage standard of 40 cents an hour for all workers in the industry. An investigating committee held hearings late last month at the Hotel Vic-

(Continued on page 9)

Dales Named by SAG To Succeed Thomson

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 23.—Screen Actors Guild board of directors today appointed John Dales, Jr., as executive secretary to succeed Ken Thomson, resigned, who was voted an honorary life membership. Dales was Thomson's assistant for the past six years. Laraine Day, Lena Horne and Gene Kelly were named to replace Jean Hersholt, Elizabeth Risdon and Boris Karloff on the board.

Government Rests Extortion Case After Seven Weeks

The Government formally rested yesterday in the extortion trial of seven Chicago gangsters and a Newark, N. J., labor leader who are accused of shaking down the film industry for more than $1,000,000 under strike threats. The trial has been in progress since Oct. 5 before Federal Judge John Bright and a jury, running seven weeks to a day.

Defense attorneys will make motions for dismissal of the conspiracy indictment this morning, probably taking the entire day in an effort to convince the court that the government's case is legally unsound be-

(Continued on page 9)

Mexicans Hit U.A. For Azteca Deal

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 23.—Mexican producers are generally displeased about the deal whereby United Artists will distribute pictures of La Azteca Films, president of which is Jose A. Calderon, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 16. J. A. Grovas, president of the National Cinematographic Industry Chamber and himself one of Mexico's principal producers, said, "There are two matters that must be considered in this connection. One is American capital. The other is the American Government in its relation to the Mexican film industry. In the latter aspect is

(Continued on page 9)

Order in Eire

Dublin (Mail) — American exhibitors who are facing trying problems in maintaining order in theatres during wartime conditions will be interested—and amused—in a rule just promulgated in Clones, County Monaghan. Under this rule men and women are seated on opposite sides of the theatre, except in the case of married couples who are permitted to sit together.

Clark Confers with New England Owners

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Representatives of the New England Independent Exhibitors Association today had their long-deferred conference with Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark to discuss the pending revision of the consent decree.

Headed by Arthur Howard of Boston, the delegation is understood to have related to Clark their views of the present distribution situation and

(Continued on page 9)

New Peskay Firm For Producer Service

Edward J. Peskay, Eastern sales representative for Hollywood producers, is forming Edward J. Peskay Associates to give producers legal and auditing service, sales representation and publicity and exploitation services for both domestic and foreign markets. In addition, the firm will

(Continued on page 9)

Shortage of Theatre Help Is More Acute

Fear House Standards May Be Affected

Theatres are facing a further serious shortage of porters, cleaners, watchmen and matrons with the situation in New York and defense areas being especially acute. And they are having difficulties maintaining standards of cleanliness and efficiency of the pre-war period.

Spokesmen for Theatre and Amusement Service Employees Union Local 54, BSIEU, which has contracts covering this class of help with approximately 600 theatres in the New York area report that it is almost impossible to secure workers in these categories for theatres. There is doubt whether an increase in the minimum union scale of $21 a week for this type of help will enable theatres to obtain the much-needed help.

Officials of major circuits here report that they are maintaining pre-

(Continued on page 9)

Majors Ask to Close Goldman Hearings

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23.—Instead of asking for a dismissal, as expected, defense counsel in the anti-trust suit of William Goldman against the Warner circuit and the major distributors asked Judge William H. Kirkpatrick in U. S. District Court this morning to close the hearings for the taking

(Continued on page 9)

Raftery, Sears and Kelly Going West

Edward C. Raftery, president; Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution; Arthur W. Kelly, vice-president, all of United Artists, in addition to Charles Schwartz of Schwartz and Frohlich, are expected to leave here Friday for Hollywood to attend the annual United Artists stockholders meeting to be held on Dec. 3.

Para. to Seek Talent and Plays in Europe After War

By JACK BERK

Paramount is looking forward to the unearthing of new screen talent and literary works in European occupied territory after the cessation of hostilities, Frank Farley, European representative of the Paramount home office production department, in New York from London, said here yesterday.

Farley, who has represented Paramount in Europe for 15 years, with present offices in London, stated that prior to the invasion of Paris, where he had maintained offices, Paramount was represented in each of the principal cities of continental Europe.

(Continued on page 9)

Charles Ray, Star of Silent Pictures, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 23. — Charles Ray, 52, veteran actor of silent films, died here this morning at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital after a five-weeks' illness.

Ray achieved stardom for his portrayal of country-boy roles, among his best remembered films being "The Egg-Crate Wallop," "The Coward," and "45 Minutes from Broadway." From 1934 to 1936 he appeared in several extra roles. Most of his film-made fortune was lost in a producing venture.

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Thanksgiving Day and a national holiday.**

Personal Mention

CHARLES F. COE will leave for Palm Beach, Fla., tomorrow for an extended stay. He does not plan to return to New York until after the first of the year.

•

STUART H. AARONS, of Warners' legal staff, who was granted leave from Army training to assist in the William Goldman suit in Philadelphia, will report back to Fort Dix on Friday.

•

CPL. MONROE GOODMAN, former assistant to OSCAR MORGAN, Paramount's short subjects sales manager, is now in charge of the post theatre at Kelly Field, Tex.

•

CAPT. HOLLIS KENNAHAN, formerly with Warners, is in New York en route to a new post at Fort Benning, Ga.

•

TED SOUCIE, manager of the Alexander Theatre, Rouyn, Quebec, was a visitor in Toronto after an absence of several years.

•

HARRY TURBERG, manager of the Northio Palace Theatre, Hamilton, O., is ill in Henrotin Hospital, Chicago.

•

GEORGE BALKIN, recovered from illness, has returned to his post as manager of Warners' Stanley, Philadelphia.

•

ELMER HIRTH, Goldman Circuit film buyer-booker, Philadelphia, is the father of a daughter, JOAN ELLEN, born at Jefferson Hospital, that city.

•

LUIGI LURASCHI, head of the censorship department at Paramount's Hollywood studio, arrived in New York yesterday.

•

JOHN B. NATHAN, Paramount managing director for Argentina, has arrived in Buenos Aires by air from New York.

•

DR. EUGENE FRENKE, independent producer, arrived yesterday in New York from the Coast.

•

FRANK P. ROSENBERG, Columbia exploitation director, will leave here Friday for the Coast.

•

ALEC MOSS, Paramount exploitation director, will observe another birthday today.

•

SAMUEL GOLDBERG, honorably discharged from the Army, will rejoin the Warner Circuit, Philadelphia.

•

EMMETT LAVERY, RKO writer-producer, will leave for the Coast Friday.

•

JEFFREY BERNERD, Monogram producer, will leave here tomorrow for Detroit and return over the weekend.

•

JACK SKIRBALL will arrive in New York tomorrow from Hollywood.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 23

SECRETARY HULL declared the other day "spheres of influence," long accepted as part and bundle of international diplomacy, will have no role in the contemplated order discussed at the Moscow conference.

Maybe that makes Jim Farley old-fashioned or merely faithful to a condition long ingrained. If spheres of the influential kind are to be outmoded diplomatically, it need not follow they're out politically.

Coca-Cola's plan for those 32 big-band musical shorts for the Army reputedly comes out of the Farley brain. Identified with the drink that pauses and refreshes, as advertised, is the former chairman of the Democratic National Committee. But he also continues in politics.

■

Farley is reported to see values in the production scheme. It is described as totally indirect in values since Coca-Cola evidently intends to display no visible connection with the enterprise.

These assurances have been made to this department:

1.—No credits will appear in main titles or elsewhere.

2.—No references as to sponsorship will appear in the footage, anywhere.

3.—Since the Army cannot accept these or other subjects gratis, the deal is cemented by payment of $1.

■

Presumably the high command, all or some, will be grateful. Presumably, the gratitude will be conveyed, or made known in one form or another, to the soldiers. They vote, too.

If there should be no political pitch to this, certainly there is a public relations pitch. And there is peace coming up one of these years.

One more assurance is made available: The shorts are not designed for theatrical distribution, are declared never heading in that direction.

■ ■

The De Havilland contract situation, to no one's surprise, now takes on a broader horizon. M-G-M and Republic are lined up on the side of Warners which maintains the 26 weeks accumulated in five suspensions constitute that many weeks the player owes the studio.

It has been reported Miss De Havilland's case rests on a California statute presumably providing a contract ends with its calendar last breath regardless of interruption for whatever reasons. She says she is free. Warner says otherwise. Now Metro and Republic, not specifically embroiled but may be so any minute now with talent of their own, likewise say she isn't although actually it is none of their business.

■

It becomes their business, however, in the light of the unpredictable future. That future, moreover, very likely will find other studios assuming the Warner position. Finally, if all of them enter this interesting impasse as "friends of the court," which is their way of entering, that would be in keeping with expectations.

In fact, the court expects it.

■ ■

Metro's Academy Award contender, of course, is "Madame Curie," a distinguished and important attraction in which the Sidney Franklin-Mervyn Le Roy coalition is at its noted best. Last year, the "Miniver rose;" this year, the Curie orchid.

With 20th Century-Fox, hope springs from "The Song of Bernadette."

Paramount will rest on "For Whom the Bell Tolls."

Warner sits quietly on its haunches, but its eligibles include "Casablanca," "Air Force," "Edge of Darkness" and "Watch on the Rhine."

If Ginger Rogers walks off with the best actress Oscar for "Tender Comrade," Charlie Koerner will have no beefs. The attraction, like "Bernadette," has to play here a minimum of one week with Jan. 6 next as the final date.

It will.

■ ■

The seven-year, optionless ticket movement is gaining impetus. Paramount already has signed Ray Milland to one and Paulette Goddard to another. Now, Fox with Betty Grable at a figure—added to the one she already had.

■ ■

Why producers want those Music Hall dates: "Mr. Lucky" played there seven weeks. RKO's end was about $200,000. Or in the neighborhood of 25 per cent of the negative cost.

Pegler's Son Marries

Arthur James Pegler, II, USNR, son of Jack Pegler, film advertising agency executive, will be married here today to Miss Nancy Marie Metzman at the Church of the Transfiguration.

'Fantasy' Sets New Criterion Record

Universal's "Flesh and Fantasy" ended its first week at the Criterion last night with a gross in excess of $41,000, a new all-time record for the 1,700-seat Broadway house. Previous record holder was "Destroyer," at $34,000, with the Deanna Durbin picture, "Hers to Hold," a close third.

200 at United War Chest Meet in Phila

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23.—Approximately 200 of the industry here attended an "all-out motion picture industry dinner" last night at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in behalf of the United War Chest. Although played up as war effort the dinner-meeting was devoted entirely to a rally to enhance the industry's participation in the War Chest campaign opening next Sunday.

Joseph Bernhard, vice-president of Warner Theatres, and Mayor Bernard Samuel were the principal speakers both emphasizing the need for all-out effort in behalf of the charity drive.

A similar note was sounded by Edward R. Carroll, chairman of the Motion Picture Censor Board in charge of the distributors' group; Abe Saslosky, in charge of the independent exhibitors' group, and local civic personalities. Samuel D. Schwartz was chairman of the affair and Jay Emanuel was toastmaster.

Ampere House Files Clearance Complain

Ampere, Ltd., operating the Ampere, East Orange, N. J., has filed clearance complaint against the five consenting companies, at the New York tribunal, the American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

Complainant alleges that it is subject to the following clearances: 1 days after the Broadmoor and Roxy on Warner and Loew product; 14 days after the Central on RKO releases seven days after the Central on Warner and Loew pictures; seven days after the Ormont on all decree company product, except RKO, and seven days after the Beacon on the five companies' productions.

Operators claim the above clearances are unreasonable and seek complete elmination, or in the alternative solely with respect to the Roxy, Broadmoor and Central, a reduction to not more than one day.

Sherman Heads Rep Production Uni

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 23.—Republic today elevated George Sherman to producership in charge of his own unit, the first self-contained set-up in the history of the studio.

He was assigned four pictures starting with "Lady from Lisbon," starring Vera Hruba Ralston.

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"I'm saying Happy M.G.M. Thanksgiving to my exhibitor pals with gay box-office tidings! I'm still delirious with joy from seeing 'MADAME CURIE'! It's superb! It's the sensation of the generation! Oh, Greer Garson! Oh, Walter Pidgeon! You've done it again Mr. and Mrs. Miniver! Tra-la-la! And I'm all goose-pimples over that wire from Hollywood. Spencer Tracy and Irene Dunne in 'A GUY NAMED JOE' cheered by a thrilled audience at the first preview. And next night at the preview of 'ANDY HARDY'S BLONDE TROUBLE' the unanimous verdict called it TOPS of the entire series. It's HAPPY THANKS-GIVING, INDEED!"

AND YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE HALF OF IT!

(For instance, at press-time "GIRL CRAZY" doing gorgeous 277% in first date, Seattle!)

Let's All Give! National War Fund—Which Gives To All!

THE KEY-RUN *Comedy* SENSATION OF THE MINUTE!

Olivia de Havilland

GOVERNMENT GIRL

with

Sonny Tufts

("Kansas" in "So Proudly We Hail")

AND ANNE SHIRLEY · JESS BARKER

JAMES DUNN • PAUL STEWART • AGNES MOOREHEAD • HARRY DAVENPORT • UNA O'CONNOR • SIG RUM

Produced, Directed and
***Screen Play by* DUDLEY NICHOLS**
From a Story by Adela Rogers St. John

RKO RADIO PICTURES

• • • GIVE WAR BONDS FOR CHRISTMAS • • •

Watch her turn the Capitol UPSIDE DOWN!

3 Girls to a Bed!

10 Girls to a Date!

20 Girls to a Steak!

Where . . .
the men are ONE to TEN
a gal's *GOTTA* be good!
No wonder no man
is safe after dark!

2,000 in Field Actually Selling

More than 2,000 film salesmen and branch managers are actually in the field selling today for 11 distributors, not counting salesmen and managers of state-righters other than those selling for PRC and Monogram, according to one home office survey just completed.

Majors have approximately 1,150 salesmen, averaging between 110 and 145 each. Republic, Monogram and PRC add another couple of hundred, with some 350 managing the offices of all 11. And to these can be added scores of short subject salesmen. Sales executives above branch managers have not been counted in the total and these would swell the figure considerably.

Sullivan Praises Army Cooperation

Neil Sullivan, veteran Pathe News cameraman, who returned this week after covering Allied Fifth Army operations in Italy from the initial landing at Salerno Bay to the explosion of a time bomb in the Naples post office in which he was injured, praised the cooperation given newsreel men and correspondents by public relations officers of the Army, in an interview here yesterday.

Sullivan revealed that the Americans have higher morale and better equipment than their German opponents. Eric Barrow, Universal cameraman from London, covered the Naples explosion for Sullivan, whose leg was broken in the blast. Sullivan also suffered a heart injury on the Salerno beach, where he landed with the first wave of Americans. He has been awarded the Purple Heart decoration.

Heavy Grosses Cited For 'Guadalcanal'

"Guadalcanal Diary," 20th-Fox film, in 70 cities, is understood to have kept pace or bettered the heavy grosses of the company's previous top grosser, "Coney Island." In Philadelphia, in its first week, "Diary" is said to have taken in $29,251 against "Coney Island's" $26,932, "Crash Dive's" $26,870, and $23,100 grossed by "Heaven Can Wait."

In Los Angeles, "Diary" grossed $26,982 at the downtown Loew's State, against $22,128 for "Coney," $22,789 for "Crash Dive" and $21,321 for "Heaven Can Wait."

W. E. Demonstration

Present at a Western Electric equipment demonstration and reception at the Hotel New Yorker yesterday were W. S. Gifford, president of A. T. & T.; Dr. Oliver Buckley, president of Bell Laboratories; Edward H. Burdick, designer of the exhibit, and W. E. executives P. L. Thompson, director of public relations; Herbert Foster, advertising manager; Will Whitmore, advertising department, and Reese Cliffords, works manager of the Kearny plant, besides trade and news reporters.

Review

"Jack London"

(Samuel Bronston-United Artists)

SEVERAL colorful episodes in the unique life of one of America's leading literary figures have been wrought into an exciting screen biography in "Jack London," Samuel Bronston's initial production for United Artists release. Michael O'Shea in the name part and Susan Hayward as Charmian Kittredge head the large cast in this enjoyable adventure film which effectively combines a good share of action with an appealing romance to present the customers with grand entertainment.

Ernest Pascal, who was assigned the difficult task of adapting London's biography by his widow, Charmian London (nee Kittredge), to the screen, has evolved an intensely interesting screenplay. It is rich in incident and in the latter part possesses a surprising degree of timeliness in its portrayal of Jap atrocities and ambitions for world domination during the Russo-Japanese War in 1905. This has a realistic parallel in today's headlines.

The action starts in Oakland in the 1890's. London is presented as a struggling young writer seeking to give expression to the ugliness he sees in the world. After his violent experiences as an oyster pirate and his raw adventure on a sealing schooner in the Bering Sea to earn enough money to go to college to study writing, London turns to the Yukon gold fields. Here he is writing "Comes of Age." While in New York selling his first novel he meets Charmian, a reader for a publisher. Charmian has fallen in love with London through his book, and though their wedding is delayed for many years while London continues his writings, Charmian plays an important role in further moulding his destiny as a war correspondent who scoops the eminent journalists of his day on the Russo-Japanese War, and in arriving at the decision to rouse America to the Jap menace.

Alfred Santell's direction is tops in fusing the varied action. O'Shea, who resembles Spencer Tracy and emulates his style of acting, turns in a neat performance as London. Susan Hayward is appealing and lovely as Charmian. Harry Davenport, Frank Craven, Osa Massen, Virginia Mayo, Louise Beavers, Ralph Morgan, Morgan Conway, Leonard Strong and Hobart Cavanaugh are fine in supporting roles. John W. Boyle's photography effectively captures the spirit of the action. The handsome production is presented in sepia-tinted film.

Running time, 94 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

**"G" denotes general classification.*

WAC Lists Release Dates for Six Films

War Activities Committee yesterday announced two new film bulletins and four war information films for release from Nov. 25 to Jan. 6.

Titles, with release dates and distributors follow: "Is Your Trip Necessary," M-G-M, bulletin, Nov. 25; "Save Waste Paper," Paramount, bulletin, Dec. 9; "Brothers in Blood," M-G-M, Dec. 16; "The Price of Rendova," M-G-M, Dec. 23; "No Exceptions," 20th-Fox, Dec. 30; "Destination, Island X," Paramount, Jan. 6.

The two bulletins will be attached to newsreels of all five newsreel companies. Running time of the four information films is 10 minutes each.

Capital Variety Elects

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—John Allen, M-G-M branch manager here, was elected chief barker of Variety Club Tent 11, yesterday at the Hotel Willard. Other officers elected were Fred Kogod, first assistant barker; Ed Fontaine, second assistant barker; Sam Galanty, dough-boy; Jake Flax, property spirit. Elected governors were Carter Barron, Nate Golden, Rudolph Berger, George Crouch, Leon Bachman, Wade Pearson.

Weiner Joins Warners

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23. — Robert Weiner, recently discharged from the Army, son of Harry E. Weiner, Columbia branch manager here, has joined the publicity staff of the local Warner theatres circuit.

$400,000 Promotion For 'Lady in Dark'

Paramount is preparing a pre-selling campaign for "Lady in the Dark," according to Robert M. Gillham, ad-publicity director, timed to break with the premiere in February in Hollywood and New York, with a magazine and newspaper campaign in four colors, including full pages in eight magazines, halfs in 20 Metropolitan Sunday comic sections, and in five Sunday rotogravure sections.

Campaign will open with an expenditure of more than $100,000. The complete campaign, including posting, radio, etc., will exceed $400,000, Gillham added. Starting in February and continuing through May the schedule will keep the picture before the public for four months.

Film New 'Army' Song

LONDON, Nov. 23.—Irving Berlin's new song, "My British Buddy," which has been added to "This Is the Army," now on the stage of the Palladium here and will be made into a film sequence by Berlin and the cast of the all-Army show.

Major George Stevens, American director stationed here with the U. S. Army, has volunteered to direct the sequence.

Precision Pays Dividend

Directors of General Precision Equipment yesterday declared a cash dividend of 25 cents per share on capital stock, payable Dec. 15, to stockholders of record Dec. 3.

Chambliss of 20th Named a Comdr.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—William Chambliss, who enlisted in the Navy before Pearl Harbor from a 20th Century-Fox home office publicity post has been promoted to a full Commander. He is with the Navy's Incentive Division here. Comdr. Chambliss was wounded in one of several Pacific battles in which he participated as an aviator and has won several decorations.

In the same Incentive unit here with Chambliss are Lieut. (jg) Douglas George, former 20th-Fox publicity representative in Cleveland; Lieut. Bob Taplinger, former Warner Bros. studio publicist, and Lieut. Commander Tom Orchard, formerly of March of Time, New York.

'Warner Round-Up' Drive Starts Dec. 19

"Warners' 1944 Round-Up" has been designated as the title for the 21-week sales drive which Warner Bros. will launch Dec. 19 under the direction of general sales manager Ben Kalmenson, it was announced here yesterday with the return of Roy Haines, Southern and Western division sales manager, and Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager from the last of a series of regional meetings to set up machinery for the campaign.

Moray was again named by Kalmenson as captain of the campaign with $33,500 in war bonds to be distributed as prizes to the field force.

M&P Buys MGM's 1st 12 for 100 Houses

M-G-M has closed a deal for the exhibition of its first group of 12 pictures for 1943-44 with the M & P Theatres, Boston, Paramount affiliate, operating over 100 theatres in New England. Maurice N. Wolf, New England district manager, and T. J. Donaldson, Boston branch manager, assisted Edwin W. Aaron, M-G-M circuit sales manager, in consummating the deal, while Martin J. Mullin, executive manager, represented M. and P.

Seeks Early Action On War Fund Pledges

Sam Rinzler, who as New York chairman for the National War Fund visited and addressed executives and personnel of film companies in their home offices and exchanges, has been notified that fund headquarters seeks an accounting of the industry's participation in the drive and requests those who signed pledges to send in checks promptly to Fred Schwartz, treasurer, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City, to be made payable to the National War Fund.

SPG Members Urged To Seek AFL Charter

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 23.—The Executive Committee of Screen Publicists Guild, hitherto unaffiliated, has recommended to the membership that the Guild apply for a charter as an autonomous local of the AFL, "with the belief that SPG should strengthen itself for situations we can see coming and for any we can't foresee.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS WITH

THE SINATRA SHOW FROM RKO!

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Watch the Grosses Climb HIGHER AND HIGHER

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 23

ALEX EVELOVE today was elected chairman of the Western branch of the Public Information Committee, succeeding George Brown, whose term has expired; John Joseph has been made chairman of the executive committee.

•

M-G-M today announced that Greer Garson's next will be Louis Bromfield's "Mrs. Parkington," with Leon Gordon producing.

•

Francis Harmon, WAC coordinator, will return to New York in 10 days, following his convalescence at Tucson.

•

Roy Rogers today entered the Good Samaritan Hospital for observation. Doctors fear pneumonia threatens him.

•

M-G-M today signed Joy Page, daughter of Mrs. Jack Warner, to a term contract.

•

Winfield Sheehan will arrive here tomorrow from the East.

Funeral Rites Today For Lorenz Hart

Funeral services for Lorenz Hart, 48, who died at Doctors Hospital Monday night after a brief illness, will be held at 12:30 today at Universal Funeral Chapel.

The lyrics writer was born in New York and educated at Columbia, where he met Richard Rodgers, with whom he wrote an estimated 1,000 songs during their long collaboration. Among the many films to which the team lent their talents were "Nana," "Manhattan Melodrama," "Mississippi," "Dancing Pirate," "Fools for Scandal," "Babes in Arms," "On Your Toes," "The Boys from Syracuse," "Too Many Girls," "I Married an Angel" and "I'd Rather Be Right."

His brother, Teddy Hart, the comedian, is his only survivor.

Rogers to Handle Norwegian Picture

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Budd Rogers has been named sales representative for the Norwegian film titled "Norway Replies," the Royal Norwegian Embassy announced here yesterday. Negotiations are under way for national distribution.

Picture is based on the exploits of a young Norwegian who escapes in a Commando raid from Norway and returns as leader of a Norwegian bomber squadron. Ben Grauer, Alois Havrill and Ed Thorgerson were the narrators, and Jack Shaindlain composed the score. Film was produced and directed by F. Herrick Herrick.

Neroff Replaces Goldson

Al Neroff has replaced George Goldson in the operations division of the Harry Brandt circuit in New York. Goldson has joined a candy firm here.

Coldoff Succeeds Shawn

TORONTO, Nov. 23.—Louis Coldoff has been named manager of Cosmopolitan Films, Ltd., distributors of Soviet pictures, succeeding H. B. Shawn, now in the Air Force.

Review

"Around the World"

(RKO-Radio)

RKO took Kay Kyser and his galaxy of entertainers, mixed them with the zany capers of Joan Davis, the comic antics of Mischa Auer, the excellent entertainment of youthful Marcy McGuire and added a touch of the funny Wally Brown and Alan Carney, serving up a sparkling concoction overflowing with small music and comedy. "Around the World" should ring a merry tune at the box-office. Exploitation possibilities are abundant. Radio audiences are fully aware of the entertainment value inherent in Kyser, his band and his singers. Joan Davis and Mischa Auer are well known to film audiences. It's there, Mr. Exhibitor. All you have to do is let the public know what you've got.

Music by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson is of hit-parade calibre. "Don't Believe Everything You Dream," sung by lovely Georgia Carroll, is a positive winner, while "Candlelight and Wine," "He's Got a Secret Weapon" and "Roodle-ee-doo" are three of nine other tunes in the film that are already receiving considerable attention by dance bands all over the country.

Story deals with the world-wide travels of Kyser and his group bringing joy to troops at overseas bases. The trip is complicated by Auer's obsession for collecting souvenirs at every stop and by Joan's hectic efforts to grab herself "anything wearing pants." Among places visited are Australia, China, Egypt, Tunisia and Liberia.

Production and direction by Allan Dwan keeps this musical zipping right along. The screen play and original story material were written by Ralph Spence, with special material by Carl Herzinger. Russell Metty was director of photography.

Running time, 81 mins. "G."* FRED STENGEL

**"G" denotes general classification.*

'Oklahoma Kid' Wows As $18,300 Reissue

PROVIDENCE, Nov. 23.—"Guadalcanal Diary" held up nicely during its second week and was expected to gross about $10,200 for six days, but the real surprise was the $18,300 gross taken by the re-issue of "Oklahoma Kid" and "Young Ideas" at Loew's State.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 24:

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
"Prairie Chicken" (Roach-UA)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $12,900)
"Hostages" (Para.)
"The Good Fellows" (Para.)
STRAND — (2,200 (40c-50c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average, $10,000).
"Oklahoma Kid" (WB) (Reissue)
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $18,300. (Average, $15,500)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Hi Ya Sailor" (Univ.)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (30c-40c-50c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,200. (Average, $12,000)
"Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
"Danger, Women at Work" (PRC)
CARLTON — (1,526) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from State. Gross: $4,200. (Average, $3,900)
"Harvest Melody" (PRC)
FAY'S—(1,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. On stage: Paul Gerrits, Carl & Harriette, The Mattells, Paul Gerson, Jeanne Andre, Monte Wolfe. Gross: $6,900. (Average, $6,500)
"A Scream in the Dark" (Rep.)
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. On stage: The Marcus Show, "Tropicana." Gross: $8,000. (Average, $8,000)

Skouras at West Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 23. — Spyros Skouras, president of 20th-Fox, arrived here today from the East. Tom J. Connors, vice-president in charge of sales, and Hal Horne, advertising-publicity director for the company, are expected here Monday.

'Song' for Hollywood

"Desert Song," Warner Bros. new colored musical will open at the Hollywood Theatre in New York on Christmas Eve. "Old Acquaintance," present tenant, is expected to remain until then.

'Rosie,' 'Good Fellows' Do a Nice $11,600

OMAHA, Nov. 23.—Paramount Theatre here enjoyed another good week with "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" and "The Good Fellows" hitting $11,600. The much-smaller Brandeis was also crammed most of the week, netting $7,100 on "In Old Oklahoma" and "Good Luck, Mr. Yates." Weather was unusually good for November.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 24-25:

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
"Good Luck, Mr. Yates" (Col.)
BRANDEIS — (1,200) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,100. (Average, $5,500)
"Salute to the Marines" (M-G-M)
"The Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
OMAHA — (2,000) (40c-55c) 6 days, 2nd week, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $6,400. (Average, $6,900)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (50c-65c) 6 days. On stage: Charlie Barnett and orchestra on stage. Gross: $14,100. (Average, $14,900)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"The Good Fellows" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT — (2,900) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,600. (Average, $9,800)

Leave Goldman Circuit

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23.—Ben Zimmerman, assistant general manager for William Goldman Theatres, has resigned to become a partner in the Upsal Theatre here. Also leaving the organization is John Richardson, manager of the Terminal Theatre here. No replacements have yet been announced.

Moncure Leaves RKO

Carey Moncure, assistant editor of "Salute," RKO monthly house publication sent to former employes now in the armed forces, resigned yesterday. She will start work Monday in the research department of *Pic* magazine. No successor has been named.

Godshaw to Sell

CHICAGO, Nov. 23.—Michael Godshaw has been appointed salesman here for World-Wide Pictures.

FCC Ruling Sets One-Station Limit

Washington, Nov. 23.—Federal Communications Commission tonight issued a ruling that no person or corporation may own or control more than a single standard broadcast station in any one area. The order not only applies to majority stock ownership, but "includes actual working control", however exercised, the FCC said.

'Holy Matrimony' Is Tops in Toronto

TORONTO, Nov. 23.—"Holy Matrimony" was setting the pace among complete new set of first-runs wit expectation of $15,100 at the Imperial Theatre. There is promise of $14,300 for "Claudia" at Shea's Theatre and "Johnny Come Lately" topped double-bill at Loew's for $12,30 "Fired Wife" and a British feature a the Uptown Theatre were bidding fo $10,200.

Estimated receipts for the wee ending Nov. 25:

"Cottage to Let" (British)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $3,900)
"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c 6 days. Gross: $15,100. (Average, $12,600)
"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Yanks Ahoy" (UA)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) day. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $10,800).
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) days. Gross: $14,300. (Average, $12,300)
"The Sky's the Limit" (RKO)
"Tonight We Raid Calais" (20th-Fox)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 day Gross: $4,600. (Average, $4,600)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
"We Dive at Dawn" (British)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) days. Gross: $10,200. (Average, $9,700)

Censorship Cancels Carol Broadcas

Office of Censorship in a last minute move yesterday rescinded per mission previously granted to CB to air a talk by former King Car of Rumania from Mexico City sche uled for last night as part of CB "Report to the Nation" program.

Office of Censorship issued the fol lowing statement to CBS yesterda afternoon: "Owing to consideratior that we are not at liberty to disclos we find it necessary to cancel th previously authorized use of the line from Mexico City for the schedule broadcast tonight by former Kin Carol of Rumania." Considerable cor troversy arose after Cornelius Var derbilt, Jr., representing Russe Birdwell, publicist, reportedly set th broadcast.

'The Modern Farmer Feeds Radio Pres

Mert Emmert, WEAF's "The Mod ern Farmer," who has a daily far service program, was host to Ne York newspaper radio editors, radi trade press representatives, NBC off cials and New Jersey 4-H Club head at an advance Thanksgiving dinner a a farmhouse in Englishtown, N. J yesterday.

The festivities were recorded b Emmert.

heatres to Hold 2 Drives Together

(Continued from page 1)

ld at the same time are: the Fourth ar Loan drive had to be held in nuary, and the infantile paralysis mpaign must coincide with Presi- nt Roosevelt's birthday, according a statement sent to exhibitors.

The March of Dimes drive "boils wn" to the running of the appeal ailer and making audience collec- ons during one week, the statement ded.

"While the theatre manager faces extra burden," the statement con- ded, "he will rise to the occasion."

Both Fabian and Schenck explained at every effort was made to avoid e overlapping of dates but the cal- dar and the war permitted no anges.

Harry Brandt, member of the arch of Dimes executive committee, id, "This is our fourth annual arch of Dimes drive and we know e public is deeply sympathetic to it."

ara. Anticipates European Talent

(Continued from page 1)

ventually, as these countries were errun by the Axis, representation ased, and as yet no word has been ceived from Paramount employees ho were in them.

Both motion picture and stage thea- res are doing an unusually large siness, he reported. "Midnight ouse," now titled "Fear," "French- an's Creek," "The Man in Half oon Street," "Ministry of Fear," Hour Before Dawn" and the "Unin- ted" were story properties referred the home office by him, some of hich have been filmed, with others w in production or in preparation.

Farley will stay in New York for me office conferences until the sec- id week of December, departing then r Hollywood for further talks with ory and production heads. He ex- ects to return to London the first eek of January.

ew Peskay Firm For Producer Service

(Continued from page 1)

epresent producers in seeking and urchasing books and plays.

Phil Frank Sherman will handle e legal work, William Cutler is in harge of accounting and negotiations ith Dave (Skip) Weshner are now n for the publicity and exploitation ost.

Peskay at present is Eastern rep- esentative for Benedict Bogeaus, amuel Bronston and Gregor Rabino- itch and is British Ealing Studios' epresentative in the U. S.

Bernadette' Premiere Is Set for Christmas

"The Song of Bernadette" will have s world premiere at the Carthay Circle and United Artists Theatre, os Angeles, on Christmas Day, Tom Connors, 20th sales head, reported here esterday. The film will play both ouses at advanced prices.

There will be a preview at the Car- hay Circle on Dec. 21, to which state, ivic, industry and press leaders will e invited.

Service Help Shortage at Theatres Really Serious

(Continued from page 1)

vious standards only by having all of their help work overtime and 'pinch-hit' when needed. The cooperation is splendid throughout in the face of mounting difficulties, these officials report.

An RKO spokesman said that most employees who have been with the circuit for many years are remaining with the organization in view of the job security enjoyed and a considera- tion of possible post-war conditions is counteracting the lure of higher wages in war jobs now.

Conditions in defense areas are more serious with porters, for example, earning as much as $50 and $60 a week in defense plants. Higher pay- ing defense jobs are not the only com- petitors to theatres for workers in these categories. Advertisements in newspapers are offering $26-$28 for similar work in office buildings, prom- ising many inducements. Families re- quiring domestic help have also be- come competitors, offering higher and higher salaries to secure help.

The situation is not only confined to motion picture theatres. Legitimate theatres with which Local 54 has con- tracts are experiencing similar diffi- culties. In many cases theatres are paying wages much higher than scale to secure and keep employees.

F. Kummer, Author, Playwright, Dies

BALTIMORE, Nov. 23.—Frederick Arnold Kummer, 70, novelist and play- wright, died here yesterday at his home after a long illness. His writ- ings included novels, short stories, plays, detective stories, juveniles and musical comedy librettos. In the lat- ter field, he wrote "The Magic Mel- ody," music by Sigmund Romberg, and collaborated on "My Golden Girl" with the late Victor Herbert.

In 1895 Kummer married Clare Rodman. They had one daughter, Mrs. Marjorie Beecher Young. He later married Marion McLeane and they had a daughter, Mrs. Marion Wachsmuth and two sons, Frederick Arnold and Joseph Tennant Kummer, who survive.

Two Scenes Censored In 'Battle of Russia'

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23. — State Board of Censors today deleted two scenes as "improper and indecent" in approving "The Battle of Russia." One of the objectionable scenes showed nude dead. Mrs. Edna R. Car- roll, board chairman, also explained that the other clipped scene shows per- sons hanging from gallows. No ob- jections to the cuts was voiced by 20th-Fox.

Abrahams Quits Post

Morris Abrahams, formerly with the M-G-M exploitation department for 23 years and later with Universal, has left his post as liaison between the United Theatrical War Activities Committee and the National War Fund. Future plans will be an- nounced shortly.

Mexicans Hit U.A. For Azteca Deal

(Continued from page 1)

the 'Good Neighbor' policy, without any intent to place the Mexican pic- ture business into the hands of Ameri- can investors. But American pro- ducers and distributors seem to desire to become associated with our in- dustry, not to assure its prosperity, but to dominate it for the benefit of American production."

Grovas said that the Mexican busi- ness has been able to progress so well in the face of countless difficulties that it now represents an investment of about $20,000,000 and is in line for a yearly production of 70 films valued at more than $6,000,000, adding: "We are now quite sufficient unto ourselves and frankly we do not consider it con- venient to reach out for foreign dis- tributors of our pictures. Mexico en- joys great credit among the Latin American people; even in the Argen- tine, where much had to be done to introduce Mexican pictures, their suc- cess is now perfectly assured."

The industry here was generally pleased about deals with American companies to distribute an occasional picture. But it generally objects to distribution of all the output of a Mexican producer.

Investigating Film Truck Breakdown

Report is being assembled on the threatened breakdown of the film de- livery system in the New York area because of the unavailability of new trucks by Harry Grayson, attorney representing the film deliverers, and will be presented to the War Activi- ties Committee this week.

Committees appointed by WAC to work with the film truckers is expect- ed to send representatives to Wash- ington with the findings in an effort to secure needed equipment.

40-Cent Wage Floor Ruling is Expected

(Continued from page 1)

toria here and their recommendations will be used by the administrator in making his decision.

Union officials claim that many ushers, charwomen and other theatre employes have complained that they are receiving less than 40 cents an hour.

Davis Heads MPA

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23.—Al Davis, 20th-Fox sales manager, has been elected president of the local Motion Picture Associates here. Other of- ficers are George Beattie, vice-presi- dent; William G. Humphreis, treasur- er, and Lester Wurtel, secretary. Board of directors comprise John Mc- Fadden, Jack Engel, Harry E. Weiner and William J. Doyle.

Majors Ask to Close Goldman Hearings

(Continued from page 1)

of testimony. They previously had rested their case without offering any defense.

Morris Wolf, Warner attorney, ex- plained that the defense decided against a motion for dismissal because of an involved and legal technicality. Judge Kirkpatrick asked both sides to file written briefs within two weeks and allowed an additional third week for both sides to answer briefs. The de- fense then asked for oral arguments on the briefs to be heard in court on a date to be set by Judge Kirkpatrick and also agreed to allow the new docu- mentary evidence presented yesterday by William A. Gray, attorney for Goldman, to be entered in the records.

The evidence showed that Warner's Mastbaum grossed $971,281 for the year ending Aug. 31 and that the re- ceipts for all downtown Warner the- atres were well over $6,000,000 for the same period. The evidence was amended by figures presented by de- fense attorneys showing attendance figures at the same Warner houses from 1928 to date.

Government Rests Extortion Case

(Continued from page 1)

cause of insufficient evidence. It is unlikely, according to defense attor- neys, that defense witnesses will be called upon to testify before Monday, although there is a possibility that the dismissal motions will have been dis- posed of late today, in which event the defense will proceed with its evidence.

Judge Bright stated yesterday that the case will be adjourned from today until next Monday because of the in- tervening holiday.

James D. C. Murray, chief defense attorney, indicated that the defense plans to call some 50 witnesses, whose testimony will be spread over several weeks. Boris Kostelanetz, special Federal prosecutor, before resting the government's case, introduced in evi- dence, over the objections of defense attorneys, income tax returns of Ralph Pierce, one of the Chicago de- fendants, for 1936 to 1941 inclusive. The returns indicated that Pierce ob- tained a part of his income for those years from the Chicago firm of Rus- sell, Russell, Joy & Pierce. Charles Gioe, alias Joy, of Chicago, is another defendant, and the purpose of the prosecutor was to show an associa- tion between the two defendants.

Clark Confers with New England Owners

(Continued from page 1)

inequities which they are anxious to have eliminated in the new decree.

Clark, in turn, brought them up to date on negotiations with the distribu- tors and gave them a broad outline of the revision which is now being worked out.

$6,000,000 Mark Passed

The New York-Brooklyn Federa- tion of Jewish Charities has achieved a total of $6,008,500 toward its 1943 goal of $10,500,000, Norman S. Goetz, campaign chairman has an- nounced.

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'Girl Crazy' Is Phila. Leader With $23,500

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23. — With most downtown houses getting in the Thanksgiving holiday on current attractions and the week offering fewer competing attractions, a big gross is in prospect for all. Among new openings, "Girl Crazy leads the field with $23,500 expected at the Boyd. The Earle with Cab Calloway's band and "Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" is enjoying one of its best weeks in months with $31,000 in sight.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 24-26:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $23,400. (Average, $10,300)

"Crime School" (W. B.)
ARCADIA—(600) (35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, 2nd run, revival. Gross: $3,200. (Average, $3,500)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
BOYD — (3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. (Average, $19,000)

"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M) (6 days)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (46c-57c-75c) 6 days with vaudeville including Cab Calloway's orchestra, The Choclateers, Fay Canty, Cholly & Dotty, Ralph Brown, J. C. Heard and Jonah Jones. Gross: $36,500. (Average, $22,000)

"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
FAY'S—(2,200) (29c-35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days of vaudeville including Erskine Hawkins' orchestra and Spider Bruce & Co. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $10,000)

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
FOX — (3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,700. (Average, $17,800)

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
KARLTON — (1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $5,600)

"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $5,000)

"Princess O'Rourke" (W.B.)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $14,800. (Average, $22,000)

"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
STANLEY — (3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $16,800. (Average, $18,300)

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
STANTON — (1,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average, $8,000)

Phila. Taxes Up 11%

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23. — An increase of 11.39 per cent in amusement taxes collected by the city for the first nine months of 1943 over 1942, was reported by city treasurer Edward W. Baird, Jr. Tax receipts for the period ending Sept. 30 were $1,033,327, against $907,700 in 1942. City's estimate for the year is $1,400,000; 1942's full-year receipts were $1,273,140.

$540,000 Theatre Deal

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23.—A. M. Ellis Theatre Enterprises, independent circuit, has acquired for $540,000 the Erny and Nolan Erlen and the Renal theatres here. Erlen is a first-run house, and the Renal a subsequent run. Also, A. M. Bryan has taken over the Berwyn, Berwyn, Pa., from Russell P. Conrad.

Gets 'Marching On'

An all-Negro feature, "Marching On," written and directed by Spencer Williams, has been acquired by J. H. Hoffberg Productions for distribution in the Eastern area. Story is based on a story of three generations of the Negro and his relation to the war effort.

Reviews

"The Texas Kid"
(Monogram)

Hollywood, Nov. 23

ANOTHER in the series of the Johnny Mack Brown-Raymond Hatton Westerns produced by Scott R. Dunlap and directed by Lambert Hillyer, this film has in it almost everything that goes to make a Western today. Shirley Patterson as the heroine and Marshall Reed as the "Texas Kid" stand out in their performances.

This time the ranchers face loss of their lands through a plot to break the stage lines and a trading post and keep the ranchers' payroll moneys from coming through from National City. The man who has bought the trading post and stage line from the attractive Shirley Patterson after her father was killed is behind the deal. The Texas Kid, once an outlaw, kills one of his own gang when he learns that the fellow has shot his father in a holdup. It's the first and best depicting of a shoot-it-out draw, in true old West fashion, that has been done in a long time. When he learns that Shirley's father was killed by the same band, he allows himself to be sold a half interest in the post and takes up from there, ostensibly working with the outlaws, but actually planning to trap them. He helps Brown and Hatton put the ropes around the necks of the bandits and the two lawmen ride on to other adventures. "Texas Kid" and Shirley head toward romance.

Running time, 56 minutes. "G."*

"Hail to the Rangers"
(Columbia)

Hollywood, Nov. 23

WHEN you say that Bob Atcher sings in this one of the Charles Starrett Westerns produced by Jack Fier and directed by William Berke, you've told the customers the best there is to tell about it. It taxes the credulity of the audience with its overabundance of Texas Rangers suddenly let out of their jobs, in the midst of arresting a murderer, and then just as suddenly returned to their jobs by a stroke of the governor's pen.

Starrett struggles along as the Ranger captain who returns to his old ranch-foreman job in time to help save it and the lands of neighbors from a grab engineered by the town's newspaper editor with the help of the once arrested murderer, who has declared himself in. When Starrett and his pal, Arthur, need help, ex-Rangers ride in from all directions, bullets begin to fly and they shoot themselves into an upper hand position and save the ranchers and their property.

Story and screenplay are by Gerald Geraghty.

Running time, 57 minutes. "G."* JACK CARTWRIGHT

*"G" denotes general classification.

Gov. Dewey Praises Industry for Drive

New York's Governor Thomas E. Dewey yesterday congratulated the industry for its work in the Third War Loan campaign, following presentation to him by J. Meyer Schine, War Activities Committee exhibitor chairman for upper New York State, of a report on the industry's work in the drive.

Report to Gov. Dewey listed war bond totals sold by the Hollywood Cavalcade, the Airmada, theatre war bond premieres and "Free Movie Day," totaling one-ninth of all the bonds purchased in the nation through all sources during the campaign.

Disney Named to Board

Walt Disney has been named a trustee of the Museum of Modern Art, according to an announcement by Stephen C. Clark, chairman of the board. Among members are John E. Abbott, Marshall Field, Henry Luce, Archibald MacLeish, William S. Paley, John Hay Whitney.

Kirston to Princeton

PRINCETON, N. J., Nov. 23.—John W. Kirston, formerly with Paramount and Walter Wanger Productions, has joined Princeton Film Center here.

Report Theatre Sales In Philadelphia Area

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23. — More theatre transactions were reported here following the sale of Al Fisher's Edgemore Theatre, Edgemore, Del., to Fred Faulkner, Northern New Jersey circuit operator. Ed and Sid Kapner sold the Upsal Theatre here to William Fishman and M. Foxman, who also operate the Vogue. Murray Diamond, premium distributor, purchased Sam Tannenbaum's Palace in Atlantic City. George Kurlansik, owner of the Transit Theatre in Allentown, Pa., sold his Park there to the Emashowski interests.

Warner Phila. Shifts

PHHILADELPHIA, Nov. 23.—George Waldman, of the film payment department of the Warner theatre circuit here, has been shifted to Newark. Max Bronow of the booking department has moved up to fill the vacancy. Harold Dunn, film buyer for the circuit, has left the company to go to New York.

'U' Adds in Des Moines

DES MOINES, Nov. 23. — Jake Schlank, formerly with United Artists at Omaha, has been appointed salesman at the Universal exchange here.

Short Subjec Reviews

"Flicker Flashbacks"
(RKO)

The subject returns again to t realm of the "bloomer-bathing sui beauties of the early 1900's and to t "drah-ma" that was the early moti picture. "Saved From Himself or T Curse of the Cigarette" is the arre ing title of the first flashback and the story of the "ne'er-do-well" s who fell to the influence of the filt weed until his sister's fiance sa him from a cruel fate. "A Race f Millions," Thomas A. Edison produ tion, takes one back to the gold-ru days for another thrilling sequen Highly amusing and reminiscent the "good old days," the "Flick Flashback" series seems to be he to stay. Richard O. Fleischer's sel tion of material is good and Herm Fuch's music is appropriate. Produc by Frederic Ullman, Jr. Runni time, 10 mins. Release date, Nov.

"Garden of Eatin' "
(Columbia)

Slim Summerville returns to screen in a short not worthy of ability. Another veteran, Ches Conklin, also puts in an appeara and provides some laughs, along w Bobby Larson. The story conce Bobby who is fond of the family g dener, Slim, who is fired for consta ly getting in Bobby's father's h Bobby runs away with Slim and the end Papa relents and comes his son and gardener and they all happily ever after. Story and scre play by Harry Edwards and Elw Ullman is weak in spots; Edwa direction is just fair. Produced Hugh McCollum. Running time, mins. Release date, Oct. 22.

"Film-Vodvil"
(Columbia)

The third release in the new Fi Vodvil series has four acts from vaudeville stage including Al Gor and His Educated Dogs which through their paces in great style; three Samuels, clever dancers; Art Blake, a talented mimic who doe good job as M.C., and Zeb Carver his corny hillbilly band. It's amus entertaining and fast-moving, a g short for everyone. Jack Shaindl musical score is excellent. Produ by B. K. Blake. Running time, mins. Release date, Nov. 19.

"You Dear Boy"
(Columbia)

Vera Vague prances across country, in her own inimitable f ion, on the trail of a man again. man is Douglass Drake and, stra to say, Vera's engaging persona gets him, but only after many understandings which finds the fuddled Miss Vague living up to name in fine style. There's plenty refreshing comedy in this release the acting is good. Direction Jules White, the producer, is excell Running time, 18 mins. Release d Nov. 4.

Stearn Resigns

CLEVELAND, Nov. 23.—Bert Ste member of the Warner exchange for the past several months, has signed. He was formerly Wes sales manager for United Artists

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52% of Awards On Clearance Favor Owners

Complaining Houses Win Average 15.5-Day Cut

Arbitration board clearance decisions are running about 52 per cent in favor of independent exhibitor plaintiffs, and average about 15.5 days reduction of clearance for competitive theatres.

Exhibitors won 98 out of 185 clearance awards handed down in the first three years of the decree, ended last weekend; 79 of the theatres benefitting are either singly-owned or units of very small independent circuits; majority of clearance cuts ranged from seven to 14 days; distributors won 87 dismissals of the 185 complaints filed.

Motion Picture Herald, surveying clearance and other arbitration board results under the decree, will say today that 347 complaints of various

(*Continued on page 4*)

House Passes Rise In Admission Tax

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25. — Higher taxes on admissions shifted to the Senate over the holiday, following passage of the bill by the House on Wednesday by a vote of 200 to 27 after an afternoon of debate under a rule which barred the offering of any amendments from the floor.

The Senate Finance Committee is expected to take the measure up almost immediately, holding brief hearings before it sends it to the floor in practically the same shape as received from the House.

From the standpoint of the industry, the major item in the bill as

(*Continued on page 4*)

Skouras, Kent Trip To London Delayed

Spyros Skouras, 20th-Fox president, and Larry Kent, his executive assistant, have delayed their scheduled trip to London until early January. This coincides with the projected visit to England by J. Robert Rubin, M-G-M vice-president, and Al Lichtman, Loew's vice-president.

Maurice Silverstone, 20th-Fox vice-

(*Continued on page 4*)

18 Producers on U. A. Roster, New High for Company

United Artists now has what is believed to be the highest number of independent producers on its roster that any major has had in decades, with 17 producers contributing regularly or sporadically to the company's program and an 18th, Lester Cowan Productions, now organizing. Mary Pickford Co. and Chaplin Studio, Inc. are listed, but inactively.

Producers listed include: Producers Corp. of America, headed by Sig Schlager, Ben Englander, James Smith; Principal Artists Productions, Sol Lesser, Barney Briskin, Michael Rosenberg; Arnold Productions, Arnold Pressburger, Robert Lambert, Frederick Z. Reitler; Samuel Bronston Pictures, Samuel Bronston, George Burrows; Charles R. Rogers Pictures; Edward Small Productions, Edward Small, David Tannenbaum; Andrew Stone Pictures Corp., An-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Leserman Meets U.A. Managers Monday

United Artists' division and district managers will meet at the home office Monday for the first of a series of sales meetings, Carl Leserman, general sales manager, announced here Wednesday.

Two-day session will be highlighted by discussion of forthcoming product including Samuel Bronston's "Jack London," Gregor Rabinovitch's "Three Russian Girls," Ben Bogeaus' "The Bridge of San Luis Rey," Harry

(*Continued on page 4*)

WPB Cracks Down On Alterations

Minneapolis, Nov. 25.—Failure to secure proper authorization from WPB for alterations on the Capitol Theatre, St. Paul, has brought probation to Svensson and Edstrom, Minneapolis contracting firm, and well known in theatre construction.

Probation period, to Feb. 5, 1944, was ordered by the WPB board compliance commissioner here when the contracting firm agreed to hereafter fully comply with requirements of the board, and after the commissioner declared there had been no deliberate attempt to impede the war effort.

Coe to Make Three Mid-January Talks

Charles F. Coe, vice-president and general counsel of the MPPDA, is tentatively scheduled to make three mid-January addresses to civic groups in Chicago and Cleveland on the industry as a factor in the nation's war effort, it was announced here on Wednesday.

Coe, who left New York yesterday for a six weeks' visit to his Palm Beach, Fla., home, will address the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce at a luncheon meeting and, the same day, will address Cleveland's Fifty Club. Several major company presidents will accompany Coe on the Cleveland visit.

Wilkerson Promised to Accept Bioff Dictation

William R. Wilkerson, publisher of the Hollywood Reporter, took the stand on Wednesday in Federal court here as the first defense witness in the trial of eight defendants charged with extorting more than $1,000,000 from the industry. The trial was adjourned Wednesday until Monday morning.

Under cross-examination by Boris Kostelanetz, special Federal prosecutor, Wilkerson stated that he had received a government subpoena directing him to produce all correspondence in his files relating to William Bioff or John Rosselli. The witness stated that he had searched his files and

(*Continued on page 5*)

Inquiry Ordered Into Toronto Fire

TORONTO, Nov. 25.—Provincial Government court of inquiry into the Toronto film exchange fire under direction of Fire Marshal William J. Scott has been ordered here. Witnesses will be summoned to appear at a hearing to determine the origin of the fire and place the responsibility for it. Dr. Smirle Lawson, chief coroner of Ontario, has also ordered an inquest into the death at the fire of Herbert Naiman, projectionist.

Detective Sgt. John Houston of the

(*Continued on page 4*)

British Trade Moves Toward Conciliation

KRS, CEA Will Establish Unit to Settle Disputes

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Nov. 25.—The bitter discord raging for months in the British trade over distributors' high grading of films and alleged high rentals, along with disputes over many other trade practices, are apparently to be settled amicably, it was indicated here today, with the establishment of permanent joint conciliation machinery by the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association and the Kinematograph Renters' Society.

Report that exhibitors and distributors here would agree on conciliation of major disputes was exclusively predicted in *Motion Picture Daily* on Nov. 19.

Proposal by Sam Eckman, managing director for M-G-M in Great Britain, urging the appointment of a committee of 12, six representatives

(*Continued on page 4*)

Monopoly Is Denied In Schoenstadt Case

CHICAGO, Nov. 25.—Answering the anti-trust complaint of H. Schoenstadt & Sons, attorneys for Balaban and Katz and Paramount Pictures, have filed a motion to strike out certain monopolistic charges of the complaint as immaterial to the relief sought. Portions which are asked to be stricken relate to alleged monopolies in cities other than Chicago and in connection with the operation of theatres in parts of Chicago other than the South Side, with respect to which operation no complaint is made. Defendants further deny charges that a

(*Continued on page 4*)

SPG Seeks AFL Aid In Wage Demands

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—Producers here are examining the demands of Screen Publicists Guild for a 15 per cent overall wage boost, while SPG is strengthening its position through seeking affiliation with the conference of studio unions numbering 10,000 employes, all part of the AFL set-up among studios which includes the basic agreement group and IATSE. SPG

(*Continued on page 4*)

Personal Mention

LEON NETTER, Paramount home office theatre executive, will leave for Charlotte early next week to attend an annual meeting of Wilby-Kincey Circuit directors.

•

JOHN KIRBY, Paramount Atlanta district manager, and KERMIT STENGEL, Crescent Amusement Co. general manager, are in New York conferring with HUGH OWEN, Paramount Eastern division sales manager.

•

HENRI ELMAN and HARRY ALLEN, PRC franchise holders in Chicago and Toronto, respectively, are in New York for conferences with O. HENRY BRIGGS, PRC president.

•

MARTIN JUROW, formerly Warners' Eastern talent head, left for the Coast Wednesday to assume his new post as assistant to Steve Trilling.

•

SYLVIA SIEGEL, Universal assistant cashier in Des Moines, will leave her post tomorrow and will join her husband in Texas.

•

TOM ALEXANDER, operating the Forty-Fort Theatre at Forty-Fort, Pa., has four sons in the Army, three of them lieutenants.

•

SID ROGELL, RKO executive producer, will return to the Coast today from a New York visit.

•

LOU METZGER, War Activities Committee executive, was ill with a cold over the holiday.

•

ARTHUR RIPLEY, United Artists producer, is in New York from the Coast.

•

MARIE VAN SLYKE is a new addition to the public relations staff of the War Activities Committee.

•

FRANZ WAXMAN, Warner music director, arrived in New York from the Coast on Wednesday for a visit.

•

WALTER GOULD, UA foreign manager, will spend the weekend at Chestertown, Md.

•

WILLIAM JEFFERSON of the Loew advertising-publicity department, will report to the Army on Dec. 13.

•

HARRY SHAW, Loew theatre New England division manager, was in New York on Wednesday.

•

IZZY RAPPAPORT, Baltimore exhibitor, was in New York on Wednesday.

•

EVE FRANKL has joined SID RECHETNIK's press book staff at Warners.

9,000,000 See 'Bell'

Some 9,000,000 persons have paid advanced admissions to Paramount's "For Whom the Bell Tolls" in approximately 200 key bookings thus far, Charles M. Reagan, assistant sales manager, reports.

Mutual Aid Move by Mexican Exhibitors

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 25.—Coordination of exhibitors for the good of their business is well on its way to accomplishment as a result of the convention here of the National Association of Cinema Proprietors which recently started with a membership of 246 theatre companies, 85 per cent of those in Mexico.

It was decided at the convention to divide Mexico into 15 zones for better coordination of exhibitors; assess each exhibitor a monthly fee—based upon business income for the support of the association, and to establish national headquarters offices here.

Emilio Azcarraga, operator of two theatres and the two biggest radio stations, all here, provisional president of the association, was elected permanent president. Other officers are: Roberto Cervantes, secretary general; Luis R. Montes, vice-president; Antonio Garcia Asio, treasurer, and the following national counsellors: Juan Bilbao, Manuel Espinosa, Eduardo Chavez Garcia, Theodore Guildred, Federico Rodriguez and Manuel Angel Fernandez.

Delegates were given a banquet by the managers here of the eight major American film companies: Max Gomez, RKO; Arthur L. Prachett, Paramount; Jacob Epstein, Universal; A. H. Glotz, United Artists; F. Sevilla, Columbia; E. H. Mullen, 20th Century-Fox; Oscar Brooks, Warners and Carlos Niebla, M-G-M.

Fox Executives Will Meet on 'Bernadette'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—Planning a sales and promotional campaign for "The Song of Bernadette," which will be released on a roadshow basis, heads the agenda of business at the 20th-Fox studio conferences to start Monday between studio and home office executives.

With Spyros Skouras, 20th president, already at the studio, home office executives Tom Connors, William Kupper, Hal Horne and Charles Schlaifer will leave New York today to join him.

RKO Peruvian Post Goes to Harry Davis

Harry Davis, formerly a distribution executive with Republic Pictures in Latin America has been appointed Peruvian manager for RKO, according to an announcement from Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution here. He already has departed from New York to assume that post. Davis succeeds Bert Reisman, resigned.

'Lady' Date Set

Feb. 9 has been set for the world premiere of Paramount's "Lady in the Dark" at the Hollywood Paramount Theatre, Neil Agnew, general sales manager, reports. Picture will open on the following day at both the Hollywood and Los Angeles Paramount houses for indefinite runs at no advance in prices.

Steffes Not to Deal With Trade Practices

Minneapolis, Nov. 25.—W. A. Steffes' new, as yet unnamed exhibitor organization here, third in the Minnesota Northwest, "will not be interested in whether exhibitors have to buy pictures at increased rentals; exhibitors still have to run their own theatres. The primary objective," Steffes explained, "will be to protect the industry from outside attacks, taxes and unjust legislation."

National Allied recently granted Steffes' application to organize here with national affiliation for the new unit, of which Steffes is president.

Monogram Hosts 200 At 'Children' Preview

Two hundred persons attended a preview of Monogram's "Where Are Your Children?" followed by a reception at the Waldorf-Astoria here on Wednesday afternoon. Showing was the first in this territory.

Among those present were Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager of Monogram; Jeffrey Bernerd, producer of the picture; John McManus, George Frazer, Benjamin and Mrs. de Casseres, George West, Monogram franchise holder, Tom Wenning, Muriel Babcock, Frances Kish, Llewellyn Miller, Lester Grady, William L. Vallee, Rod Butterworth, Albert Delacorte, Mrs. Frank Harris, Lou Lifton, Madeline White and representatives of the press and others.

Stars at Premiere Of Delinquency Film

DETROIT, Nov. 25.—World premiere here of Monogram's "Where Are Your Children?" at United Detroit's Broadway Capitol tomorrow will feature personal appearance of stars of the picture. James Chiller, representing Monogram, made arrangements for a press luncheon yesterday for Patricia Morison and Gale Storm, a Variety Club dinner tonight, a radio broadcast tomorrow night and stage appearances through Sunday.

Three More Circuits Sign for Monogram

Three additional circuits have signed for Monogram's product for 1943-44, Steve Broidy, general sales manager, reports. They are Associated Theatre Circuit, with 14 houses in Cleveland; Lam Amusement Co., with 11 houses in Georgia, and L. Reinheimer Film Service, with 11 houses in Illinois and Indiana.

Strief to RKO

CINCINNATI, Nov. 25. — Fred A. Strief, formerly an exchange man and later an independent exhibitor, has been named office manager for RKO-Radio here, succeeding Wilbur Hetherington, now head booker.

Waste Paper Drive Asks Industry's Aid

The conservation and salvage divisions of the War Production Board have asked this and other industries to cooperate in the drive to conserve waste paper. Reasons for the campaign are the increased use of paper in the manufacture and delivery of war weapons and an acute manpower shortage in lumber camps serving paper mills.

Missouri Censorship And New Tax Sought

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 25.—Proposal to create a state board of motion picture censorship has been introduced in the Missouri Constitutional Convention now in session at Jefferson City. John T. Opie, delegate from Kansas City, is sponsoring the proposal, as well as a second one which would place a tax of one cent per linear foot on all films shown in the state.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
"CLAUDIA"
with DOROTHY McGUIRE
ROBERT YOUNG INA CLAIRE
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Gala Stage Show Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

'I DOOD IT'
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
Red SKELTON
Eleanor Powell
IN PERSON
WOODY HERMAN
Paul Winchell
Marion Hutton
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—Cl 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Screen
MAE WEST
VICTOR MOORE
WM. GAXTON
'THE HEAT'S ON'
In Person
HENNY YOUNGMAN
HELEN PARRISH
EXTRA!—
Paul MARTELL and ORCH.

RICHARD TREGASKIS'
GUADALCANAL DIARY
with
Preston FOSTER • Lloyd NOLAN
William BENDIX
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Give War Bonds For Christmas!

Bette Davis and
Miriam Hopkins are
doing in 'Old Acquaintance'
the same
Screaming
business
that they did
before in "Old Maid".

WARNER PICTURE
WARNER BUSINESS!

with GIG YOUNG
JOHN LODER • DOLORES MORAN
Directed by
VINCENT SHERMAN
Screen Play by John Van Druten and Lenore Coffee • From the Stage Play by JOHN VAN DRUTEN; produced by Dwight Deere Wimon

British Trade Moves Toward Conciliation

(Continued from page 1)

from each group, was adopted to settle problems within the trade without embarrassing government interference.

Trade practices to be conciliated by the committee of 12 include: An alleged secret pact involving a list of exhibitors to whom first features are booked on percentage only; the entire film rentals system, and any contentious KRS-CEA matter. It was agreed that rental bargaining details are a matter for individual agreements, but a declaration by KRS that it was imperative to lay down underlying principles during general discussions was welcomed.

Decisions made by the new committee will be binding on both sides, thus virtually originating the principle of a judicial trading agreement. It is a foregone conclusion here now that the Dec. 8 meeting of the CEA general council will accept recommendations for the establishment of the committee.

Eckman today was the recipient of industry congratulations for his statesmanship in originating the adopted proposals.

SPG Seeks AFL Aid In Wage Demands

(Continued from page 1)

demands cover only the employes who haven't received 15 per cent increases under the Little Steel formula. The two groups are scheduled to confer in New York after the close of the Bioff trial.

SPG is also moving, through the War Manpower Commission here, to halt the practice of hiring publicists on a probationary basis for longer than 15 days. The charge is that it has been the practice of some producers to hire publicists for probationary periods ranging from three to six months. WMC said the producers have no right to do such hiring due to their failure to seek establishment of such periods under WMC rulings.

Monopoly Is Denied In Schoenstadt Case

(Continued from page 1)

monopoly exists in interstate trade in motion picture films.

Attorneys for other defendants, including Warner Bros. Theatres, Vitagraph, Loews, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Columbia, Universal and United Artists, have filed the appearance of their clients.

The suit filed by the Schoenstadts seeks to improve playing time of some of their theatres in relation to competitive Balaban and Katz and Warner Bros. theatres.

Mexican Big-Budgeter

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 25.—Mexico's second 1,000,000-peso ($210,000) picture, a version of Alexander Dumas' "The Man in the Iron Mask" has opened at the Cine Palacio here. Film was produced by Cimesa.

Review

"So's Your Uncle"

(*Universal*)

"SO'S YOUR UNCLE," an amusing light romantic comedy embellished with musical specialties supplied by Jan Garber and his orchestra, the Delta Rhythm Boys, the Taylor Maids and Mary O'Brien, is a pleasant package of entertainment produced and directed for Universal by Jean Yarbrough. Featured are Billie Burke, Donald Woods, Elyse Knox, Frank Jenks and Robert Lowrey.

Maurice Leo and Clyde Bruckman derived the familiar screenplay from an original by Leonard Lee, dealing with the rather desperate attempts by Woods, a hungry but personable young actor-playwright, to secure financial backing for his "masterpiece." To avoid his creditors, Woods impersonates his wealthy, middle-aged uncle, who is the inspiration for the main character in Woods' play. In this disguise, he is hit by a car driven by Miss Knox. He feigns injury and induces Miss Knox to take him to her home instead of to a hospital. The fun then begins. Woods turns on the charm and easily prevails upon Miss Knox's wealthy aunt, played by Miss Burke, to finance his play. This accomplished, he makes a quick exit and returns without his disguise to woo Miss Knox. Complications ensue when he is obliged to keep both characters on the scene to pacify both Miss Burke and Miss Knox. Fortunately Woods' uncle turns up to save the day by taking Miss Burke in tow.

Miss Burke delivers her usual performance and Woods is capable in the dual role. Miss Yarbrough's direction manages to get the most out of the frothy material.

Running time, 64 mins. "G."*

MILT LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

RKO Circuit Shifts Managers, Assistants

RKO Theatres have effected personnel changes at several of its houses: Morton Meyer, relief assistant manager, becomes assistant at the Orpheum, Brooklyn, replacing Joseph Sangetti, resigned; Sidney Weiner, relief assistant, has been named assistant at the Midway, Forest Hills, replacing Howard Kinsey, resigned; H. G. Hodges was engaged as assistant at the Palace, Rochester. Wallace Forkins, Palace house manager, has resigned; James Kelly has returned from sick leave and has been assigned as assistant at the Capitol, Rochester.

In Cincinnati the following changes have been made: Edward J. Hogan, manager of the Family, transferred to the Lyric, replacing Arthur Piccola, who has entered the armed forces; Frederick J. Delaney has been promoted from assistant at the Shubert to manage the Family; Thomas Glassmeyer was made assistant at the Shubert, replacing Delaney, and Leroy R. Smith, assistant manager and treasurer of the Family, was shifted to the Albee as treasurer.

Leserman Meets U. A. Managers Monday

(Continued from page 1)

Sherman's "The Woman of the Town," Harry Joe Brown's "Knickerbocker Holiday" and the Ripley-Monter production, "Voice in the Wind."

District managers attending will be Sam Lefkowitz, New York; James Winn, Boston; Jack D. Goldhar, Detroit; Fred M. Jack, Dallas; T. R. Thompson, Kansas City; Rud Lohrenz, Chicago; W. E. Callaway, Los Angeles, and David H. Coplan, Toronto.

In addition to Leserman, home office executives Edward Schnitzer, Harry Gold, Paul Lazarus, Sr., Harry Buckley, Emanuel Silverstone and Paul Lazarus, Jr., will attend.

Iowa, Nebraska ITO Opposes 20% Tax

DES MOINES, Nov. 25.—Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska, over the signature of its president, Leo F. Wolcott, has issued a warning to members urging them to oppose the proposed 20 per cent theatre admission tax now before Congress.

Pointing out that tax collections will fall off as a result of the loss of business and the possible closing of theatres brought on by public apathy to added taxes, the warning requests members to communicate their opposition to U. S. Senators Guy M. Gillette and George A. Wilson of Iowa, and Hugh A. Butler and Kenneth Wherry of Nebraska.

The move is considered to be further indication that new opposition to the bill, passed by the House, is to be brought by exhibitors everywhere when the revenue measure reaches the Senate finance committee.

Inquiry Ordered Into Toronto Fire

(Continued from page 1)

fire marshal's department has completed a preliminary investigation of the damaged structure. It is understood that films were destroyed in two vaults, as well as a quantity of prints in wooden barrels in the basement.

Many film offices in the building which were destroyed are being restored.

House Passes Rise In Admission Tax

(Continued from page 1)

passed by the House was the doubling of the admission tax, but there were other changes which will increase the cost of doing business in all branches, including higher levies on telephone and telegraph messages, postage rates and the corporation excess profits tax.

18 Producers on U. A. Roster, New High for Company

(Continued from page 1)

drew Stone, Frederick Jackson, Jam Nasser; Hunt Stromberg; Angel Pictures, Inc., Erwin O. Bretlaue Seymour Nebenzal, Rudolph Joseph.

Also, Benedict Bogeaus Produ tions, Benedict E. Bogeaus, B. Mabel; Gregor Rabinovitch Produ tions; Producing Artists, Inc., Dav L. Loew, Arthur Lyons; Vangua Films, Inc., Daniel T. O'Shea, E. Scandon, Loyd Wright; Cagney Pr ductions, Inc., William Cagney, Jam Cagney; Manhattan Productions, Ja Skirball, Walter Batchelor; Jul Levey Productions; Lester Cowa Productions and Arthur Ripley-R dolph Monter Productions.

Using General Service Studi Hollywood, are Arnold, Rogers, Sto Stromberg, Rabinovitch and Levey. the Goldwyn studios are Produce Corp., Bronston, Cagney and Skirbal Batchelor. At RKO Pathe are Less Small and Vanguard. The five othe are scattered elsewhere.

Theatres Win 52% Of Clearance Award

(Continued from page 1)

nature have been filed since the b ginning of arbitration on Feb. 1, 19 Complaining independents withdrew clearance cases; there were 2 clearance complaints entered, arbit tors handing down 185 decisions, mentioned. There were 35 some-r actions filed.

In addition to the specific net ga of reductions in clearance won by theatres, 75 benefited by other for of clearance relief, some of whi were obtained by settlements in t 64 cases withdrawn; in most instan terms of settlement were not d closed.

While clearance cuts received the complaining owners average 1 days, they ranged from a high of 1 days, received by the Cameo Thea in Pittsfield, Mass., to the low of t days gained by the Apex Theat Washington.

Pride Named Couns To Navy Departmen

Frederick W. Pride, a member the law firm of Dwight, Harris, K gel and Caskey, counsel for 20th-F has been appointed general coun for the Navy Department's Price A justment Board, effective Nov. The board is in charge of renegot tion of the Navy's wartime contra Pride will devote his full time to post.

Skouras, Kent Trip To London Delaye

(Continued from page 1)

president in charge of foreign distrib tion, who has been in Great Brit for the past several months, scheduled to return to New York the near future, possibly next week.

Skouras is now in Hollywood product conferences, and is expec to return to the home office wit 10 days.

'Bell Tolls' in 2nd Week in St. Louis Doubles to $26,000

St. Louis, Nov. 25.—"For Whom the Bell Tolls" in its second week at the Ambassador hit $26,000 and elsewhere business was also booming. The Missouri, now a first-run house, hung up its best record in a long time with $16,500 for "Son of Dracula" and "The Mad Ghoul."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 24:

"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
"The Seventh Victim" (RKO)
FOX—(5,038) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $15,800).

"Sahara" (Col.)
"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $16,900).

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $12,500).

"Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $8,000).

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"A Lily Takes a Chance" (RKO)
SHUBERT — (1,900) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,000).

"The City That Stopped Hitler" (Para.)
"The Kansan" (UA)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,900).

"Phantom of the Opera" (Univ.)
"Larceny with Music" (Univ.)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (35c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000).

'Diary', Dual Is Up $10,000 in Denver

Denver, Nov. 25.—"Guadalcanal Diary" on a dual at the Denver scored $23,400 while "Top Man," number one on a twin-bill at the Paramount grossed $13,500. Meanwhile, "Let's Face It" in its fourth week at the Denham was expected to hit $7,500.

Estimated receipts for week ending Nov. 22-25:

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
"Find the Blackmailer" (WB)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (30c-40c-50c-60c) Moveover. Gross: $5,250. (Average: $3,000).

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th Fox)
"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
BROADWAY — (1,040) (30c-40c-50c-60c) Moveover. Gross: $3,750. (Average: $2,500).

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
DENVER—(2,600) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,400. (Average: $13,000).

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (30c-40c-55c-65c) Holdover, 4th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000).

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(740) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $3,000).

"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Adventure in Iraq" (WB)
PARAMOUNT—(2,200) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $9,000).

"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
RIALTO—(900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) Moveover. Gross: $8,050. (Average: $4,600).

Carbon Ad Unit Moves

National Carbon Co. division of Union Carbide & Carbon and for which E. A. Williford heads carbon sales, has transferred its advertising department from Cleveland to New York. Charles Ollinger, for many years on the carbon products staff, is now handling all carbon products advertising under the direction of Williford.

Wilkerson Promised to Accept Bioff Dictation

(*Continued from page* 1)

found that he had had no correspondence with either man.

Kostelanetz then produced a telegram which Wilkerson admitted having sent to Bioff in 1938, after Bioff had expressed displeasure over an article which appeared in the Hollywood Reporter.

The telegram read: "For whatever mistakes I made, I am willing to do whatever you dictate. There was no intention not to take care of you as you have of me. Because of a new man on the desk it was a horrible mistake. I stand ready to do anything you command."

Admits Bioff Unionized Printers

Wilkerson admitted that Bioff had been responsible for unionizing the printers Wilkerson employed on his newspaper. They had not been unionized at the time the paper was started in 1930, but became unionized in 1938, a year after Wilkerson said he first met Bioff.

The publisher identified several handkerchiefs, which he said he had presented to Bioff after returning from a European trip, and also said that he had sent Bioff wine on several occasions.

He explained the telegram as a "thank-you" to Bioff for "calling off a threatened strike" at one of his restaurants.

Judge John Bright, at the request of defense attorneys, had permitted Wilkerson to give his testimony Wednesday in order to make his return to California without delay. His testimony will be read to the jury on Monday, when the defense will open its case formally.

Friendly with Rosselli

Wilkerson, testifying to a long-standing friendship with Rosselli, related that he had had some discussions with Bioff over an alleged threat to call a strike at his restaurants. Bioff, he said, complained about "some things" published in his newspaper, but did not specify definitely the articles to which he objected.

In 1938, Wilkerson said, while he was preparing to go to Europe, Bioff told him that if the Hollywood Reporter did not publish stories relating to labor relations in the film studios, he need not worry about any strike being called while he was away in Europe.

Most of Wednesday's session was devoted to arguments by defense attorneys for dismissal of the indictment as against the individual defendants. The attorneys argued from many legal angles but the court ruled that evidence presented by the Government since Oct. 5, when the trial started, was sufficient to hold the Chicago group for further trial.

Ralph Pierce, of Chicago, long referred to around the courtroom as "the forgotten man of the trial," since none of the testimony has linked him with the other defendants, went free on Wednesday, when Judge Bright ruled that a case had not been made against him and dismissed the indictment as to Pierce. The court reserved decision until Monday with respect to motions for the dismissal of Louis Kaufman, business agent of Local 244, Newark. All other defendants remain in the case.

Chicago, Nov. 25. — All officers of the Chicago Projectionists Union have been temporarily removed from office pending a hearing of the charges against them. Richard Walsh, president of the IATSE, has been here since Sunday to investigate the charges. The hearing will be held tomorrow at the office of the union.

Company Heads to Testify In New Chicago Union Case

Chicago, Nov. 25.—Film leaders, union bosses and others who have testified in the Government's prosecution of the seven alleged members of the "Capone Mob" in the $1,000,000 extortion case in New York have given "plenty of evidence" to substantiate the claims of 800 members of the Chicago IATSE in their suit against the union and theatre operators for back wages and will be subpoenaed in this case, according to David Riskind, attorney for the unionites.

Chicago operators' action seeks $5,000,000 from eight local union officers and Allied of Illinois, Balaban and Katz, Essaness Theatres, Loew's, M-G-M, Paramount, Publix Great States, RKO-Radio, Schoenstadt & Sons, United Artists and Warner Bros. Theatres. Suit was filed Nov. 15 by Riskind, local attorney, in behalf of a group of projectionists; an amended petition was filed this week in behalf of another group.

'Mob' Controls Officers

Officers of the local were placed in charge by "the mob," according to the complaint, and a conspiracy exists between them and theatre owners to deprive the operators of rightful pay. Under Thomas Maloy, deceased 'Czar" of the local, it is claimed that the number of operators in each projection booth was reduced from two to one at a savings of $6,500 yearly for each man eliminated from his job. Later, theatres paid Willie Bioff and Nick Dean, as representatives of the union, $1,065 for each man so eliminated. A 20 per cent pay cut, made effective under Maloy, was extended to 30 per cent and is still in effect, according to the complaint.

Officers of the union were enjoined from using intimidation, violence or abuse against the members by Judge Julius H. Miner. He further rules that if any man is discharged without a complete and fair union trial those responsible will be held in contempt of court.

Complaint asks that the defendant officers be enjoined from using union funds to defend the suit and that all records since 1932 bearing on dealings between the union, the alleged mobsters and the theatre employers, be produced.

'Drive-In' Planned

Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 25.—Knoxville Theatres, Inc., which owns and operates the local Tennessee and Riviera theatres has purchased a site for a "drive-in" outside the city limits.

'Holy Matrimony' And Frank Sinatra Gross Big $40,000

Boston, Nov. 25.—Business continued good at all Boston houses and indications now are that there will be no lessening of business for the Christmas holidays since so many persons now come to the Hub to visit relatives at nearby military camps and local shipyards. "Girl Crazy" opened to splendid business at Loew's State and Loew's Orpheum; "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" did likewise at the big Metropolitan, while Frank Sinatra packed theatre and street alike at the RKO Boston, with "Holy Matrimony" on the screen, grossing $40,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 27:

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $28,400. (Average: $28,300).

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,200) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $13,100).

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(3,800) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,100. (Average: $24,200).

"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
"Victory Through Air Power" (UA-Disney)
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,900) (44c-55c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,100. (Average: $19,300).

"Holy Matrimony" (20th-Fox)
RKO Boston—(3,900) (44c-55c-65c-85c-95c). Stage show with Frank Sinatra in person. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $26,500).

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
"Sleepy Lagoon" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT — (1,467) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $8,600).

'Old Oklahoma' Is Big in Kansas City

Kansas City, Nov. 25.—"In Old Oklahoma" took hold here at three theatres, to lead first runs with an approximate $18,000 total at the Esquire, Uptown and Fairway. The Orpheum is receiving approximately $12,000 for the second week of "Watch on the Rhine." Weather pleasant.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 24-25:

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,500).

"First Comes Courage" (Col.)
"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
MIDLAND — (3,600) (35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $14,000).

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000).

"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
"One of Our Aircraft Is Missing" (UA)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000).

"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
"Melody Parade" (Mono.)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) 7 days, plus stage show. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,400).

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
UPTOWN — (2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,600).

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $1,450).

J. H. Wainman Passes

Herkimer, N. Y., Nov. 25.—John H. Wainman, 47, former director of auditions for National Broadcasting, died here this week. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Margaret Sickinger Wainman, his mother, Mrs. Catherine Heath Wainman, and a half-brother, Dr. Leon Wainman, of Pottstown, Pa.

SENSATIO

TERRIFIC

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S

Greatest Production

THE N

• • • GIVE WAR BONDS FOR CHRISTMAS • • •

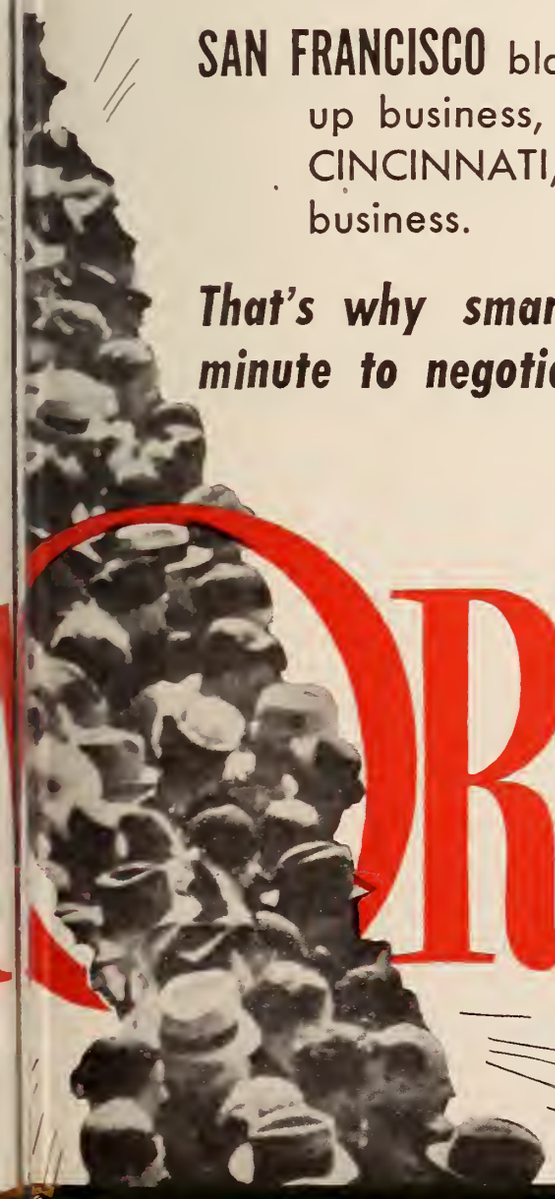
NAL 3RD WEEK AT TWO B'WAY THEATRES

OPENINGS IN FOUR OTHER CITIES

"THE NORTH STAR" retains New York box-office lead for the THIRD WEEK as TWO theatres play to bulging capacity — the New Victoria, with reserved seat – $2.20 top policy, and the RKO PALACE, continuous.

SAN FRANCISCO blasts through with tremendous opening and follow-up business, twice daily at $1.65 top . . . as WASHINGTON, CINCINNATI, and BUFFALO report smash openings and boom business.

That's why smart theatre operators are contacting RKO this minute to negotiate contracts for runs at regular admissions!



ORTH STAR

Directed By LEWIS MILESTONE

Original Story and Screen Play by LILLIAN HELLMAN

RELEASED THROUGH RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Oct. 30	IS EVERYBODY HAPPY? Ted Lewis and his Band M	(First Block) ABOVE SUSPICION D—90 mins. (402)	BULLETS AND SADDLES A Range Buster O—(268)	(First Block) LET'S FACE IT Bob Hope Betty Hutton M—76 mins. (4301)		MAN FROM MUSIC MOUNTAIN Roy Rogers Ruth Terry O—(257)	(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C	(Re-Issues) IN OLD CHICAGO D—94 mins. (406) BANJO ON MY KNEE M—95 mins. (407)	THE WOMAN OF THE TOWN Claire Trevor Albert Dekker D	FLESH AND FANTASY Edward Robinson Charles Boyer Barbara Stanwyck D—(8062)	
Nov. 6	SILVER CITY RAIDERS Russell Hayden Adele Mara O—(5202)	BEST FOOT FORWARD Lucille Ball M—94 mins. (405) (Technicolor)	MYSTERY OF THE 13th GUEST Dick Purcell D—(211)	TRUE TO LIFE Mary Martin Franchot Tone Dick Powell C—94 mins. (4303)	THE DEVIL RIDERS Buster Crabbe O—(460)	OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY "Wild Bill" Elliott Ann Jeffreys	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D	GUADALCANAL DIARY Wm. Bendix Lloyd Nolan D (412)		SON OF DRACULA Robert Paige Louise Allbritton—D	FIND THE BLACKMAILER Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson D—(306)
Nov. 13	RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE Nina Foch Bela Lugosi D	DR. GILLESPIE'S CRIMINAL CASE Lionel Barrymore D—89 mins. (407)	NEARLY EIGHTEEN Gale Storm Bill Henry D—61 mins. (226)	HOSTAGES Luise Rainer Arturo de Cordova Paul Lukas D—88 mins. (4305)		HERE COMES ELMER Al Pearce Dale Evans C—(303)	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C	BATTLE OF RUSSIA (U .S. Government Feature) 80 mins. (414)		THE MAD GHOUL Evelyn Ankers David Bruce—D	NORTHERN PURSUIT Errol Flynn Julie Bishop D—(307)
Nov. 20		GIRL CRAZY Mickey Rooney Judy Garland C—99 mins. (409)	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43) M—(210)	THE GOOD FELLOWS Cecil Kellaway Helen Walker James Brown C—70 mins. (4302)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN BOSS OF RAWHIDE O—(452) HARVEST MELODY M—(402)	MYSTERY BROADCAST D—(304) OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY O—(376) DEERSLAYER Bruce Kellogg O—67 mins. (306)	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D	DANCING MASTERS Laurel and Hardy C—63 mins. (413)		NEVER A DULL MOMENT The Ritz Brotherss Frances Langford Mary Beth Hughes C	
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal D—(5017)	LASSIE COME HOME (410) Roddy MacDowall D (Technicolor)	TEXAS KID Johnny Mack Brown O—(351)	TORNADO Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—83 mins. (4304)		DRUMS OF FU MANCHU (Adapted from Serial) Henry Brandon D—(305)	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)		HIS BUTLER'S SISTER Deanna Durbin Pat O'Brien Franchot Tone D—(8004)	OLD ACQUAINTANCE Bette Davis Miriam Hopkins D—110 mins. (308)
Dec. 4	THE HEATS ON Victor Moore William Gaxton Mae West Hazel Scott	SALUTE TO THE MARINES Wallace Beery Fay Bainter D—(401) (Technicolor)	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer) O—56 mins. (361)	(Special Release) THE CITY THAT STOPPED HITLER—HEROIC STALINGRAD 58 mins. (4331)		CANYON CITY John "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O TUMBLING TUMBLEWEEDS Gene Autry (Re-Issue) O—(2308)	(Second Block) THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)	HAPPY LAND Don Ameche Frances Dee Ann Rutherford 75 mins. (415)		SO'S YOUR UNCLE Billie Burke Elyse Knox Donald Woods C—(8042)	(Re-Issues) CRIME SCHOOL Humphrey Bogart Dead End Kids 86 mins. (327)
Dec. 11	THE CRIME DOCTOR'S STRANGEST CASE Warner Baxter Rose Hobart Lynn Merrick	SWING SHIFT MAISIE (404) Ann Sothern C—86 mins.	MR. MUG STEPS OUT East Side Kids D—64 mins. (301)	(Second Block) RIDING HIGH (Technicolor) Dorothy Lamour Dick Powell Victor Moore M—89 mins. (4307)			GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)			SHE'S FOR ME David Bruce Grace McDonald George Dolenz D—(8041)	GIRLS ON PROBATION Jane Bryan Ronald Reagan 63 mins. (328)
Dec. 18	KLONDIKE KATE Tom Neal Ann Savage	ADVENTURES OF TARTU (406) Robert Donat Valerie Hobson D—103 mins.	SMART GUY Rick Vallin D—63 mins. (227)	NO TIME FOR LOVE Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Ilka Chase C—83 mins. (4309)	THE DRIFTER Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John (461) JIVE JUNCTION Dickie Moore Tina Thayer M—65 mins.	PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA Ruth Terry Robert Livingston Wally Vernon	GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)			CALLING DR. DEATH Lon Chaney Patricia Morrison Ramsey Ames	
Dec. 25	SWING OUT THE BLUES Bob Haymes Lynn Merrick COWBOY IN THE CLOUDS Charles Starrett Walter "Dub" Taylor	YOUNG IDEAS Susan Peters (408) Mary Astor D—77 mins.	WOMEN IN BONDAGE Gail Storm 71 mins. (304)	HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith John Litel C—73 mins. (4306)		OH. MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Frank Albertson	GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)	THE GANG'S ALL HERE Carmen Miranda Alice Faye James Ellison 103 mins. (416) (Technicolor)		MOONLIGHT IN VERMONT Gloria Jean Fay Helm Sidney Miller Ray Malone	
Jan. 1	WHAT A WOMAN Rosalind Russell Brian Aherne Willard Parker D	THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER D—103 mins. (411) I DOOD IT D—102 mins. (403)	SULTAN'S DAUGHTER Ann Corio Charles Butterworth C—64 mins.		THE TEXAS RANGERS IN GUNSMOKE MESA James Newill	WHISPERING FOOTSTEPS John Hubbard Rita Quigley 56 min.	THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D			GUNGO HO Randolph Scott Alan Curtis David Bruce Noah Beery, Jr.	
Jan. 8	HEY ROOKIE Ann Miller Joe Besser Larry Parks Joe Sawyer C	WHISTLING IN BROOKLYN Red Skelton Ann Rutherford C—87 mins. (412)	RAIDERS OF THE BORDER Johnny Mack Brown O—(352) "SWEETHEART OF THE U. S. A. Una Merkel	MINESWEEPER Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—67 mins. (4308)	CAREER GIRL Frances Langford M		NORTH STAR Anne Baxter Walter Huston Dana Andrews D—105 mins. (451)			LUCKY DAYS Allan Jones June Vincent Samuel S. Hinds	

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 102 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1943 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

New Program For Delivery Cuts Started

Detroit Presents First Joint-Action Plan

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Office of Defense Transportation's nationwide joint-action plan to save truck mileage in the distribution of motion pictures formally got under way yesterday with the ODT's official sanction being placed here on the first presentation of a system of delivery curtailment.

First to offer their own print delivery cut program were Cinema Service and Exhibitors Service of Detroit, providing for elimination of deliveries on Mondays and Thursdays. It may well serve as a model for other distribution centers.

Sole exception in the Detroit setup is the service to be extended through the entire week for theatres in the Loop section, provided it does not exceed a total of 25 miles per week. This plan was developed at

(*Continued on page* 11)

Theatres Opened In Allied-Held Italy

Eight motion picture theatres have been opened in the portions of Italy captured by the Allies, Niles Trammell, National Broadcasting president, revealed in an interview here at the weekend. He returned last week from a six weeks' tour of the European war fronts with John F. Royal, NBC vice-president.

"American soldiers in the European

(*Continued on page* 11)

Chicago 48-Hr. Rule Studied by Officials

CHICAGO, Nov. 28. — The 48-hour week has been ordered for the Chicago area by William H. Spencer, regional manpower director. It is effective Dec. 1 for all establishments employing eight or more people.

Key employees in the motion picture industry have been putting in considerable overtime above their regular 40-hour week, but theatre and exchange executives are studying the

(*Continued on page* 11)

Box Office Bonanza for Reissues and Repeaters

Business being done by reissues and repeat bookings of old releases is one of the box office phenomena of the past few months, home office distribution officials report.

Grosses of many such films are equal to and even better than those recorded in original engagements at the time of their first release, it was said. In addition to meeting temporary product shortages in some scattered situations around the country, reissues and repeats are doing business which rivals that of many current releases, sales executives claim.

Among the explanation given for the exceptional grosses of some re-

(*Continued on page* 11)

MGM Midwest Meet Now Set for Dec. 6

CHICAGO, Nov. 28.—Meeting of M-G-M district managers and home office representatives which was scheduled for Nov. 29 to Dec. 1 at the Blackstone Hotel here has been changed to Dec. 6-8. Postponement was occasioned by the illness of William F. Rodgers.

Those expected to attend include: Rodgers, E. M. Saunders, J. J. Maloney, E. K. O'Shea, J. E. Flynn, Howard Dietz, E. W. Aaron, A. F. Cummings, H. M. Richey, Harold Postman, J. Bezahler, I. L. Hirsch, C. F. Beesen, P. R. Richrath, I. Helfont, S. F. Seadler, W. R. Ferguson, M. N. Wolf, J. J. Bowen, R. Burger, C. E. Kessnick, J. P. Byrne, H. B. Wolfberg, B. Bishop, Jr., G. A. Hickey, Robert Lynch, Sam Shirley, Jay Gove and M. L. Simons.

Griffith Services At Okla. City Today

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 28.—Funeral services for Rupert E. Griffith, 50, Texas exhibitor, who died in his suite at the Beverly Hills Hotel, Los Angeles, last week, of a heart attack, will be held here tomorrow afternoon at the First Baptist Church.

Griffith was one of the largest individual holders of theatre properties with 345 theatres in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Mexico and Arizona. His brothers, L. C. Griffith of Oklahoma City and H. J. Griffith of Kansas City, are also prominent circuit operators. He also operated several hotels.

He was interested in Father Flanagan's Boys' Town and the Griffith Boys' Camp for underprivileged boys on his ranch near Belton, Tex., making them his favorite philanthropies.

Born in Hallettsville, Tex., Griffith

(*Continued on page* 11)

Extortion and Union Trials Resume Today

Defense attorneys representing the six Chicago gangsters and a Newark labor leader who are accused of shaking down the film industry for more than $1,000,000 under strike threats, will take over when the extortion trial resumes in New York today. The Government formally rested its case last Tuesday after seven weeks.

Trial in the action brought by some

(*Continued on page* 11)

Motion Pictures Important to the Life of Our Country, Says President

"Motion pictures and motion picture theatres occupy an important position in the community life of the American people." That is the tribute, described as "striking" by the industry's 1944 March of Dimes committee, in a 40-page brochure published here today by the committee on its work and the work of exhibitors everywhere on last year's drive. Nicholas M. Schenck is president of the industry's committee.

As a foreword the President sent a message to those who "helped make such an outstanding success of the drive." The screen's important position, added the President, "places upon the film industry a serious responsibility. You men and women of the industry are meeting that responsibility by the splendid work you are doing in behalf of the fight against infantile paralysis. When the final victory over this dread disease is won you will have the inspiring satisfaction of having shared in giving this boon to humanity."

The 1944 March of Dimes campaign in theatres has been set for Jan. 24-30 inclusive, as previously reported.

Exhibitors' Anti-Tax Pleas Flood Senate

Hearing for Industry Will Be Held Wednesday

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28. — So many requests to be heard on the question of increased admission taxes have been received that the Senate Finance Committee tonight was uncertain whether film industry witnesses could be called during its tax bill hearing Wednesday, as had been tentatively planned.

Committee has under consideration adoption of the scheme followed by the House Ways and Means Committee which asked all exhibitors to agree to be represented by Ed Kuykendall and Abram F. Myers.

Tentative program for general hearings, which open tomorrow with the appearance of Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., who will make a final plea for adoption of his recommendation for a $10,-

(*Continued on page* 11)

'White-Collarites', Majors Negotiate

Stipulation calling for the immediate commencement of negotiations in an attempt to reach "an expeditious and mutually satisfactory system" of job and salary classifications for 1,500 home office workers has been signed between Screen Office & Professional Employees Guild, Local 109, UOPWA, CIO, and Loew's, Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, Movietone News and RKO Radio. During the course of the negotiations, the companies may grant merit or promotional increases pursuant to the War Labor

(*Continued on page* 11)

Buchanan on Coast As Treasury Liaison

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28.—Barry Buchanan has arrived here from Washington to act as coordinator between the Treasury Department and the industry. Presumably Buchanan will turn his attention immediately to Hollywood and talent participation in the forthcoming Fourth War Loan drive starting Jan. 18 and running through Feb. 15.

Personal Mention

SAM GOLDWYN and MRS. GOLDWYN returned to Hollywood over the weekend after an extended visit here.

•

MARTIN MOSKOWITZ, 20th Century-Fox sales official, was married at his Kew Gardens home Saturday to DOROTHY SPIER, of New York City. The couple left yesterday for a Florida honeymoon.

•

ENSIGN L. DOUGLAS NETTER, son of LEON NETTER, Paramount home office theatre executive, will be married to MISS ANNE GILES of Bronxville tomorrow.

•

RAY GALLO, advertising manager of Quigley Publications' equipment department, left New York over the weekend for a tour through the Midwest.

•

C. J. (PAT) SCOLLARD, Paramount executive, is still in Los Angeles on labor matters pertaining to local film exchanges. SIDNEY BRAUNBERG of M-G-M, who accompanied him West is back in New York.

•

GERTRUDE MERRIAM, associate editor of *Motion Picture Herald's* "Managers Round Table," returned at the weekend from a two-week vacation and a week with the grippe.

•

BEN LORBER, head of Universal's home office insurance department, is on a tour of branch offices and will return late this week.

•

HERMAN STERN, manager of Universal's home office non-theatrical sales department, is at home resting following a heart attack late last week.

•

LEONARD GOLDENSON, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, will leave for the Coast today or tomorrow for a 10-day visit.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M circuit sales manager, will return to his desk today after spending the holiday weekend at Holyoke, Mass.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, will return today from a business trip to Jacksonville, Fla.

•

HERMAN ROBBINS, National Screen Service president, originally due to arrive in Hollywood today, has postponed the trip.

•

JOSEPH MARKOWITZ, M-G-M Chicago branch manager, will report for induction Dec. 8.

•

HARRY COHN, NATE SPINGOLD and FRANK ROSENBERG left here for the Coast over the weekend.

•

TED TOD, Warner exploiteer, is in Billings Memorial Hospital in Billings, Mont.

•

WILLIAM PINE left here for Hollywood at the weekend.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

OVERLAPPING of the Treasury's Fourth War Loan campaign with the industry's 1944 March of Dimes drive is wholly unavoidable. The Treasury's plans for a national War Loan effort obviously could not be changed once they had been set for the period from Jan. 18 to Feb. 15. The March of Dimes drive, Jan 24 to 30, is arranged, for the greatest effectiveness, to coincide with President Roosevelt's birthday.

Insofar as theatre participation in the two campaigns is concerned, there need not be any conflict whatever. The Fourth War Loan drive, like its predecessors, can be off to a good start in the theatres before the Dimes drive opens. Running the appeal trailer for the Dimes drive, the making of audience collections and all the special efforts of the theatres in furthering the success of the annual Infantile Paralysis Foundation's appeal, can be conducted without interference with bond booth operation and theatre participation in local bond drive programs, their advertising and exploitation. Special bond drive events within the theatre can be arranged for dates preceding or following the infantile paralysis appeal. Experience has shown, in any event, that the most effective theatre war bond efforts occur at the beginning and toward the close of a campaign.

This is not to suggest that the bond drive effort in the theatres should be permitted to coast while the March of Dimes drive is underway. Nor is it to imply that the concurrent campaigns do not present a special and even a difficult consideration for exhibitors. It is intended to emphasize that the situation is not an impossible one but, rather, an opportunity and a challenge to make a distinguished success of a doubly difficult task. As one of the industry War Activities Committee officials puts it: "This is one of those situations that arise in wartime. They tackle and lick 'em on the fighting front; we can do no less on the cozy, safe home front."

• •

Don't take those American Federation of Musicians' statements that the industry will be its next assault subject, once the transcription companies have been dealt with, too seriously. While such statements may be technically correct, the prospect of a serious feud between the A. F. of M. and the organized industry is so remote, at least in point of time, that it is pointless to view the matter as an actual problem.

• •

Interesting stories going around about a major difference of opinion between an independent company president and its studio chief over production policy. The former is represented as arguing that budgets should be held to their present levels on the theory that there is an ample market for the product now being turned out. The studio head wants the current increase in revenue proportionately applied to larger production budgets so that the overall average quality of the company's pictures will be elevated and an occasional "prestige" picture can be made.

The views of the two ultimately were given an airing before the company's financial mentors with the result, according to the stories now circulating, that the resignation of one or the other of the two officials was avoided and the authority of each specifically defined. One result will be greater leeway in the future for the studio head. If initial trial efforts prove successful, a general increase in production budgets may be approved for the bulk of the company's pictures thereafter, so the story goes.

• •

Pronouncements from the recent meeting of the I.T.P.A. of Wisconsin at Milwaukee that Al Steffes is back in harness and dedicated to resumed activity in exhibitor organization affairs in the Northwest, if not in national Allied, are beclouded somewhat by reports that Steffes plans to spend the Winter, or a large part of it, in California with a possible visit to Florida.

• •

Paramount has extended its exclusive lease on the Rivoli for a third time on the run of "For Whom the Bell Tolls." Indications now are that the picture will remain in the Rivoli until the end of January. Paramount has the right to keep the house until it decides to withdraw "Bell." That could be annoying to 20th-Fox which wants the Rivoli for "The Song of Bernadette."

Coming Events

Nov. 29—United Artists' division and district managers meeting, home office, New York.
Dec. 6-7—M-G-M district managers and home office representatives meeting, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago.
Dec. 7—NEIC Service Flag dedication, New York.
Dec. 17—Quarterly meeting of the council of Actor's Equity, Hotel Astor, New York.
Dec. 19—Beginning of Warners' 1944 "Round-Up" sales drive.
Jan. 18—Launching of Fourth War Loan.
Jan. 24-30—"March of Dimes" campaign.

Toronto B.O.T. Film Group Meets Dec. 2

TORONTO, Nov. 28.—Annual meeting of the motion picture section of the Toronto Board of Trade, postponed from Nov. 18 because of the fire in the film exchange building here, will be held Dec. 2 at the King Edward Hotel. Annual session of the Canadian Picture Pioneers will be held on the same day. Trade leaders will discuss developments in connection with the blaze.

Fire Inquest Dec. 1

TORONTO, Nov. 28.—Chief Coroner Smirle Lawson will preside at the inquest Dec. 1 into the death of Herbert Naiman, projectionist, who died from injuries suffered in the Film Exchange building fire here Nov. 17.

300 Soldiers Attend Warner Club Party

Some 300 servicemen were entertained by the Warner Club at its annual Thanksgiving party on Friday night in the Henry Hudson Hotel here. Group of former Warnerites now in service who were on hand included Bobby Fleischer, Pharmacist's Mate 3rd Class, who was decorated for bravery in action. Club members at the party totaled 700 including Arthur Sachson, A. W. Schwalberg, Ed Hinchy, Lou Kaufman and other company executives.

Committee consisted of Martin F. Bennett, club president; Bernard R. Goodman, Max Blackman and Harry Mayer.

'London' Sets Record

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 28.—Samuel Bronston's "Jack London" broke the opening day's record at the United Artists Theatre here with a gross of $2,600. Previous record holder was "Stage Door Canteen," which drew $2,540 on its opening day.

Walker to Col. Today

Paul Walker, former columnist and feature writer for the Harrisburg (Pa.) *Telegraph*, joins Columbia today in the exploitation department under Frank P. Rosenberg.

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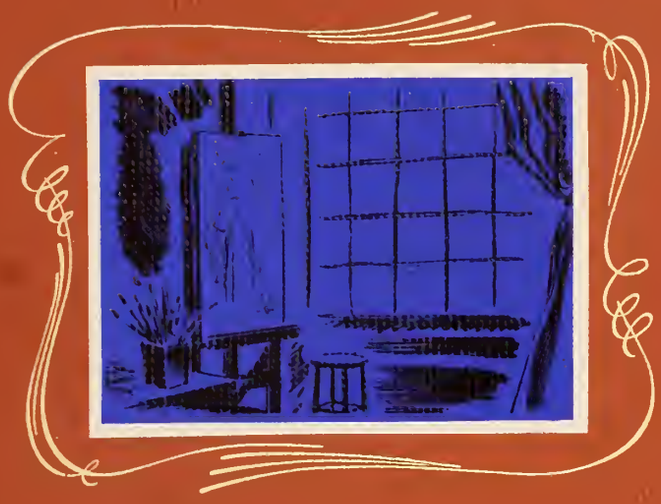


The Story of a Masterpiece

"BERNADETTE"

by Norman Rockwell

Early in 1943, Norman Rockwell completed his famous series of paintings "The Four Freedoms." He had already achieved celebrity as an interpreter of America's folkways. Now his stature became international and he was the recipient of a global wave of acclaim. It was at this time that the artist conceived of a subject comparable in emotional appeal and perhaps even more challenging to his mature craftsmanship. He saw in Jennifer Jones as the simple girl of Lourdes in Franz Werfel's "The Song of Bernadette" the inspiration for one of his finest canvases. Here, through the medium of a lone girl, glorious and exalted, could be created a painting to inspire people in all walks of life. Many were the sketches prepared. Constantly, the artist deliberated over details of composition and color. With expert draughtsmanship he sought to capture what Franz Werfel had expressed in words. How well he succeeded is implicit in the reproduction of the finished work. This portrait of Bernadette will reach the hearts of all who see it —for in its subtle expressiveness, in every stroke of the brush— it conveys the essence of everything that was so movingly written into "The Song of Bernadette."

—PEYTON BOSWELL, Jr.,
Author of "Modern American Painting,"
Editor of "The Art Digest."

BERNADETTE

with JENNIFER JONES · WILLIAM EYTHE · CHARLES BICKFORD · VINCENT PRICE · LEE J. COBB · GLADYS COOPER
Anne Revere · Roman Bohnen · Mary Anderson · Patricia Morison · Aubrey Mather · Charles Dingle · Edith Barrett
Sig Ruman · Blanche Yurka · Ermadean Walters · Marcel Dalio · Pedro de Cordoba · Jerome Cowan

Directed by HENRY KING · Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG

William Goetz In Charge of Production · Screen Play by George Seaton

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 28

BERT CUMMINGS of the War Food Administration and Herman Hettinger of the Treasury Department will arrive here tomorrow from Washington for a week of conferences on the production of OWI-WAC shorts by Universal and Paramount. Milton Feld will produce a food-control short at Universal. Joseph Sistrom and Charles Brackett will make an anti-inflation short at Paramount.

•

Edward Finney has announced the purchase of "Inside Tibet" by Johnston McCulley, author of "The Mark of Zorro." Production will follow completion of "White Fury."

•

Twentieth-Fox has signed Elia Kazan to a producer-director contract. He will direct "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" for his first, Louis D. Lighton producing.

•

George Morris, Walt Disney Productions' secretary-treasurer for the past 14 years, has resigned. His duties will be divided among the current staff.

•

Columbia has announced production plans for "Impatient Years," a story concerning war marriages.

•

Walter Wanger will leave here Dec. 3 for Washington and New York, returning on the 24th.

•

Producer William Saal and Steve Edwards, of Republic, leave here tomorrow for New York.

•

David Hempstead returns from the East tomorrow and will start work on "Elizabeth Kenny."

•

Nicholas Schenck will arrive here tomorrow from the East.

'Jack London' to Open In 24 Loew Theatres

Samuel Bronston's "Jack London" has been booked for 24 Loew first run engagements throughout the country, Carl Leserman, United Artists' general sales manager, announced at the weekend.

The picture opens Dec. 2 in Loew houses in Atlanta, Baltimore, Reading, Richmond, Syracuse, Toledo, Wilmington, Nashville, Providence, Houston, Louisville, New Orleans, Memphis, Norfolk, Kansas City and Rochester and, on Dec. 9, in Harrisburg, Akron, Canton, Cleveland and Bridgeport. "London" has been booked for Dec. 16 openings in Dayton and New Haven.

Hitchcock Will Make War Films Overseas

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28. — Alfred Hitchcock will leave here for Europe to make war pictures for the Government, he has disclosed to MOTION PICTURE DAILY. The date of his departure is as yet unset. "It's in the cards to do a job on these things," he said, "so I shall be there." He will return here later to do two pictures for David O. Selznick.

Frank Sheridan Passes

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28. — Frank Sheridan, 74, actor, who was cast in 20th's "Woodrow Wilson," has died here. He is survived by his widow.

Reviews

"The Gang's All Here"

(20th-Fox)

DYNAMIC entertainment with elaborate settings, spectacular dance numbers, the best in music and a tender love story should bring multitudes to the box-office to see 20th-Fox's new super-musical, "The Gang's All Here." In this there is everything to sell—gorgeous girls, Benny Goodman's band, Busby Berkeley's masterful dance arrangements, plus Alice Faye, Carmen Miranda and a host of other top-notchers all rolled into swell entertainment in Technicolor.

Story is about Alice Faye, a night club entertainer, who falls in love with James Ellison, as the Army sergeant, son of a wealthy tycoon enacted by Eugene Pallette. Ellison falls hard for Miss Faye, too, but because his courtship started out as a dare, he doesn't reveal his identity to her. Ellison sails, leaving Miss Faye with stars in her eyes, to await his return. After being decorated for bravery in the South Pacific, the hero returns to New York and his father throws a big party for him at the home of business associate Edward Everett Horton, who is pretty much of a home-body, but who is married to Charlotte Greenwood, former burlesque queen. Horton and Pallette have planned that the former's daughter, Sheila Ryan, and Ellison will marry eventually, with no provisions made for Miss Faye's entrance on the scene. The two girls become friendly, not knowing they are waiting for the same soldier. At the triumphant home-coming the real situation is revealed, but the complications are resolved when Miss Ryan eventually chooses Tony De Marco, leaving the way clear for Miss Faye and Ellison.

Grand performances are turned in by Miss Faye, Miss Greenwood, Pallette and the timid Horton. James Ellison is pleasing in his role of the soldier, and Miss Ryan does an adequate job as the "other girl." Miss Greenwood executes a jitterbug number which should delight the audience, and Pallette and Horton, in a Samba, are a sight to behold. Carmen Miranda is her usual confused but happy, hilarious self. Berkeley has put everything he has into the dance numbers, staging several that are spectacular. Songs by Leo Robin and Harry Warren should click quickly. Outstanding are "Journey to a Star," "The Polka Dot Polka," "No Love, No Nothin'," "You Discover You're in New York," and "The Lady in the Tutti-Frutti Hat." Unique photographic effects are achieved by Fred Serson and music direction by Alfred Newman and Charles Henderson is commendable. Berkeley also directed and William Le Baron produced. Screen play by Walter Bullock was based on a story by Nancy Wintner, George Root, Jr., and Tom Bridges.

"The Gang's All Here" is one and three-quarter hours of gigantic entertainment.

Running time, 103 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

"G" denotes general classification.

"The Heat's On"

(Columbia)

SOMEWHERE along the line the heat was turned off and this picture went wide of the mark. Personalities who are capable of better acting with stronger material and more inspired direction are stymied in "The Heat's On." There are several box-office names such as Victor Moore, William Gaxton, Mae West, Xavier Cugat and his orchestra and Hazel Scott. And they will have to be relied upon to sell the tickets. This is the first picture Miss West has made in the past three years. There has been no change of style in the interval.

William Gaxton, as a Broadway producer, arranges to have a fake raid for publicity purposes made on his show starring Miss West. He later finds that it has been closed permanently and that his star has been signed by a rival producer. Gaxton then sets out to lure back the actress with the help of Victor Moore, who plays the role of a purity league official. It is almost too slight a story even for a musical's framework.

Moore does a good job, all things considered, in the sort of role he usually portrays, that of the innocent dupe subjected to feminine wiles. Gaxton is at home in the role of the producer. Miss West is ineffectual with both comedy lines and musical numbers. Lina Romay, singer with Cugat's band, does well with her song numbers and is a decorative item in the production.

Hazel Scott is impressive in a dual-piano number called "The White Keys and the Black Keys." Music is by Jay Gorney, Edward Eliscu, Henry Myers, Jule Styne and Sammy Cahn. Story is by Fitzroy Davis, George S. George and Fred Schiller. Gregory Ratoff directed.

Running time, 79 mins. "A."* FRED STENGEL

"A" denotes adult classification.

Tony Sudekum Again Honored by City

Nashville, Nov. 28.—Tony Sudekum, president of Crescent Amusement Co., has been reappointed by Mayor Thomas L. Cummins for a new five-year term as a member of the Nashville housing authority, of which he is chairman. The mayor has also named him as a member of the board of transportation trustees.

Long active in public affairs here, Sudekum was a member of the advisory committee for the United War Drive in 1918 and served in a similar capacity in the Community and War Chest drive in 1943.

Wehrenberg Helps To Oppose Curfew

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 28.—Following a public hearing on a proposed 10 p.m. curfew ordinance for children under 16 the legislative committee of the local board of aldermen indicated the proposed ordinance will either be modified or dropped.

Fred Wehrenberg, president of the MPTO of Missouri and Southern Illinois, opposed the plan on behalf of neighborhood theatres. He pointed out that while theatres kept children off the streets at night the 10 o'clock curfew would not permit them to stay through a full evening show. Theatre owners, he said, are not opposed to an 11 o'clock curfew.

Maximum penalty under the proposed ordinance is a fine of $250 or three months imprisonment or both for parents.

Edward Klauber Is Named to OWI Post

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Edward Klauber, retired vice-president of Columbia Broadcasting, will take over the associate directorship of the Office of War Information on Wednesday, Elmer Davis, OWI director, announced here. He succeeds Milton S. Eisenhower who resigned from OWI last June to become president of Kansas State College.

Klauber was associated with CBS for 13 years, during which he contributed largely to the development of the network's news service.

Crawford Succeeds Nathanson at CBC

TORONTO, Nov. 28.—Frederick J. Crawford, local stockbroker, has been appointed to membership on the board of governors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. succeeding the late N. L. Nathanson, Canadian motion picture and broadcasting executive, who died several months ago.

It had been anticipated that another film industry representative would receive the appointment in view of the close association of the screen and radio in Canada.

RKO Names Harry Bert

CHICAGO, Nov. 28. — Harry Bert, formerly with Ringling Bros. Circus, has been named transportation manager for RKO here. Position was created to cope with the difficult transportation situation with regard to stars and executives who travel cross-country.

People Will Say—

"I read it in Reader's Digest, so I sure want to see it!"

"Look at that cast. It must be quite a show!"

"It's another swell thriller like 'China' and 'Five Graves to Cairo'"

"I want to see that Underground Army smashing the Nazis—from inside!"

"Guess it's a hit—they're holding it for another week!"

"Seems like most of the big hits are Paramount Pictures"

HOSTAGES

FROM THE READER'S DIGEST SENSATION

starring

LUISE RAINER · **ARTURO DE CORDOVA**

Double Academy Award Winner — Sensational New Latin Lover

WILLIAM BENDIX · **PAUL LUKAS**

Voted No. 1 'Star Of Tomorrow' — Star of Big Current Hits

WITH KATINA PAXINOU · **OSCAR HOMOLKA**

Star of 'For Whom The Bell Tolls' — New-Hit Stage Star

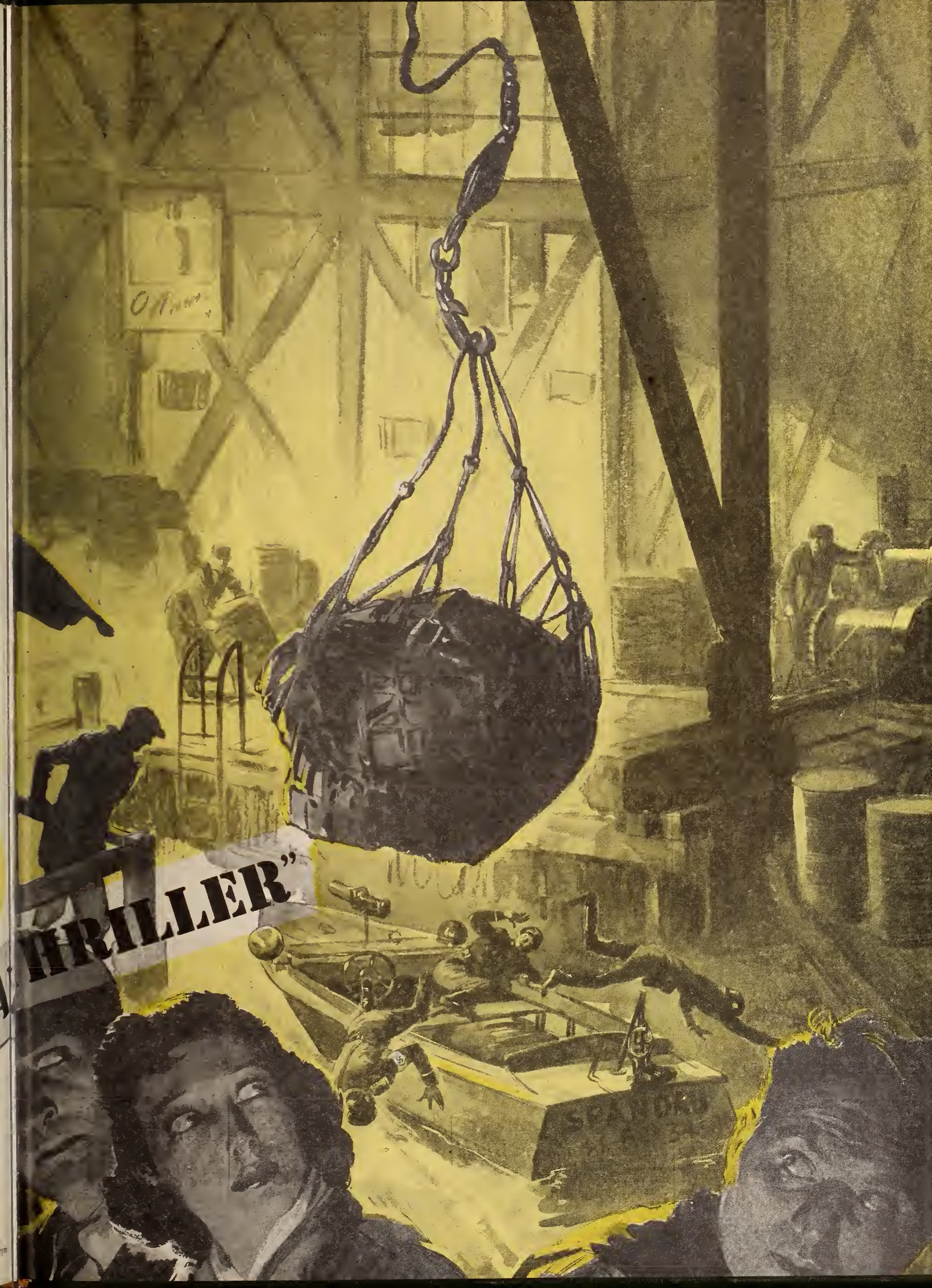
Directed by FRANK TUTTLE

"IT'S A REA

Says N. Y. Daily News

From Paramount

Screen Play by Lester Cole & Frank Butler From the Novel by Stefan Heym


THRILLER"

'True to Life' Does $37,000 At 2 in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 28.—With "Princess O'Rourke" turning in a strong fourth week in the three Warner first-runs and "A Lady Takes a Chance" still above par for its third stanza at the Pantages and Hillstreet, "True to Life" stood out as the newcomer with $37,000 in sight, at the two Paramounts, comparing to a combined average of $30,676. The Hawaii set a new Sunday record with "Son of Dracula" and "The Mad Ghoul," more than doubling house average on the week. Paramount closed "For Whom the Bell Tolls" out of the Four Star on a rising demand.

Estimated receipts for week ending Nov. 24:

"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $8,407)
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $14,052)
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
"The Strange Death of Adolf Hitler" (Univ.)
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $12,000)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
FOUR STAR—(900) (85c-$1.10-$1.65) 7 days 5th week. Gross: $8,150. (Average, $3,250).
"The Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $5,266)
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO, 3rd week)
"Gildersleeve on Broadway" (RKO)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $15,244.)
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. (Average, $20,752)
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
"The Strange Death of Adolf Hitler" (Univ.)
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $13,000)
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO, 3rd week)
"Gildersleeve on Broadway" (RKO)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $12,810)
"True to Life" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Hollywood)—(1,407) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $10,808)
"True to Life" (Para.)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT (Downtown)—(3,595) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average, $19,768)
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
"The Strange Death of Adolf Hitler" (Univ.)
RITZ—(1,376) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,416)
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
UPTOWN—(1,715) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $10,000)
"Princess O'Rourke" (W. B.)
WARNER BROS. (Hollywood)—(3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $13,190. (Average, $13,651)
"Princess O'Rourke" (W. B.)
WARNER BROS. (Downtown)—(3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,679. (Average, $16,094)
"Princess O'Rourke" (W. B.)
WARNER BROS. (Wiltern)—(2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,438. (Average, $12,794)

Orrin Johnson Dies

NEENAH, Wis., Nov. 28.—Orrin Johnson, 78, died here at his home last week. A retired actor, Johnson had appeared in several silent pictures, notably "Whither Thou Goest," in which he is said to have contributed the first dual role in a film.

Review

"O My Darling Clementine"

(*Republic*)

RADIO'S popular entertainers, Roy Acuff and his Smoky Mountain Boys and Girls, the Radio Rogues, Isabel Randolph of "Mrs. Uppington" fame, Harry (Pappy) Cheshire and the Tennessee Ramblers are starred in this light entertainment novelty which associate producer Armand Schaefer has whipped together under the title of "O My Darling Clementine." Frank Albertson, Lorna Gray and Irene Ryan are featured in a routine story that provides the background for musical entertainment.

Original screenplay, credited to Dorrell and Stuart McGowan, concerns the woes of a hungry group of itinerant entertainers headed by Albertson, who descend upon a small community and get stranded there. The town's Blue Laws include an edict against entertainment and the domineering wives of the councilmen are determined to prevent any infraction. Albertson goes to work on Miss Gray, daughter of the mayor, gaining the mayor's sympathies. By a ruse he acquires title to the City Hall and forces the women to acquiesce to his putting on a show right in City Hall. The show lampoons the Blue Laws and succeeds in restoring the management of the town's affairs to the councilmen and the mayor. Albertson gets the girl. Frank McDonald directed.

Running time, 70 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

'Guadalcanal' and 'Masters' Do $3,500

NEW HAVEN, Nov. 28.—Business was mediocre downtown. "Lassie Come Home," dualled with "Is Everybody Happy?" played to tremendous juvenile business and the gross was only $9,500, over by $200. Bill moves to the College for a second week. At the College the second week of "Guadalcanal Diary" and "Dancing Masters" took $3,500, over by $300.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 25:

"Squadron Leader X" (RKO)
"Return of the Vampire" (Col.)
BIJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,300. (Average, $3,500)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
COLLEGE—(1,565) (40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average, $3,200)
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col.)
LOEW-POLI—(3,005) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average, $9,300)
"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Journey Into Fear" (RKO)
PARAMOUNT—(2,373) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,200. (Average, $6,800)
"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
ROGER SHERMAN—(2,037) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $6,400)

Chicago 100% Gossipy

CHICAGO, Nov. 28.—Gossip columns, a large part of which are theatrical, are being added by the *Chicago Sun* and *Chicago Daily News*. There are similar columns in all of the other local papers.

Dale Harrison, former New York and Washington newspaperman, conducts the column, which was started in the *Sun*, and Sidney J. Harris, former feature writer, will start a column in the *News* soon.

SOPEG Sends Gift Boxes

Over 500 Christmas packages have been sent out here by Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, UOPWA, CIO, to members in the armed forces in this country and overseas.

Mather Shanahan Killed

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28. — Mather Shanahan, 27, manager of Fox West Coast's Loma Theatre in Los Angeles, was killed in an auto accident here. His widow and one child survive.

'Masters 'and Show Gross $3,000 Above

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 28.—"Dancing Masters" with the support of Johnny Long and his orchestra on the stage was leading box office grosses here this week at the Circle and will do $14,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 23-25:

"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Stage show: Johnny Long and orchestra. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $11,000)
"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
"Hi Ya Sailor" (Univ.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $11,500)
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
"The Kansan" (UA)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $11,000)
"We've Never Been Licked" (Univ.)
"Larceny with Music" (Univ.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $5,000)

Astor Pictures Unit Opens in Charlotte

Opening of an Astor Pictures exchange in Charlotte, N. C., by Jay Schrader and Hank Hearn was reported at the weekend by R. M. Savini of Astor Pictures here. New organization will also handle state rights for some independents.

20th Gets English Film

Twentieth-Fox has acquired U. S. distribution rights to "Uncensored," Gainsborough British production, directed by Anthony Asquith, with Maurice Ostrer as producer. Film is tentatively scheduled for January release.

Frank Green Promoted

Frank Green, former Denver booker for Universal, has been promoted to salesman, to work out of Denver. C. W. Rodebaugh has been added to the Universal sales staff in Kansas City.

Arias Gets Rights

Henry R. Arias has acquired exclusive distribution rights to 75 cartoon reissues from P. A. Powers of Celebrity Productions, Inc.

Booker Goldstein Gets Silver Star

Private Harold A. Goldstein, 31, of Bronx, N. Y., film booker in Universal's exchange before enlisting in the Army two years ago, is the recipient of the Silver Star. He alone rescued a wounded comrade caught in a shelled tank at Station de Sidi Nair, Tunis, last April while the tank burned, shells exploded all around him and the enemy tried to pick him off with direct machine gun fire.

'O'Rourke' Gets Nic $12,000 in a Slum

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 28.—Pre-holid slump hit local box-offices a hard bl this week, with the highest compar tive gross promised on a moveov "Princess O'Rourke," slated f $12,000 at the Warner.

Estimated receipts for the we ending Nov. 23-25:

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
FULTON—(1,700) (30c-40c-60c) 2 weeks days. Gross for last 4 days $4,500. (Avera for week: $9,400).
"Sahara" (Col.)
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2 week. Gross $8,200. (Average: $9,600).
"True to Life" (Para.)
PENN—(3,400) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gro $15,000. (Average: $20,600).
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3 week, moveover after one week at Pen one at Warner. Gross: $3,500. (Averag $3,200).
"Always A Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
"The Strange Death of Adolf Hitler" (Uni
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-60c) 7 da Gross: $2,300. (Average: $3,300).
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
STANLEY—(3,800) (35c-50c-75c) On stag 6 days of vaudeville including Ina R Hutton's band. Gross: $23,000. (Averag $23,200).
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-60c) 7 da 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gro $12,000. (Average: $8,300).

Christmas Carols On Film for Arm

Columbia has produced and deli ered to the U. S. Army Motion Pi ture Service, 150 16mm. prints of special Community Sing, featuri Christmas Carols.

Fifty-two prints have been turn over to the Overseas Motion Pictu Service to be shown at U. S. Arm bases. Balance will be distributed camps and bases here.

Donoghue in New Job

CHICAGO, Nov. 28.—Terry Don ghue, new RKO exploiteer in S Louis and Kansas City, spent the pa few days in the Chicago and Milwa kee areas with Bob Hickey, field s pervisor, and Ralph Banghart, Ch cago publicity representative, prior leaving on his new assignment.

Hurley Retires

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 28.—E. Hurley, chief accountant and offi manager at the local Paramount e change for 25 years, will be tender a farewell dinner at the Andrews H tel here tonight on his retiremen Paramount Pep Club here is arran ing the affair.

ox Office Bonanza Seen for Reissues

(Continued from page 1)

sues and repeats are the following: to 30-million new filmgoers have me along since many of the reissues ere first released; an additional es- ted 25 to 35-million prospective trons wanted to see but, for one ason or another, failed to see the ms when first released and today ve much spending money for amuse- ents; drawing power of the stars the older pictures has increased the interval; a generally larger po- ntial motion picture audience exists day and is more comprehensively ld by better merchandising prac- es; the over-all maintenance of rea- nable admission scales by theatres hich has kept them within financial ach of the greatest number.

Cited as examples of current rength of reissues are "The Okla- ma Kid," now in its eighth week a single feature in a Broadway use which formerly ran double bills ith weekly changes, and "Crime chool" which, in a recent Philadel- ia engagement, grossed more in its st week as a reissue than it did hen first released at the presentation- licy Fox Theatre there.

A few of the many other feature issues currently on the boards are: Banjo on My Knee," "Cherokee trip," "Empty Holsters," "Gangs, nc.," "Girls on Probation," "Guns the Pecos," "In Old Chicago" and n Old Monterey," "Land Beyond e Law," "Mexicali Rose," "The Old arn Dance," "Prairie Thunder," The Rains Came," "Ride, Tender- oot, Ride," "Song of the Saddle," Souls at Sea," "Under Two Flags," nion Pacific," "Trail of the Lone- me Pine," and "Island of Lost ouls," not counting many key re- ases of the past which are getting peat bookings but have not been ven general reissue release status.

hicago 48-Hour Rule Studied by Officials

(Continued from page 1)

der for the purpose of claiming emption for the others who will be fected. These are principally new d inexperienced employees in which ass there has been a rapid turn-over. is felt that nothing could be added the war effort by lengthening their ork week and it would have little fect on future manpower require- ents.

Exchange heads are drawing up commendations for the legal staff in e home office to handle. Exemptions ust be claimed by Jan. 16.

Reelfellows to Elect

CHICAGO, Nov. 28.—Reelfellows lub of this city will hold its annual ection meeting on Dec. 12 at the lackstone Hotel here. Candidates e Lou Goldberg, Republic; Milan mon, 20th-Fox, and Henry Kahn, -G-M.

Hutchins Takes Ad Post

Harold Hutchins has been named lvertising manager of Hillman omen's Group, publishers of *Movie- nd* and other magazines.

Eight Theatres Operating In Allied-Occupied Italy

(Continued from page 1)

and North African war zones are clamoring for domestic news from home," Trammell explained in revealing that our soldiers are not receiving American broadcasts of news and entertainment directly. They hear recorded shows of popular American programs which are broadcast by low-powered stations operated by the Army, Trammell reported. Programs broadcast by the Army-operated transmitters in Oran, Casablanca, Algiers and Tunis are heard in North Africa but not in Sicily and Italy, according to Trammell, who also revealed that there are 13 or 14 low-powered Army stations covering 25-mile sections in Great Britain which bring American programs to Army encampments. The programs are received at Red Cross huts, regiment recreational centers, and other Army centers since soldiers do not have individual sets.

Trammell and Royal did not see any of the Army 16 mm shows of American films, while they were abroad, he said.

"American troops should have more big name entertainers visit them," Trammell said. There is also a desperate need for reading matter and the boys do not receive sufficient mail from home, he explained.

The purpose of his visit was "to see what can be done in the way of improving broadcasting to the liberated areas and to our troops as well as improving the transmission of news coming out." Trammell explained that several plans are now under discussion with U. S. Government officials to improve short-wave facilities and to supply more news to Army stations.

Trammell revealed that music coming from Germany and heard by our soldiers in North Africa is very good, "much better than that carried from other stations." Soldiers also like sport broadcasts.

Present plans call for more recorded programs of action at the front to be broadcast over the network. New type of recorder used by the Army can be taken up to the front lines. Canadian and British broadcasting companies have equipment near the front.

On post-war plans, Trammell said, "After the war there must be an organization made up from various countries to insure that radio will thenceforth be used for good instead of evil. No country will be able to propagandize the world."

Trammell revealed that an exchange of programs between NBC and BBC featuring half-hour entertainment programs, with NBC broadcasting for British audiences one week and BBC broadcasting for American audiences the next, will get underway on Jan. 1.

Griffith Services At Okla. City Today

(Continued from page 1)

was educated in Texas and Oklahoma and opened his first theatre in Oklahoma City. He leaves, in addition to his two brothers, a widow, Marcella Griffith of Las Vegas; a son, Rupert; a daughter, Julie Joan; and his mother, Mrs. H. J. Griffith, Sr., of Oklahoma City.

Griffith's remains will lie in state today and until noon tomorrow. The home office will be closed tomorrow and all Griffith theatres will be closed until 6 P. M. Rev. J. Howard Williams will conduct services.

Start New Program For Delivery Cuts

(Continued from page 1)

meetings of exhibitors, film booking agents and delivery companies, and is expected to save 32,235 truck miles annually in the Detroit area alone.

Joint-action plans fostered by the ODT contemplate that two or more deliveries engaged in the same line of business in the same area shall pool their deliveries or otherwise reduce operations to reduce gasoline consumption and conserve trucks, tires and parts.

'Pursuit' Gets $10,000

Opening day's business of Warner's "Northern Pursuit," Errol Flynn starrer at the Strand in New York was just under $10,000 to set a new Thanksgiving Day record for the theatre. "Gentleman Jim," another with Flynn, which played the house a year ago Thanksgiving Day, was the previous record holder with a gross of $9,000.

'White-Collarites', Majors Negotiate

(Continued from page 1)

Board's amended general order No. 31, the agreement specifies.

Wage clauses in SOPEG's two-year contracts with the four majors expired last July. Salary adjustments resulting from classifications will be retroactive to Oct. 4.

"Classifications will correct, by fair and equitable job and wage standards, many long-standing salary grievances and inequalities," stated Sidney Young, president of SOPEG, Local 109, "and provide substantial relief to the problem of turnover and contribute greatly to the stabilization of the vital film industry."

U. S. Files Tax Liens

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28.—Internal Revenue Department has filed a $26,947 tax lien against Busby Berkeley and one against Edmund O'Brien for $18,953, Harry C. Westover, collector, disclosed here. Other liens include Everett Crosby, $15,255; Bruce Cabot, $11,028; B. P. Schulberg, $6,730; Patsy Kelly, $2,849, and Maxie Rosenbloom, $6,514.

Variety Club Elects

OMAHA, Nov. 28.—Local Variety Club has named the following new officers to take over Jan. 1: chief barker, Ike Rubin; assistant chief barker, J. McBride; second assistant chief barker, Harold Johnson; dough guy, Meyer Stern; property master, Gene Blazier.

Alexander Dividend

Dividend of 25 cents on its common stock has been declared by Alexander Film Co., payable to stock of record on Dec. 20.

Exhibitors' Anti-Tax Pleas Flood Senate

(Continued from page 1)

500,000,000 tax bill involving the trebling of the present tax on admissions, called for the appearance Wednesday of Myers, P. J. Wood of Ohio, and David Newman of Michigan and possibly of Kuykendall.

It is understood that the exhibitors will argue against any increase in the present tax on admissions and will propose, if an increase can not be avoided, that the suggestion of the experts of the joint Congressional Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation for a rate of two cents on each 15 cents be adopted in preference to the House rate of two cents on each ten cents, or as an alternative, a sliding scale which would retain the present tax on admissions up to 20 cents, with an increase on admissions between 20 and 50 cents, and a higher rate of admissions in excess of 50 cents.

Extortion and Union Trials Resume Today

(Continued from page 1)

members of Empire State projectionists' union to prevent the union's officials from continuing to carry out the union's merger with Local 306, will also resume today in Kings County Supreme Court before Judge Charles S. Colden.

Empire attorneys have made a motion to Judge Colden for a dismissal of the action after the suing Empire members put but one witness on the stand and then rested. Judge Colden has reserved decision on the motion.

Both trials have been recessed since last Wednesday.

'Happy Land' to Open At 61 Iowan Houses

In a state-wide premiere of 20th-Fox's "Happy Land," 61 theatres in Iowa will show the film starting Thursday, Dec. 2, Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution, reports. Advertising campaign, including radio, will be used by Tri-States Theatre Corp., Central States, Harold Fields' circuit and independent exhibitors, working with 20th-Fox.

Rodney Bush, 20th's exploitation manager, has named three members of the staff, Jules Fields, George Gomperts and Walter Hoffman, to assist in the campaign.

'Lady' Here Feb. 16

Paramount's "Lady in the Dark" will open here at the Broadway Paramount Feb. 16, and Ginger Rogers, star of the picture, is to make a personal appearance, Neil Agnew, general sales manager, reports. Film is slated for an indefinite run at no advance in prices. World premiere is set for Feb. 9 at the Hollywood Paramount.

FP-C Sends Gift Boxes

TORONTO, Nov. 28.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. this year sent 271 Christmas bundles to former employes now serving in the armed forces overseas, compared with 150 packages last year.

WALTER WANGER'S PRODUCTION

"GUNG HO!"

TO BE RELEASED DEC. 31st IS THE FIRST MOTION PICTURE TO DRAMATIZE THE HEROISM OF THE MARINE RAIDERS ON MAKIN ISLAND!

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 103 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1943 | TEN CENTS

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NEW YORK,
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Chas. Skouras To Head Films' 4th Loan Drive

Other Key Workers to Be Named Shortly

Charles Skouras, Fox West Coast Theatres head, has accepted the post of chairman for the industry's participation in the Fourth War Loan, according to a statement released here yesterday by S. H. Fabian, chairman of the War Activities Committees' theatres division. The campaign, with the industry participating at the request of Theodore R. Gamble, director of the Treasury's War Finance Committee,

Charles Skouras

(Continued on page 9)

Treasury Is Already Eyeing Fifth Drive

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Another $14,000,000,000 loan drive in which the film industry will participate may follow close on the heels of the January-February campaign for which industry leaders now are preparing, it was indicated today by Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

Discussing the forthcoming campaign, Morgenthau told the Senate Finance Committee, that he is considering a Fifth War Loan in May. No specific date has yet been set, however, and it may be that the campaign will be deferred until later in the year.

Treasury officials said today that

(Continued on page 9)

42 Stars Already Set For Holiday Tours

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 29.—Moving toward the goal of 150 Hollywood personalities who are to visit U. S. camps and hospitals between Christmas and New Year's, the Hollywood Victory Committee states 42 are already definitely set. James Burke, Harry Carey, Jimmy Durante, Dale Evans, Linx Falkenburg, Evelyn Keyes, Alan

(Continued on page 9)

N. P. Rathvon Lists $5,397,927 RKO Net Income Rise

Net profits of $5,008,074, after all taxes and charges for Radio-Keith-Orpheum in the 39 weeks ended Oct. 2 were reported here yesterday by N. Peter Rathvon, president, who described the result of operations as a new high level for the company. It compared with a net loss of $389,853 for the same period last year and a profit of only $736,240 for all of 1942. With last year's $389,853 39-week loss, it represents a total net income increase

N. Peter Rathvon

(Continued on page 9)

Canada Exploitation Drives Eliminated

TORONTO, Nov. 29.—Reaction of theatremen to the latest order issued by the Federal government at Ottawa curtailing the use of printed matter is that exhibitors' exploitation campaigns are eliminated for the duration. The war measure is intended

(Continued on page 9)

Fitzgibbons Lists 727 in War Service

Toronto, Nov. 29.—Enlistments of Famous Players-Canadian Corp. employes in the armed forces total 727, it was revealed in a report by John J. Fitzgibbons, president of the circuit, which is associated with Paramount. Thirteen are women. Of the total, 322 are in the Royal Canadian Air Force; 285 in the Canadian Army; 115 in the Royal Canadian Navy, and five in the U. S. Air Corps.

Eight have been killed in action, nine are missing, eight are prisoners of war, three have been wounded. Twenty of the 28 casualties had been in the air forces.

Film Trucks Built For 150,000 Miles Running Up 500,000

Indication of the seriousness of the threat of a breakdown in the film truck delivery system in the Metropolitan area can be gleaned from a disclosure by a spokesman for the carriers that trucks built to stand up for 150,000 miles have already passed the 500,000 mark.

It is understood that a report on an impending breakdown, being prepared by Harry Grayson, attorney for the carriers, is expected to be ready

(Continued on page 9)

Curfew Is the Cure to Vandalism, Beatty Finds

By C. CAMPBELL CRAWFORD

DETROIT, Nov. 29.—Juvenile vandalism in outstate Michigan houses has been materially cut by local curfew ordinances, declares E. C. Beatty, president of W. S. Butterfield Theatres, operating 116 theatres in the state.

While Beatty finds it impossible to put a dollar and cents value on curfew laws the efficacy of the measures is attested by the company's active role in the drafting and passing of such ordinances in the several Michigan cities which have recently employed them. The curfew was one of three weapons that Butterfield Theatres

(Continued on page 9)

Sam Schoenstadt, Circuit Head, Dies

CHICAGO, Nov. 29.—Samuel Schoenstadt, 42, general manager of H. Schoenstadt & Sons, Inc., pioneer Chicago theatre operators, died here last night of a heart attack. He was driving from the Brighton Theatre to the Midwest Theatre on a routine inspection trip at the time he was stricken.

He was a nephew of the founder of the circuit which now numbers 20 theatres. He has been associated with the organization for the last 20 years. Funeral services will be held at 11:30 A.M. on Wednesday from Furth chapel.

30% Admission Tax Demanded By Treasury

'Fully Warranted,' Says Treasury Official

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Treasury recommendations for a $10,500,000,000 tax bill, rejected by the House of Representatives, were renewed today before the Senate Finance Committee by Secretary of the Treasury Henry J. Morgenthau, Jr., and Randolph Paul, general counsel of the Department.

Both officials urged flat adoption of the original Treasury program, including the trebling of the admission tax, and Paul criticized the House's refusal to accept the higher rates recommended, including that on admissions, declaring that the increases are "fully warranted in view of the great wartime increases in demand."

Exhibitor views on the admission tax will be submitted to the committee

(Continued on page 9)

Fox Will Deliver 25-26, Says Skouras

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 29.—Having announced 30 films for the current season, 20th-Fox will release between 25 and 26, Spyros Skouras, president, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY today. Tom Connors, W. J. Kupper, Hal Horne and Charles Schlaifer arrived here today to screen seven attractions and set release dates. These are: "The Sullivans," "Pin Up Girl," "The Lodger," "The Eve of St. Mark," "Lifeboat," "Buffalo Bill" and "Song of Bernadette." The group, plus Skouras, will return to New York Friday.

Korda Replies to Balcon's Charges

Sir Alexander Korda's reply to a recent attack on the American industry by Michael Balcon was reprinted in the *N. Y. Times* on Sunday.

The Korda reply said: "The future of the British film industry depends very much on whether its leaders avoid trying to evolve grievances against America or to create excuses for themselves." He added that "in his great many years of experience" with the American market he had never encountered "any mysterious

(Continued on page 9)

Personal Mention

F. J. A. McCARTHY, Universal's Southern division manager, left New York for Miami yesterday to confer with W. A. SCULLY, general sales manager, and HARRY GRAHAM, Southern district manager.

•

JACK BRASSIL, who has received a medical discharge from the Army, will return to his post as ad manager at the Loew-Poli, New Haven, following a Florida vacation.

•

CHARLES LOWE, Hartford sound technician for Warner Theatres, and MRS. LOWE are parents of a girl, SUSAN, born at St. Francis Hospital in that city.

•

MORRIS ROSENTHAL, manager of Loew's Majestic, Bridgeport, winner of the bronze Quigley Grand Award in 1934, is recovering from an appendectomy.

•

JOHN POLKA, manager of the Strand, Plainville, Conn., has joined the Navy and reported to Sampson Naval Training Station, N. Y.

•

ARNOLD STOLTZ, United Artists exploitation director, was honor guest at a cocktail party in Baltimore during the weekend.

•

LEONARD KRASKA, of the Hollis, Framingham, Mass., and MRS. KRASKA, are parents of a girl, ELAINE CAROL, born recently.

•

JANE MEISEL, of the Warner publicity staff in Cleveland, has announced her engagement to HERBERT SIMON.

•

MORT BLUMENSTOCK, Warner's Eastern publicity-ad director, will leave New York today for the South.

•

FRANK PETRAGLIA, of the RKO publicity department, will report for Army induction Dec. 18.

•

WILLIAM K. SEXTON, Loew's city manager in Baltimore, has returned to that city from a New York visit.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, president of Altec Lansing, has arrived here from the Coast.

•

RANDY MALLER, of the Strand, New Britain, Conn., was married recently to SYLVIA ADLER in Brooklyn.

•

HENRY SOCKALSKY, of the Plainfield, Plainfield, Conn., has resigned to enter the Army Air Corps.

•

GEORGE BROWN, Paramount studio publicity director, is expected to arrive here Saturday from the Coast.

•

JULES GIRDEN, of the Warner circuit, will visit Albany today.

•

LESTER COWAN left for the Coast yesterday.

Paramount Theatre Executives to Coast

Paramount theatre executives are converging on the company's Hollywood studio this week. Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-president in charge of theatre operations, will leave here tomorrow by plane. Sam Dembow, theatre department executive, departed yesterday by plane and will stop over in Salt Lake City. They will confer at the studio with Y. Frank Freeman and B. G. De Sylva and see forthcoming product.

Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the New York Paramount Theatre, also left yesterday. While on the Coast he will look for bands and personalities for the Paramount and see new pictures scheduled for the house. Weitman was accompanied by Harry Levine, booker of stage shows for out-of-town Paramount theatres.

All expect to be gone about two weeks.

Moss to Discuss Fire Regulations

A meeting of all New York theatre managers and assistant managers has been called for Friday by License Commissioner Paul Moss to discuss theatre fire prevention measures. The meeting will be held at Loew's Ziegfeld Theatre at 10 A. M.

The occurrence of several theatre fires, particularly in the Broadway area, during recent weeks is believed to have induced Commissioner Moss to call the meeting to discuss the situation. None of the recent fires have been serious and several occurred without the knowledge of audiences.

Swensen Joins WB In Research Post

Mort Blumenstock, in charge of Warner Bros. advertising and publicity in the East, announced yesterday the creation of a special research post in the home office publicity department to be filled by Joel Swensen, formerly head of the information department at the Hays Office and more recently with the War Activities Committee. Swensen also was one time foreign editor of *Movietone News*, head of the advertising department of Fox Theatres and a member of the Fox home office advertising and publicity staffs.

Funeral Rites Held For Rupert Griffith

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 29.—Funeral services for Rupert E. Griffith, 50, Texas exhibitor, who died in Los Angeles last week, were held here today at First Baptist Church, Rev. J. Howard Williams officiating.

Griffith was one of the largest individual holders of theatre properties with 345 houses in five Southwestern states. He also operated several hotels.

The Griffith home office was closed today and all Griffith theatres remained closed until 6 P.M.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 29

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK arrived here today from the East for usual production meetings with Louis B. Mayer. He will leave here Friday for his return to New York.

•

Edward A. Golden, heretofore operating as an individual, today formed Edward A. Golden Productions, Inc., with himself as president; Robert S. Golden, vice-president; Herman Weisman, treasurer, and H. S. Lewis, secretary. The first production under the new set-up will be "Master Rafe" for RKO.

•

RKO Radio has announced that the world premiere of "Tender Comrade," Ginger Rogers' starrer, will be held at the RKO Hillstreet and Hollywood Pantages Theatres, Los Angeles, on Wednesday, Dec. 29. RKO is bidding for Academy honors.

•

Twentieth-Fox's "Song of Bernadette" will be marketed on a "Gone with the Wind" policy. The picture will open at the Rivoli and Globe, New York, following the run of "For Whom the Bell Tolls" at the Rivoli.

•

Following a final report meeting, industry War Chest committee chairman Freeman announced the drive will continue through Dec. 6, closing with disclosure of final figures at a community wide report meeting on the 7th.

•

Joseph Breen will leave here sometime in December for Mexico City for a fortnight's stay. He will combine his holiday with CIAA matters.

•

George Skouras, president of Skouras Theatres Corp., will arrive here next Monday from New York. He will spend one day here.

•

Sam Goldwyn who is back here from New York, will start production of "Treasure Chest" in March, "Those Endearing Young Charms" in April and the next Danny Kaye vehicle in May.

•

Mrs. Beatrice Goetz, former wife of Harry Goetz, will marry Charles Lemaire, head of 20th's wardrobe department, here today.

•

Harry Sherman will return to the studio today following his convalesence from injuries sustained in an accident.

•

Harry Cohn, Nat Spingold and Frank Rosenberg arrived here today from the East.

•

Fred Quimby, MGM shorts executive, left here today for Chicago to attend a sales meeting.

•

George Burrows, Monogram treasurer, returned here today from the East.

•

Leo Spitz is expected to leave here for the East sometime this week.

Denies Dismissal of Extort Defendants

Defense motions for dismissal of th industry extortion conspiracy indict ment against six Chicago gangster and Louis Kaufman, Newark I.A.T.S.E. business agent, were denie yesterday by Federal Judge Joh Bright. The motions were argue last Wednesday, when Judge Brigh dismissed the case as to Ralph Pierce of Chicago, and reserved decision a to the others.

Yesterday, however, defense attor neys argued for several hours in a effort to win dismissals for the re maining defendants, without avai After disposing of the motions yester day the court adjourned until today

A number of A.F.L. unionists fro the film studios in Hollywood stoo by yesterday during the argumen prepared to take the stand as the firs of the expected 60 defense witnesse Defense attorneys stated that a larg number of Hollywood personages wi be called as defense witnesses to off set the testimony offered by the Gov ernment concerning large cash pay ments to Bioff and Browne.

'Gang' Screening Tonigh

Twentieth Century-Fox will hav an exhibitor trade showing of "Th Gang's All Here" at the Roxy The atre here at 7:45 tonight.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
ROCKEFELLER CENTER
"CLAUDIA"
with DOROTHY McGUIRE
ROBERT YOUNG INA CLAIRE
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
Gala Stage Show Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

'I DOOD IT'
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
Red SKELTON
Eleanor Powell
IN PERSON
WOODY HERMAN
Paul Winchell
Marion Hutton
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—Cl 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Screen
MAE WEST
VICTOR MOORE
WM. GAXTON
'THE HEAT'S ON'
In Person
HENNY YOUNGMAN
HELEN PARRISH
EXTRA!—
Paul MARTELL and ORCH.

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you'll say
OK

WHERE MEN WERE WILDCATTERS
AND FOUGHT LIKE WILDCATS...

A PICTURE THAT
HAPPENS ONCE IN
NINE LIFE-TIMES
IN OLD
OKLAHOMA
based on THOMSON BURTIS' story "WAR OF THE WILDCATS"
You'll say
is an EPICture
JOHN WAYNE · MARTHA SCOTT
ALBERT DEKKER
GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES · MARJORIE RAMBEAU
DALE EVANS · GRANT WITHERS
ALBERT S. ROGELL, Director
Adaptation by THOMSON BURTIS
Screen Play by
ETHEL HILL and ELEANORE GRIFFIN
Associate Producer,
ROBERT NORTH

MOTION PICTURE DAILY
November 30, 1943

FIERY FANGS

of flaming oil . . . fanned to a fury by blinding ambition . . . driven by dreams of power . . .

POWER that went up in smoke . . .

AMBITION that smoldered in the ashes...

DREAMS that were born in the embers...

all burning a path to a woman's arms

and

RED-HOT ROMANCE!

with

JOHN WAYNE · MARTHA SCOTT

Chas. Skouras To Head Films' 4th Loan Drive

(Continued from page 1)

will begin on Jan. 18 and conclude on Feb. 15.

Fabian stated that "Charles Skouras is eager to serve the nation and the industry as head of our part in the Fourth War Loan. His initiative, drive and showmanship are widely known and justly applauded. Under his leadership the campaign will be up to the standard set in past bond drives by such showmen as Oscar Doob, Edward L. Alperson, L. C. Griffith, C. B. Akers and Ray Beall."

Skouras, long active in Southern California civic activities, said he will "do everything possible in behalf of the Fourth War Loan, but, in the final analysis, the success of the industry's participation will depend mainly upon motion picture theatre patrons and exhibitors throughout the nation. Their splendid showing in previous war bond efforts leaves no room for doubt that they again may be counted upon to do their part fully and effectively."

The Fourth War Loan, with its stated goal of $14,000,000,000 will find the Treasury once again banking heavily on the industry's ability to "showmanize" the campaign, as well as to sell thousands of the small "E" bonds.

Skouras is canvassing the field for manpower to staff the Fourth War Loan "high command." He is expected to announce colleagues' names in the next few days.

Treasury Insists on 30% Admission Tax

(Continued from page 1)

Wednesday, probably by Ed Kuykendall, president of the MPTOA, and Abram F. Myers, general counsel of National Allied, speaking on behalf of a score of exhibitors and organizations which have asked an opportunity to be heard.

They are expected to oppose the flat doubling of the present tax provided in the House bill, which would raise an additional $163,500,000 a year. The Treasury seeks a trebling of the levy, which would raise $327,000,000, the third largest return from any of the excise tax increases recommended, and exceeded only by the $487,000,000 which is sought from distilled spirits and $371,000,000 from cigarettes.

Treasury Eyeing A Fifth War Loan

(Continued from page 1)

Oscar Doob, who was assistant national director of the Third War Loan, will be unable to serve in that capacity in the fourth campaign because of the necessity of his remaining at his post with Loew's Theatres, which is short-handed as a result of the loss of many men to the armed services. Doob, however, will act as liaison between the Treasury and the committee.

Film Trucks Built For 150,000 Miles Running Up 500,000

(Continued from page 1)

today. It will stress breakdown records of film trucks and difficulties encountered in securing replacement parts. Committee representing the carriers has been assured cooperation by the War Activities Committee in presenting a case to the Government agencies in Washington in order to secure much needed equipment. Present at the meeting last week to map strategy were H. M. Richey of M-G-M, Fred Schwartz of Century Circuit, Morris and Louis Lane, representing State Film Delivery Service, and Joseph and Edward Seider, representing Prudential.

More Serious Breakdowns Seen

Spokesmen for the carriers pointed out yesterday that on long hauls in the New York exchange area, trucks average 2,500 miles a week. Delivery services anticipate even more serious breakdowns when real winter weather sets in, pointing out difficulties encountered in getting film to theatres in the areas near Albany during last week's snowstorm in that sector.

Repairs for trucks are growing more serious since it is almost impossible to secure parts like springs, carburetors and generators as well as other parts containing vital metals. Inferior gasoline with octane rating reduced to approximately 60 per cent is also adding to difficulties in maintaining film deliveries.

A carrier representative points out that operating costs have increased more than three times in the past three years, from 11 cents per mile to 36 cents per mile without any increase in rates. There is also a shortage of drivers.

The carriers plan to lay their case before the proper government agencies in Washington as quickly as possible.

42 Stars Already Set For Holiday Tours

(Continued from page 1)

Marshall and Marion Martin are new additions.

Previously enlisted were Dana Andrews, Heather Angel, Robert Benchley, Charles Bickford, Eddie Bracken, Marguerite Chapman, Cass Daley, Olivia de Havilland, Jo-Carroll Dennison, Kay Francis, Billy Gaxton and Victor Moore, Paulette Goddard, Veronica Lake, Gil Lamb. Carole Landis, Anita Louise, James Lydon and Charles Smith, Fred MacMurray, Harpo Marx, Mitzi Mayfair, Dennis Morgan, Chester Morris, Ona Munson, Dick Powell, George Raft, Martha Raye, Helene Reynolds, Phil Regan, Ann Rutherford, Dinah Shore, Helen Walker and Zorina.

Charles Quits M-G-M, Joins Tom Fizdale

Perry Charles, M-G-M home office film-radio publicity contact for the past 20 years, will sever connections with the organization on Friday, Dec. 3. He will join Tom Fizdale, Inc., publicity representatives, operating from its Hollywood branch.

Curfew Is Cure for Vandalism: Beatty

(Continued from page 1)

used to beat back the rising wave of vandalism that began last Spring. Beatty gave credit to a special trailer, pinning a "traitor" label on war-time vandals, which was prepared by the company and shown in all of its houses. In two cities uniformed policemen were assigned to patrol theatres.

"In practically all the cities," Beatty said, "curfews were under consideration as a deterrent to general juvenile delinquency and we cooperated with municipal authorities to the fullest possible extent in getting the laws passed. In not a few of the communities the authorities had expected us to fight a curfew and they admitted they were agreeably surprised to find us on their side. Our experience—the drop in damage to furnishings—proved that the curfew worked to our own best advantage," he reported.

Most of the ordinances adopted with the general assistance of the Butterfield circuit follow the pattern of a Battle Creek, Mich., law which forbids minors under 17 to appear on streets after 10 p. m. Sunday through Thursday and after 11 p. m. Friday and Saturday, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. The ordinance also makes the parent liable for the misdemeanor of a child in being out after curfew hour, but it sets up an exception in the case of working children whose occupation necessitates their being out alone during forbidden time.

Canada Exploitation Drives Eliminated

(Continued from page 1)

to conserve paper stocks and prohibits the use of posters, window cards, handbills except on actual place of entertainment, although 24-sheets and street car cards can still be used. The order also prohibits printing blotters for any purpose and other restrictions are imposed. The import of advertising accessories is not halted under a clause dealing with printing matter acquired for purpose of resale, but the user is distinctly cramped in the employment of material except on his own premises.

Morris Stein, general manager of Famous Players Canadian Corp., expressed the view that the order means "local campaigns are out."

Restrictions are effective Dec. 1 but job printers were given a month to complete current orders.

Engel Leaves Warner Boston Publicity Post

BOSTON, Nov. 29.—Phil Engel, for past 10 years New England publicity manager for Warner Brothers with headquarters here, today resigned, effective Dec. 1. No successor has yet been named.

Before coming to Boston Engel was for seven years in Warners' home office in New York. He has covered Boston, Buffalo, Albany, Syracuse, Rochester and other eastern points. He started 20 years ago with the old William Fox Film Co. in publicity then went to Paramount Publix, later joining Warners. Engel left today for New York.

Rathvon Lists $5,397,927 Income Rise

(Continued from page 1)

of $5,397,927. Report covers RKO and all subsidiaries.

Gross profits, before taxes, reserves and depreciation for the 39 weeks were $11,914,106, compared with $2,302,210 for the comparable period of 1942. After depreciation and reserves, but before taxes, profits for the first 39 weeks were $9,947,217, compared with $699,892 in 1942, and after all taxes were $5,008,074.96.

Provision for Federal income taxes for 1943 approximates the consolidated tax return liability on a 42 per cent basis whereas the 1942 income taxes (calculated at 40 per cent) cover the aggregate liability on an individual tax return basis. Provision for excess profits taxes gives effect to extensive and non-recurring unused excess profits credit adjustments and to the statutory credit against such excess profits taxes resulting from debt retirement, the RKO statement said.

'Studio Write-Off' Set Down

The 39-week operations in 1942 were hit by the $633,804 "extraordinary studio write-off" set down when Charles Koerner took over the company's Hollywood plant and insisted on the immediate liquidation of some story and other properties which he considered of questionable value. There was no such write-off in the current report.

New and significant item in the current report is the provision made of $1,000,000 for postwar adjustments. Provision is also made in the amount of $4,180,000 for normal and surtax taxes, against only $1,050,356 in the 39 weeks of one year ago. Excess-profit taxes in the amount of $720,000 are listed this year; there were none last year.

Korda Replies to Balcon's Charges

(Continued from page 1)

power or combination which wanted to stop my pictures in American theatres. The ultimate judge of any entertainment is, let's remember, the unaccountable, illogical, inexplicable taste of the public."

Balcon had charged in a lengthy article in the *London Evening Standard* of Nov. 12 that British films were kept from American theatres by a conspiracy of a small group that controlled the theatres. He called upon the British trade and government for retaliatory action against American films. Korda's reply was published in the London *Times* last Wednesday.

Riskin in London On Film Programs

Robert Riskin, head of the overseas film division of the Office of War Information, arrived in London yesterday for an extended official visit abroad, according to information received in New York.

Riskin will confer with United States and British officials in London, and later in Africa and Italy, on distribution and other plans for American films in liberated territories.

'Pursuit' Big $60,000 In First B'way Week; 'Havoc' Does $22,000

Although grosses were better than average during the past week, holiday business was disappointing to most operators of film houses on Broadway. Strand enjoyed a big send-off with the first week of "Northern Pursuit" and with Willie Howard and Glen Gray and his band on the stage headed for an estimated $60,000 gross. "Cry Havoc" at the Astor grossed around $22,000 in the initial stanza, which ended last night. "Flesh and Fantasy," following a record-breaking first week of nearly $41,000 at the Criterion, is headed for a neat $36,000 in its second.

Music Hall will gross an estimated $100,000 for the fourth and final week of "Claudia" and a stage show, with "What a Woman" and a new show on the stage opening Thursday. Second week of "Guadalcanal Diary" and the Ritz Bros. heading a vaudeville bill at the Roxy are expected to hit $95,000 and hold for a third. "I Dood It" and Woody Herman and his band on the stage at the Paramount will wind up a three-week stay with an estimated $61,000. "No Time for Love" opens at the Paramount tomorrow but the stage show will hold over until Dec. 22.

"The North Star" is headed for a big week both at the Palace and Victoria. A gross of $38,000 is expected at the former and $14,000 at the latter house. The picture is in its third week. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" in the seventh week of a continuous run at the Rivoli will gather about $32,000.

"Old Acquaintance" is headed for a $25,000 gross in a fourth week at the Hollywood. "The Iron Major" will wind up a 10-day stay at the Globe on Friday night, where it did $13,000 in its first seven days and will do about $3,000 for the rest of its stay. "In Old Oklahoma" opens at the Globe Saturday. "Son of Dracula" will take about $5,500 in its fourth and final week at the Rialto, with "Dancing Masters" opening at this house tomorrow.

Hold Public Hearing On Toronto Fire Wed.

TORONTO, Nov. 29.—The inquest Wednesday into the death of Herbert Naiman, motion picture operator, from the Film Building conflagration will probably be the only public inquiry into the fire, it has been revealed by an official informant.

Apart from an investigation already made by provincial officials, evidence brought out at an inquest would suffice and further public examination would only serve to draw attention of the public to the circumstances, it was said.

WPB's Smith to Talk Priorities to Altec

Allen G. Smith, head of the theatre equipment section of the War Production Board's service division, will address an Altec Service district managers' meeting in New York on Friday.

Smith's talk will deal with priority regulations.

Plaza Theatres Win In Clearance Case

Arbitration awards favoring an exhibitor complainant have been entered at Boston and at Oklahoma City a designated-run case has been dismissed, American Arbitration Association reported here yesterday.

At Boston, in the clearance complaint of Plaza Theatres, Inc., operators of the Plaza at Derry, N. H., against the five consenting companies, the arbitrator held that there shall be no clearance in favor of first run Nashua theatres over the Plaza. Further, unless and until the Crown in Manchester, N. H., exhibits product regularly seven days a week, the Crown shall enjoy no clearance over the Plaza. Continuing, the arbitrator stipulated that if and when the Crown exhibits pictures regularly seven days a week, maximum clearance over the Plaza on product shown first run shall not exceed seven days. Maximum clearance of the Strand and State in Manchester on first run pictures shall be 14 days over the Plaza, and there shall be no clearance on second and subsequent runs.

In the designated-run case at Oklahoma City filed by Ray H. Russ, operating the Camera, Stillwater, Okla., against RKO and Paramount, the arbitrator dismissed the complaint against Paramount prior to the hearing. The arbitrator, with the consent and approval of various parties concerned, entered an order for the filing of briefs. After numerous extensions granted to Russ on the filing of the brief, Russ abandoned his complaint and the arbitrator dismissed the charge against RKO without prejudice.

Fromkess Silent on Rumored Shake-Up

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 29.—Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of production for PRC, has returned here, but is officially maintaining silence in the face of persistent reports both here and in the East, of changes in PRC's top-line personnel.

It was learned elsewhere that New York sessions with O. H. Briggs, president of the company, and George Young, have resulted in a restoration of internal amity and better understanding.

Gillette Is Author Of Film Survey

Don C. Gillette, trade press contact for Warners, and associated with the industry for many years, is the author of an extensive appraisal of current merchandising and business practices in the industry, which appears in Barron's National Business and Financial Weekly, out yesterday.

The article gives particular attention to business results of reissues and revivals, production of fewer but better films and improved promotion efforts.

A. J. Diebold Passes

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., Nov. 29.—A. J. Diebold, 61, died here late last week following a stroke. He was owner of the Palace and State here and also owned theatres at Waterloo and Mason City. He leaves his widow, a daughter, Bonnie, two sisters, and three brothers.

Stocks, Cages for Vandals' Parents

Indianapolis, Nov. 29.—This city may be treated to the amazing spectacle of seeing parents of juvenile delinquents languishing in stocks and cages. It will if City Councilman W. B. Sullivan has his way. Sullivan said he will introduce a city ordinance providing for the stocks and cages and for their use in the downtown area.

"This," he said, "would bring these parents the public scorn they deserve." The councilman is incensed over the wave of juvenile delinquency and vandalism in the city and from which theatres have suffered along with other businesses.

Mae West, 'Bondage,' Get Class B Ratings

National Legion of Decency objects to Columbia's Mae West picture, "The Heat's On," on the grounds of "suggestive sequences" and to Monogram's "Women in Bondage" for containing a "suggestive sequence" and for using a suicide as a plot solution. Three other current releases are given Class A-II ratings, unobjectionable for adults. These are RKO's "Government Girl," United Artists' "Jack London" and Columbia's "Return of the Vampire."

Rated Class A-I, for general patronage are "Around the World," RKO; "The Drifter," PRC; "Madame Curie," M-G-M; "Mr. Muggs Steps Out," Monogram; "The Power of God," Globe, and "There's Something About a Sailor," Columbia.

On Nov. 23, "Falcon and the Co-eds," "Gangway for Tomorrow," "She's for Me" and "Son of Dracula" were inadvertently listed as having been rated Class B, objectionable for adults. The rating should have been Class A-II, for adults.

Cooper Examination Put Off to Friday

The examination of Joseph C. Cooper by attorneys for Paramount in connection with Cooper's suit for damages of $250,000 based on an alleged misuse of $138,581 withdrawn from the Lincoln, Neb., Theatres Corp., was adjourned yesterday until next Friday, according to Albert C. Bickford, attorney for Paramount.

Bickford stated that Paramount attorneys have been examining Cooper since Nov. 3 in connection with a suit against him by Paramount for an accounting of assets of a group of Colorado theatres in which, Paramount alleges, Paramount and Cooper held joint interests. Paramount, in that suit, seeks to have an adjudication of ownership of stocks of 10 theatres.

Univeral Plagiarism Action Is Dismissed

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 29.—Federal Judge J. F. T. O'Connor, by stipulation of attorneys, has dismissed Universal's suit for $50,000, charging Ladislas Fodor and Lazlo Vandnai with plagiarizing Universal's "Seven Sinners," in their script for "Port of Hope," sold by them to M-G-M.

Films Raised 40% Of 'Dimes' Tot

Motion picture theatres raised $ 116,539 during the 1943 March Dimes drive, or nearly 40 per cent the over-all total of $5,648,419 c lected for the National Foundation Infantile Paralysis. The informati is contained in a 40-page brochure the drive issued by the national co mittee, of which Nicholas M. Scher is chairman. Brochure is bein mailed to theatres and officials of industry and in public life. Spec copy was sent to President Roo velt.

Foreword of the brochure conta a tribute by the President to the dustry's part in the drive, as repor in yesterday's MOTION PICTURE DAI There are also messages from Scher and Basil O'Connor, president of foundation. It contains further a co plete report, theatre by theatre, of collections in the 1943 campaign, well as a map showing the totals each state, with per capita averag

The 1944 drive is scheduled Jan. 24-30.

RWLB Approval fo TASE Wage Increa

Regional War Labor Board pa in New York has recommended petition filed by Theatre and Amu ment Service Employees Union, Lo 54, BSIEU, AFL, for a 20 perc wage increase for approximately cleaners and porters in New Yor legitimate theatres. Union applied the increase because of the seaso employment of workers involved. flat increase of $4 a week for matr in the same group is also underst to have been recommended. Petit is understood to be awaiting fi WLB approval.

TASE also has an application pe ing before the RWLB for wage creases for cleaners, porters, mat and watchmen in approximately motion picture theatres in the N York area.

Local Curbs Telecast

Television broadcast of the " Follies" from Madison Square G den tonight in the NBC series of T casts for wounded in hospitals in New York area, will be telecast wi out music over NBC station WN because of objections by Local of the American Federation of sicians. According to C. L. Men NBC vice-president in charge of p grams, the union objected to any pi up of music from the performanc

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FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

,300 Canada Owners Face 2d Music Tax

wners of 3,000,000 Radio Sets Also Included

Some 1,300 theatres and owners 3,000,000 radio sets in Canada e a demand by American Per-ming Rights Society of New rk, headed by Ralph Peer, for an litional public performing music tax theatre seats and radio sets. This uld be in addition to license fees eady collected from theatres by nadian Performing Rights Society d from broadcasters both by Cana-n Performing Rights and Broad-t Music, Inc.

APRS, represented in Canada by uthern Music Publishing Co., has contract with Canadian Performing ghts Society, expiring at the end of s year, by which APRS is paid by 'RS a certain fee collected on PRS's catalogue as part of CPRS's

(*Continued on page 8*)

AO 39-Week Net Hits $1,217,541

Keith-Albee-Orpheum Corp. and subsidiaries, operating between 60 d 65 theatres, yesterday reported profit of $1,217,541 for the 39 eks ended Oct. 2, 1943, compared h $1,074,258 for the same period in 2.

KAO profits from operations were 156,726, against $2,188,472 for the weeks in 1942; $474,184 was rged against depreciation for the 3 period, compared with $483,045 1942.

KAO was charged with $250,000 of

(*Continued on page 7*)

harges Films Play art in Delinquency

Washington, Nov. 30.—"Blood-l-thunder films" and radio pro-ms are responsible in part for the rease in juvenile delinquency, a cial Senate committee investigating problem was told today.

The charge was made by Dr. Wil-n Healy of the Judge Baker Guid-e Center, Boston, at the opening hearings designed to develop legis-ve aids to combat the wartime in-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Leserman Stresses Position for 1943-44 U.A. Record Product

Carl Leserman, United Artists' sales manager, yesterday told district sales managers assembled here for a two-day conference that the company is now better equipped with product than ever before in its history. Company's record product availability was described in Motion Picture Daily on Nov. 9. Twenty producers now on the company's roster will assure a steady product flow well into 1944, Leserman reported. Names

Carl Leserman

(*Continued on page 7*)

Renew Leases on Arbitration Offices

Leases have been renewed on arbitration tribunal quarters in New Orleans, Minneapolis, and Kansas City for one year beginning today, it was learned yesterday.

The action by the American Arbitration Association, which begins its new fiscal year today without a new appropriation for its operations within the industry, was necessitated by 30-day notice of renewal provisions

(*Continued on page 7*)

WMC Sets Rules on Theatre Hiring

Los Angeles, Nov. 30.—War Manpower Commission here has set forth rules to which exhibitors in Southern California must conform hereafter in hiring personnel.

Rulings are: applicants must not have been employed in an essential industry for 60 days prior to application; applicants from outside the state must have U. S. Employment Service reference cards; discharged war veterans must have worked in essential industries for the previous 60 days.

Ayers Heads New WB Eastern Sales Area

Norman Ayers, formerly district manager for Warner Brothers, with headquarters in Boston, has been named to head the combined New England and New York metropolitan territories, with headquarters here, Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, disclosed yesterday. Change takes effect immediately.

Norman Ayers

In addition to his former area, which took in Boston, New Haven, Albany

(*Continued on page 7*)

OPA Lifts Price Control on Marquee Signs and Theatre Lobby Displays

Washington, Nov. 30.—Office of Price Administration here today made public a directive releasing certain theatre display equipment from price control. Principally affected are changeable sign letters and equipment for mounting such letters on theatre marquees and in theatre lobbies, and theatre lobby display signs and transparencies and equipment for mounting them.

OPA directed that the price control of such items end at midnight tomorrow.

Authorities in the theatre supply field in New York explained yesterday that the OPA's order lifting price control on theatre marquee signs and lobby displays principally involves, of necessity, such equipment in the used equipment market, since WPB orders have long since prohibited the manufacture of any new signs or lobby equipment save for those made out of ersatz materials (plywood, etc.) WPB froze the use of aluminum and chromium for displays more than a year and a half ago and subsequently also froze the use of plastics.

Revised Draft Of Decree to Govt. Shortly

Independent Producers to Confer with Clark

Washington, Nov. 30.—A new draft of the distributors' consent decree revision proposals has been prepared and will be submitted to Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark early next week, but there were possibilities tonight that if the provisions with respect to the treatment of exhibitors have been ironed out satisfactorily it may be necessary to make some changes in present practices for the benefit of independent producers.

The distributors, it was learned, have contacted Clark with respect to another conference, but were told no date could be set until Friday, when he will see a group of independent producers from California who plan to submit complaints that, under the present set-up, they cannot get distribution for their product.

It is Clark's plan to hear the pro-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Greenblatt, PRC's Sales Head, Resigns

Hollywood, Nov. 30. — Arthur Greenblatt has resigned as vice-president and general sales manager of Producers Releasing Corp., effective immediately. Company heads here did not mention a successor.

Greenblatt's resignation follows widespread reports both here and in New York of conflicts over authority among company executives. It had been understood that New York conferences between O. H. Briggs, PRC

(*Continued on page 7*)

Pictures and Radio In Truman Probe

Washington, Nov. 30.—Nelson Rockefeller's CIAA office will not be the only Government agency to be investigated when lend-lease and other activities in Latin-America are put under the microscope by the Truman Committee investigating national defense, it was learned today.

Motion picture and radio activities of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs will be only two of many oper-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

ROBERT L. GRAHAM, general manager for Paramount in Mexico, arrived here yesterday for home office conferences.

•

ROBERT BALLANTYNE, head of Scott-Ballantyne Co., Omaha, has become a grandfather, a son having been born to his daughter, MRS. J. ROBERT HOFF, former employee of her father's organization. Baby has been named ROBERT BALLANTYNE HOFF.

•

ERNEST EMERLING and EDDIE DOWDEN of the Loew's theatre advertising department are laid up with attacks of the "flu."

•

LT. EDWARD J. MONTAGNE, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, and a former Pathe director, is in town on furlough from Camp Crowder, Mo.

•

TOM NOBLE, Warner salesman in Philadelphia covering the Harrisburg, Pa., territory, and OLIVE BLYLER were married in Philadelphia recently.

•

ROBERT JOHNSON, film critic of the Memphis *Press-Scimitar*, was given a reception by the local industry prior to his entering the Army.

•

WALTER MARSHALL, of Warners Eastern publicity department, left here yesterday for Washington.

•

HUGH OWEN, Paramount Eastern division sales manager, is on a trip to Washington and Philadelphia.

•

S. E. PIERPOINT, Paramount general manager in Brazil, will leave here today for Rio de Janeiro.

•

HERB BERG, United Artists trade press publicist, will leave today for Atlanta and Miami.

•

AL HORWITS, of the Universal publicity department, returned yesterday from the Coast.

•

MRS. AL SCHUMAN, of the Black Rock, Bridgeport, is on a Western trip.

•

PHILIP O'DWYER, assistant manager at Loew's, Reading, Pa., has entered the Army as an aviation cadet.

•

HARRY FRIEDLAND, manager of the Majestic, Mt. Penn, Pa., has resigned to join the Army.

•

WILLIAM KEEGAN, general manager for the Hunt Theatres, Trenton, N. J., is back from a visit to Chicago.

•

LARRY MACKAY is celebrating his 15th year as manager of the Arcadia, Philadelphia.

•

BLANCHE LIVINGSTON, of the RKO Theatres publicity department, returned yesterday from Toronto.

•

HANK LINET will return today from Boston.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 30

THE War Department's crackdown on Japanese atrocity scenes has created much misunderstanding in Hollywood. To many, it makes little sense, although final opinion is reserved on the general realization lack of understanding of its real reasons traces to lack of explanation of what is behind the order. Coincidentally, it is widely accepted that the reasons, whatever they may be in detail, must be substantial.

The situation, however, became clearer the other day through a channel not identified in any manner whatsoever with the industry. The disturbances among interned Japanese at Tule Lake finally were picked up by the Tokyo radio which registered objections to the reported use of tear gas by American authorities in order to quell the fracas and intimated strongly reprisals now were in order against American prisoners of war in Japanese hands.

Out of this comes the conclusion the War Department must have in mind something approaching this situation:

If motion pictures depict Japanese atrocities inflicted upon American fighting men, the reasoning of the Nipponese probably would be world opinion readily accepts the accusation. Once the accusation is accepted, they might as well resign themselves to the inevitable and conduct themselves accordingly on a kettle-is-black basis.

It does not follow, not at all, that the Sons of Heaven need any excuses to continue the kind of delicate savageries they have been indulging so long in China, as an example. But what does follow is an understandable reluctance on the part of Washington to place gratuitous ammunition in enemy hands and to provide the Japanese with reasons, no matter how distorted, upon which they may fall back as justification for their acts.

■

Moreover, this is not the first time Washington has stepped into Hollywood on the Japanese question. The colorations were different in the instance of "Little Tokyo, U.S.A.," but the base line was similar.

That film centered around Japanese concentrations in downtown Los Angeles, was plain spoken on the problems of loyal versus disloyal Japanese-Americans and showed some rough stuff, born out of the differences of opinion between the two groups.

It is understood the State Department stepped in at the behest of Naval Intelligence. The insistence was some of the footage be altered so that Japanese-American agents of established loyalty would not be confronted by misgivings arising from American treatment of other American-born, but disloyal, Japanese.

The producer, 20th Century-Fox, was obstinate and stood on its rights. Obstinate, that is, until the order displayed its teeth and the reason brought to light. Then the footage was tailored accordingly.

■ ■

Symphony orchestras have broken loose on the screen in strange places and under strange circumstances. Warblers, about to warble through script insistence, suddenly have found themselves assisted by accompanying orchestras. It's been prevalent in many pictures, tracing back to the early days of sound.

Whether for a laugh or a conscious concession in the cause of wiser audiences is not demonstrable, but occasional producers are trying to meet their indulgences in dramatic license with occasional explanations.

"The Gang's All Here" has one. It asserts itself on a Staten Island ferry boat with Alice Faye and Jimmy Ellison mooning at the moon and each other. He asks her to sing. She does, to no one's surprise. Immediately, the orchestra enters.

Observes Ellison: "Where's the music coming from?"

Replies Miss F.: "Where's your imagination?"

■ ■

He produces now as Vanguard, but obvious tipoff that there is no intention of sliding away from values already established is David O. Selznick's plan to continue his advertising of Selznick International attractions. When he signed William Dieterle it was to do "Selznick International Pictures made by Vanguard."

The question before the house is: Does one bear on the other and are their priorities involved? The answer: Maybe, yes. Maybe, no. Or practically no answer at all.

Connors Calls 20th District Meeting

Sales conference of 20th Century-Fox district sales managers will be held here during the week of Dec. 12, following the return to New York of Tom Connors, company vice-president in charge of distribution, it was learned here yesterday.

Connors and W. J. Kupper, general sales manager; Hal Horne, director of advertising and publicity, and Charles Schlaifer, advertising director are now on the Coast, conferring with Spyros Skouras, company president, Darryl Zanuck, Joseph Schenck and other studio executives on exploitation and distribution of "The Song of Bernadette." They will see either in completed form or rough-cut, "Lifeboat," "Tampico," "The Five Sullivans," "Home in Indiana," "The Ev of St. Mark" and "The Lodger."

The home office delegation will also view first rushes of the first two Darryl Zanuck specials for 1944, "The Purple Heart" and "Woodrow Wilson." The executives plan to leave the Coast late this week for New York.

Lesser Gives Party To U. A. Executives

Louis Hyman, general manager for Sol Lesser, independent producer, and Seymour Poe, Lesser's New York representative, were hosts at a dinner party for United Artists sales executives, at 21 Club, Monday night.

Attending were: Carl Leserman, Harry D. Buckley, Harry Gold, Edward Schnitzer, Paul Lazarus, Sr., Paul Lazarus, Jr., Walter Gould, T. P. Mulrooney, Emanuel Silverstone, David Coplan, Phil Dow, Arnold Stolz, Bernard Kamber, Lou Pollock, Rud Lohrenz, Fred Jack, Tom Thompson, W. E. Callaway, James Winn, Chas. M. Steele, Sam Lefkowitz and Jack Ellis.

Harris and Laufer To United Artists

Curley Harris and Phil Laufer will join United Artists' publicity department within the next few days. Harris, former U.A. publicity manager, will rejoin the company to handle special assignments and contact newspaper columnists.

Laufer, who is publicity director of the Rivoli Theatre on Broadway, and before that held a similar post at the Criterion on Broadway, will join the company Dec. 6 as New York newspaper contact.

Bowser, Sturdivant Promoted by FWC

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 30.—Charles Skouras, Fox West Coast president today announced promotion of George Bowser to a division managership in charge of Southern California and Arizona. He will also continue as district supervisor in the Los Angeles area. B. V. Sturdivant, who has been supervising Northern California for FWC, was today named district division manager in that area.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, President and Editor-in-Chief; Colvin Brown, Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Executive Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sunday and holidays by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York, 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Colvin Brown, Vice-President; Red Kann, Vice-President; T. J. Sullivan, Secretary; Sherwin Kane, Executive Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue, Oscar Lundy, Correspondent; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; London Bureau, 4 Golden Square, London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." All contents copyrighted 1943 by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc. Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac and Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 193 at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

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HARRY F
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to join the

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BLANCHE
Theatres
turned yest

HANK L
Boston.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Connors Calls 20th District Meeting

Sales conference of 20th Century-

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THOUSANDS
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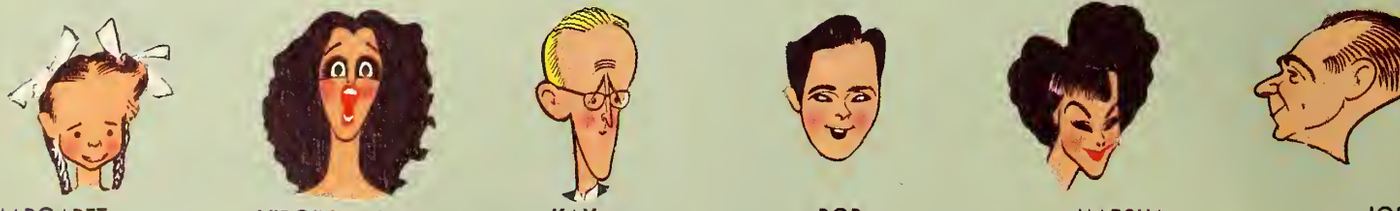
THOUSANDS CHEER

30 STARS! 3 GREAT BANDS!

KATHRYN GRAYSON ☆ GENE KELLY ☆ MICKEY ROONEY ☆ JUDY GARLAND ☆ LUCILLE BALL ☆ RED SKELTON

ELEANOR POWELL ☆ ANN SOTHERN ☆ MARY ASTOR ☆ LENA HORNE ☆ FRANK MORGAN ☆ JOHN BOLES



MARGARET O'BRIEN ☆ VIRGINIA O'BRIEN ☆ KAY KYSER ☆ BOB CROSBY ☆ MARSHA HUNT ☆ JOSE ITURBI

also: Marilyn Maxwell, Donna Reed, June Allyson, Gloria DeHaven, Benny Carter, John Conte, Sara Haden, Don Loper, Maxine Barrat, Ben Blue, Frances Rafferty, Mary Elliott, Frank Jenks, Frank Sully, Dick Simmons, Ben Lessy. Directed by GEORGE SIDNEY, Produced by JOSEPH PASTERNAK. Original Screen Play by Paul Jarrico, Richard Collins. Based on their story "Private Miss Jones". A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER Picture

Browne, Bioff Hit By Defense Witness

George E. Browne, former president of I.A.T.S.E., and William Bioff, his former personal representative, interfered with attempts of local unions in the I.A. to improve their wages and working conditions, according to first witnesses for the defense in the $1,000,000 film extortion trial in Federal Court yesterday.

Sweeney Testifies

Testimony supporting the defense contention that the industry was paying large sums to stifle wage demands by I.A. locals, was given yesterday by E. G. Sweeney, a Chicago projectionist and vice-president of Local 110, who said that Browne, when he was president of the I.A. in 1935, ordered the cessation of negotiations for a wage increase then in progress by Chicago operators. In 1931, Sweeney said, Chicago theatres had cut operators' wages 20 per cent and reduced booth costs further by removing the second men in projection booths. Previous testimony in the case was that the late Tommy Maloy, former boss of the Chicago union, had been paid $1,060 per removal for the elimination of spare operators. Maloy was assassinated in 1935. Negotiations were underway for the restoration of the 1931 pay cut and for vacation allowances, Sweeney testified, when Browne ordered them halted because of a provision of the union charter which states that wage negotiations must be initiated in September. Browne's order was issued in March, 1935, Sweeney said.

Sought to Restore Pay Cut

Joseph D. Basson, now an I.A. representative and formerly head of Local 306, New York, also testified that he asked Browne for permission in 1935 to strike for restoration of a 50 per cent pay cut in the Loew's and RKO theatres here but that permission was refused. Government witnesses have testified that Loew's and RKO paid Browne and Bioff $150,000 in 1935.

Jesse T. Mills, assistant secretary and comptroller of Loew's, another defense witness, identified a series of vouchers and checks, aggregating $165,259 which were paid to Mort H. Singer, theatre operator, between 1935 and 1939. Mills testified that, from his examination of the vouchers, the money was paid for "Singer's services in labor negotiations."

The trial will resume this morning.

Ayers Heads New WB Eastern Sales Area

(*Continued from page* 1)

and Buffalo exchanges, the new district will embrace the New York metropolitan branch, which includes Brooklyn and Northern New Jersey. Territory is part of the Eastern division under Jules Lapidus, sales manager for that territory.

Ayers started his film career in 1922 and joined Warners in 1926 as salesman in Washington. He also served as salesman in New York and was branch manager in Philadelphia, Detroit, Albany and Boston before being promoted in 1941 to district manager.

Clarence Eiseman remains as manager of the New York Metropolitan exchange.

Swapping Product For War Prisoners

Tracy Strong, executive director of war prisoners' aid for the YMCA, reports that plans are being made to show American films to Americans in German prison areas and German pictures to Germans interned in the United States.

Program is in line with provisions for humane treatment of all war prisoners as set down in the terms of the Geneva Convention of 1929.

Pictures and Radio In Truman Probe

(*Continued from page* 1)

ations of some 30 to 40 U. S. agencies which will be probed as a result of a report given by Sen. Hugh A. Butler (Neb.), who recently completed a 20,000-mile tour through Latin-American republics.

Butler's report charged that the whole "New Deal philosophy" had been transferred to Latin America and predicted that the United States will get little or no benefit from the $4,000,000,000 already spent or obligated for the South American version of "boondoggles" and "Little WPA's."

Butler indicated that CIAA expenditures for motion pictures in Latin America exceeded $200,000 with several times that much spent on radio, but that this was insignificant compared with projects for development of rubber, etc., which ran as high as $90,000,000 in some instances.

Greenblatt, PRC's Sales Head, Resigns

(*Continued from page* 1)

president; Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of production, and George Young, of PRC's financial backers, had resulted in a restoration of internal amity and better understanding. Fromkess returned from New York over the weekend; Greenblatt's resignation came today.

Greenblatt had headed PRC sales for two-and-a-half years. He is here now but will return to New York in a few days, when he expects to announce future plans.

O. H. Briggs could not be reached here yesterday for comment either on Arthur Greenblatt's resignation or possible successor.

KAO 39-Week Net Hits $1,217,541

(*Continued from page* 1)

the $1,000,000 reserve set up by RKO for postwar adjustments and contingencies. Tax provisions for the circuit subsidiary this year totaled $1,215,000 in 39 weeks, against $631,168 last year.

Blaufox Joins Carter

Jay David Blaufox, film writer and press agent and formerly director of publicity and advertising for the Fox Brooklyn Theatre and the Stanley in Jersey City, has been appointed director of publicity and advertising for the Carter Hotel Chain, with offices at the Hotel Dixie here.

Leserman Stresses U.A. Record Product

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the 20 were listed by the DAILY last Friday.

In addition to availabilities, Leserman continued, U.A. has reached a new production high, with five in filming stages and 19 others preparing, besides seven completed and awaiting release, for a total of 30 on schedule. Twenty-two of those completed or planned were listed in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Nov. 9.

Discussed at the meeting were sales policies on the seven completed: Samuel Bronston's "Jack London"; Gregor Rabinovitch's "Three Russian Girls"; Benedict Bogeaus' "The Bridge of San Luis Rey"; Harry Sherman's "The Woman of the Town"; Ripley-Monter's "Voice in the Wind"; Harry Joe Brown's "Knickerbocker Holiday"; Arnold Pressburger's "It Happened Tomorrow."

Pictures in production include David O. Selznick's "Since You Went Away"; Charles R. Rogers' "Song of the Open Road"; Seymour Nebenzal's "The Moon Their Mistress"; Edward Small's "Up in Mabel's Room"; Andrew Stone's "Sensations of 1944."

Being prepared are: Selznick's "So Little Time"; Mary Pickford's "Junior Miss"; Charles Chaplin's "The French Bluebeard"; Sol Lesser's "Three's a Family"; Rogers' "The Gaunt Woman," "One Man's Family" and "My Wild Irish Rose"; Small's "Valentino," "Cagliostro," "Bella Donna," "Kate Fennigate"; Hunt Stromberg's "Dishonored Lady" and "This Is Life"; Jules Levey's "The Hairy Ape"; Bogeaus' "There Goes Lona Henry"; Lester Cowan's "Tomorrow the World" and "Here Is Your War"; Jack Skirball's Fred Allen starrer; "Music from Heaven," from David Loew and Arthur Lyons. Additionals will come from William Cagney and Hopalong Cassidy Westerns from Harry Sherman.

3-Day Canada Sales Meet Starts Tomorrow

Three-day meeting of United Artists Canadian managers will be held tomorrow through Saturday at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal.

Carl Leserman, Paul Lazarus, Sr., Paul Lazarus, Jr., and David H. Coplan, sales executives, will leave New York tonight for Montreal.

Among Canadian managers who will attend include: J. H. Reid, Calgary; Charles S. Chaplin, Montreal; George Heiber, St. John; A. J. Jeffery, Toronto; Harry Woolfe, Vancouver; Douglas V. Rosen, Winnipeg, and J. B. Cronk, Canadian publicity representative.

Ray Moon Drive

Joseph St. Clair has been named chairman of a Ray Moon booking and sales liquidation drive to be held Dec. 19 to Feb. 12 in the 20th Century-Fox New York exchange. Salesmen working out of the local office will participate. Moon is manager of the New York exchange.

George Fraser Returns

George Fraser, who left Columbia's exploitation department in September to join the U. S. Army as a volunteer officer candidate, has returned to Columbia following his medical discharge.

Revised Draft Of Decree to Govt. Shortly

(*Continued from page* 1)

ducers before he meets with the distributors again, so that if the former have any valid complaints steps may be taken to adjust the decree at the next conference with the distributors. If necessary, it is probable provisions will be written into the decree safeguarding opportunities for independent producers to secure distribution, but this is considered a ticklish territory since it inevitably must involve questions as to the desirability of product offered for distribution.

No further conferences with exhibitors have been set for this week, although it is expected that some may drift into the Department while in Washington on other matters, as happens more or less regularly.

It is expected that Clark will invite the distributors to bring their new proposals to Washington next Monday or Tuesday.

Renew Leases on Arbitration Offices

(*Continued from page* 1)

enforced by landlords in the three cities. To date, landlords elsewhere have not insisted upon immediate renewals of leases on tribunal quarters, although many such leases will expire Dec. 31, and the remainder Jan. 31. By the latter date, however, the future of the decree is expected to be known, and action on the leases then will present no problem. If the AAA is pressed for action elsewhere within the next 30 days, it was learned, leases will be renewed.

Although no new budget for AAA operations in the industry is in immediate prospect, financial problems are not likely to be encountered before Feb. 1 at the earliest. Operations for the fiscal year ended yesterday were well within the year's budget and a contingent fund of $25,000 is available when the budget has been exhausted.

Charges Films Play Part in Delinquency

(*Continued from page* 1)

crease in juvenile immorality and lawlessness.

Dr. Healy told the committee that the ideals of Jesse James are still with the youth of the country and even motion pictures, broadcasts and stories calculated to show that crime does not pay, give ideas for criminal exploits.

Witnesses differed as to whether there has been an increase of juvenile delinquency for the country as a whole, some believing that it is confined to the cities and due to the fact that many children are practically orphaned by the father being in the Army and the mother working.

'Harvest Melody' Opens

PRC's musical, "Harvest Melody," opened yesterday at Loew's Lexington, 175th, 72nd, Ziegfeld and Olympia. It will also open tomorrow at the Brooklyn Strand and has been booked in Loew's neighborhood houses for the metropolitan area.

1,300 Canada Owners Face 2d Music Tax

(Continued from page 1)

single over-all collection, and part of which it allots to APRS.

CPRS is understood to have refused to renew this contract with the result that APRS now is asking for a tax of its own, running up to two cents per seat for theatres having more than 1,600 capacity and one cent per radio set to be collected from broadcasting stations. CPRS, affiliated with ASCAP of the United States, collecting a fee on each theatre seat, pays ASCAP eight cents per seat out of its revenue. Broadcast Music collects one cent per radio set for performing rights.

Opposition to APRS' emergence as a third collecting agency in Canada on copyrights of musical compositions developed at a meeting in Toronto the other day of the Musical Protective Society of Canada, which represents theatres, radio stations, halls, hotels and fairs. MPSC is drawing up a brief for presentation to the Canadian Copyright Appeal Board, which fixes rates.

Cites Additional Burden

John A. Cooper, spokesman for the Canadian protective group, emphasized the additional burden which would be placed upon theatres and radio set owners if AFS demands were met. Showdown fight is expected to develop when the appeal board holds a hearing to deal with APRS' application in mid-December.

A spokesman for APRS here reveals that the organization was formed during the ASCAP-BMI controversy to handle non-ASCAP composers. The bulk of its catalogue is made up of compositions by hill-billy and Spanish composers, it is said.

Performing rights to the Peers catalogue in the United States is handled by BMI, with the Music Publishers Protective Association handling synchronization rights involving licensing of use of the music for motion pictures. BMI does not collect a theatre seat tax on music either in the United States or Canada, but does plan to seek a license fee for its music performed in hotels, restaurants and cabarets, according to a spokesman.

RKO Seeks to Stop Sinatra Film Release

RKO Radio, Inc., in a suit filed in Federal Court here yesterday seeks to enjoin Time, Inc., and 20th-Fox from releasing a two-reeler, "Music at War," featuring Frank Sinatra, who is under contract with the plaintiff. The film, the complaint alleges, was taken without the consent of the plaintiff at the WAVES Naval Training Station at Hunter College here.

It is understood that its release is not contemplated before late December and efforts to have the case tried in Federal Court before release are being made.

The complaint states that RKO has produced a feature, entitled "Higher and Higher," at a cost of more than $685,000, featuring Sinatra and scheduled for release on Dec. 24.

Altec Service Meet Gets Underway Here

L. W. Conrow, president of Altec Service, has called a general conference of Altec executive field personnel at the Park Central Hotel starting today and ending Friday. George L. Carrington, vice-president, will call the meeting to order, followed by an address of welcome by Conrow.

During the three-day session the Altec district managers will be addressed by Harry M. Bessey, Carrington, John K. Hilliard, E. O. Wilschko, Andy Piore, A. A. Ward, C. S. Perkins and E. Z. Walters, Altec comptroller.

Other industry problems will be discussed by Hewitt S. Morris, merchandise manager; Martin Bender, systems engineer; Stanley Hand, staff representative and advertising manager, and Paul F. Thomas, general credit manager.

A dinner at the Union League Club will close the meeting on Dec. 3.

Attending the conference besides those already mentioned will be district managers L. J. Hacking, B. Sanford, D. A. Peterson, H. B. Moog, F. C. Dickely, Warren Conner, C. J. Zern, R. Hilton, B. W. Ardell, S. M. Pariseau, R. A. Quinn, D. L. Turner and A. J. Rademacher.

Allen G. Smith, chief of the Amusement Section of the WPB, will address the Altec district managers meeting at a luncheon on Friday, Dec. 3, on points of important interest relating to priority regulations.

MPOE Negotiates for Para. News Workers

Contract negotiations will get underway here today between representatives of Motion Picture Office Employees Local 23169, AFL, and Paramount News officials covering approximately 35 Paramount sound "white-collarites."

Paul Raibourn is representing Paramount in the negotiations and Russell Moss, MPOE president, who is understood to have prepared a system of classification similar to that awaiting WLB approval for Warner white-collarites, will direct negotiations for the newsreel workers.

B'nai B'rith Meet On Anti-Defamation

Officials of the Anti-Defamation League will discuss anti-Semitic evidences in New York, Boston and Philadelphia at a meeting of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, at the Hotel Piccadilly here, Dec. 9, it was announced by the lodge yesterday.

Speakers will include Leonard Finder, Eastern executive head of the Anti-Defamation league; Ben Epstein of the League's Boston council and Maurice Fagan, executive secretary of the League's Philadelphia council.

National Screen in Final N.W.F. Rally

Sam Rinzler, chairman for the Greater New York area in the industry's National War Fund drive, was the speaker yesterday at a rally at National Screen Service's home office.

Besides the entire personnel of National Screen, Herman Robbins, company president; George Dembow and Leo Abrams, executives, also attended.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Nov. 30.

THEATRE Defense Bureau tonight resolved to continue operations without support of Fox West Coast, declaring, "We are convinced the emergency is not yet ended."

•

George Brown, Paramount publicist, will leave here tomorrow for conferences at the home office on the "Lady in the Dark" premiere.

•

Republic today added to its schedule an original, "Tell It to a Star," with Robert North producing.

•

M. J. Siegel, president of Republic Productions, will return here Saturday.

•

Hal Wallis will return here from the East in 10 days.

Del Guidice Named to Gainsborough Board

LONDON, Nov. 30.—Despite denials here of a MOTION PICTURE DAILY story of Nov. 15 that Filipo Del Guidice, general manager of Two Cities Films, had been approached to take over direction of Gainsborough studios here, directors of Gainsborough at a meeting tonight unanimously elected Del Guidice as a member of the board and production adviser at the behest of J. Arthur Rank, head of Gaumont-British, for immediate revision and stimulation of Gainsborough production plans.

Move is reported to be further evidence of a plan by Rank to "rationalize" British production with the specific objective of future distribution of his companies' pictures in the United States.

Raftery Denies Rank Seeks UA Purchase

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 30.—Edward C. Raftery, president of United Artists, today issued a statement here denying the cabled report that J. Arthur Rank was negotiating with Morris Ernst in England for purchase of UA. "Ernst has no connection with UA," Raftery said. "There are no deals in work or pending with Rank. UA is not for sale."

Griffis Denies He Ha Purchased Yanke

Stanton Griffis, Paramount exe tive, now on leave as an OWI liai man, and a director of the Madis Square Garden Corp., yesterday futed rumors that he or the Gard had bought the New York Yank baseball club, the New York *Sun* ports. He had no comment to ma on the possibility of such a develo ment in the future.

Supposed basis for the rumors w the report that Atlas Corp., owner a large block of Garden stock, w considering taking over all holdings the Ruppert estate, which includes Yankees.

Increased Bonuses For Col. and U

Columbia and United Artists understood to be seeking to pay hig er bonuses to their employees this ye than they did last year. Both co panies are understood to have fi applications with the War Lab Board for the necessary approval a are awaiting WLB ruling on their a plications. Company heads wo neither confirm nor deny this acti

Universal has been sending checks to former employees now se ing in the Armed Forces representi 25 per cent of their annual sala computed on the basis of the length time they have already spent in Service.

Christmas bonuses which are pected to exceed $100,000 will be g en this year by RKO Theatres zone, division, district and thea managers and others. WLB appro is also awaited in this application.

First Seven 'Dimes' Chairmen Accep

Nicholas M. Schenck, natior chairman of the March of Dim drive, has announced acceptances fr the following state chairmen, all whom served in a similar capac last year, to serve for the 1944 driv

Harry Nace, Arizona; Rick Ric etson, Colorado; Milas L. Hurl New Mexico; R. J. O'Donnell a Julius Gordon, co-chairmen, Texa W. F. Crockett, Virginia, and Fra L. Newman, Sr., Washington.

(Change in Place and Time)

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING

OF

"HIGHER AND HIGHER"

WILL BE HELD

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8, 1943, at 10:00 A.M.

AT

LOEW'S ZIEGFELD THEATRE

6th Avenue, at 54th Street, New York, N. Y., and not at the RKO Projection Room at 11:00 A.M., and 2:30 P.M., as previously advertised.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

OL. 54. NO. 105 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1943 | TEN CENTS

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Ricketson and Sturdivant in War Loan Posts

Co-Chairmen of Fourth Loan With Skouras

Charles Skouras, general chairman of the industry's participation the forthcoming Fourth War oan drive, yesterday announced e appointment of Rick Ricketson, enver, and B. V. Sturdivant, San rancisco, as his co-chairmen in the mpaign, which starts on Jan. 18 and ns through Feb. 15. This was realed by Skouras yesterday by telenone from the West Coast to S. H. abian, chairman of the War Activies Committee Theatres Division in ew York.

With these appointments, it was said the WAC, "the Fourth War Loan the industry is getting off to a ying start" with a strong manpower t-up. The trio, conceded to be nong the nation's foremost showmen, ave a long record of successful labor the WAC vineyard. Ricketson, ex-

(Continued on page 4)

Kostelanetz Hints At New Indictments

Boris Kostelanetz, special Federal rosecutor, indicated outside of the ourt room yesterday that a Federal rand jury inquiry into alleged rackeering within the industry is still eing pressed and intimated that numerous other persons, in addition to nose on trial, George Browne and Willie Bioff, Harry Hochstein and sidore Zevin, Browne's former secreary, all of whom have been indicted, ill be named in true bills.

Kostelanetz refused to state the lentities of those who might be in-

(Continued on page 5)

400 Prints in Film Fire Were 'Uncanned'

TORONTO, Dec. 1.—There were 400 rints not in fireproof containers in ne basement vault in the Film Exhange building here, Winston Brown, n charge of the supply department of Regal Films, Ltd., stated today testiying at the opening session of the inquiry into the death of Herbert Naiman in the recent fire in the film building. Brown explained that his company was unable to obtain metal

(Continued on page 4)

Fromkess Reported In Line for Added Authority in PRC

Leon Fromkess, vice-president and production head of Producers Releasing Corp., is slated to be given added administrative authority in the company which may reach into all operating departments, it was learned here yesterday on good authority.

Significantly, announcement was made from Fromkess' Hollywood headquarters yesterday that Leo J. McCarthy, PRC assistant sales manager, had been named sales manager, replacing Arthur Greenblatt, whose resignation also was announced from Fromkess' headquarters the previous day. McCarthy has been identified with the industry since 1919, having been associated with A. H. Blank Enterprises, First National, Fox and Republic.

Efforts to reach O. Henry Briggs,

(Continued on page 4)

Willkie in 'Topics Of the Day' Series

Telenews Theatres, operator of 15 newsreel theatres, has completed the first of a series of six short subjects, featuring Wendell L. Willkie, chairman of the board of 20th Century-Fox and potential Republican presidential nominee in 1944.

The series, titled "The World and You," will deal with "topics of the day," with Willkie writing his own

(Continued on page 4)

ASSAIL INCREASE IN ADMISSION TAX

Public Shies from Anti-Hollywood Play

The announced closing of William Saroyan's play, "Get Away Old Man," produced by George Abbott, at the Cort Theatre here on Saturday after a stay of only ten days is being cited on Broadway as an indication that overdone lampooning of Hollywood is no longer popular with the public.

Sam Zolotow in the *New York Times* yesterday wrote that "George Abbott still believes that Saroyan's expose of the inner workings of studio life in Hollywood is an entertaining play but it isn't drawing the customers." The play is said to be based on Saroyan's experiences while working at M-G-M on the filming of his book, "The Human Comedy."

The New York drama critics were generally agreed that Saroyan had written a poor play in attempting to settle a grievance against Hollywood. Typical of reviewers' reactions was Howard Barnes' observation in the *New York Herald-Tribune* that: "The new offering at the Cort starts out to travesty a big film producer, but the lampoon is neither incisive nor profound. Saroyan has never found out much about the movies, I think."

Kuykendall, Myers Heard Before Senate Finance Committee

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Representatives of exhibitors from all sections of the country banded today to impress on the Senate Finance Committee the impossibility of bearing any increase in admission taxes without loss of audience.

Opposing the doubling of the rate approved last week by the House, theatre owners warned that it might defeat its own purpose of raising an additional $163,500,000 revenue.

Nearly a score of exhibitor associations asked an opportunity to submit testimony but at the request of the committee to save time, the majority agreed to have Ed Kuykendall, president of the MPTOA, and Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel, appear on behalf of the industry generally.

Arguments submitted were largely those voiced recently during hearings

(Continued on page 4)

Weigh $9,500,000 RKO Refunding

Discussions are under way between RKO and the First National Bank of Boston for a $9,500,000 refunding arrangement for RKO theatre obligations, it was learned here yesterday on good authority.

Consummation of the arrangements would permit retirement of outstanding RKO Theatre obligations in the aggregate amount of $9,500,000 with the new financing carried at lower rates rangement for RKO Theatre obligations presently outstanding. The latter

(Continued on page 4)

13 More Exhibitors Join 'Dimes' Drive

"The promptness and enthusiasm of the acceptances being received from leading exhibitors to serve as state chairmen in the 1944 March of Dimes drive is indicative of the constantly increasing interest in this worthy cause," said C. C. Moskowitz of Loew's, and member of the national committee, yesterday, in announcing the following additional chairmen:

Tony Sudekum, Nashville; Elmer

(Continued on page 4)

Sees Theatre Vandalism Result of Parental Laxity

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Motion pictures bulked large in hearings before the Pepper subcommittee investigating juvenile delinquency today, when Dr. Katherine Lenroot, chief of the Children's Bureau, testified that lack of parental and community care had driven many children between the ages of 10 and 14 into the theatres, where they remain most of the day and commit acts of vandalism which have created serious problems for exhibitors.

The problems of juvenile delinquency will become intensified with the close of the war, Dr. Lenroot predicted, when millions of youths now employed in war production will be demobilized.

Dame May Whitty, English film and stage star, was a feature of the

(Continued on page 4)

Gunnison, Perkins Arrive on Gripsholm

Royal Arch Gunnison, WOR-Mutual commentator, and his wife, were among the first passengers permitted to leave the Swedish exchange liner *Gripsholm* which docked at Jersey City yesterday. James E. Perkins, formerly general manager for Paramount in the Orient, and an unknown number of other filmites, are among the 1,236 American nationals and 221 Canadians interned by the Japanese since Pearl Harbor, who returned on the exchange ship.

In an interview here late yesterday Gunnison revealed that films are playing an important role in the Japanese propaganda efforts to turn the peoples

(Continued on page 4)

Personal Mention

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, left yesterday for Des Moines.

•

SID HOLLAND, Manager of the Palace Theatre, Akron, O., and winner of a Quigley Showmanship Award, announces the engagement of his daughter, Joyce, to Leonard Isroff of Akron.

•

HAL DAWSON, of Paramount's home office advertising department, has returned to work after an accident in which he incurred a broken knee cartilage.

•

ENSIGN JEAN SAWYER, a Wave and former motion picture editor of *Charm* and editor of *Movie Magazine*, has become engaged to ENSIGN EVERT RILEY HARRIS, Navy Air Corps.

•

JACK BLUMENFELD, following an honorable discharge from the Navy, is now manager of the United Artists Theatre, San Francisco.

•

MILT HOFFMAN, of Paramount's exploitation department, has been inducted into the Army and will report to Camp Upton, Dec. 9.

•

LARRY KENT, executive assistant to SPYROS SKOURAS, at 20th Century-Fox, left here yesterday for Phoenix, Ariz.

•

WILLIAM E. COLEMAN, theatre manager in Clarksville, Tenn., has been given an honorable discharge from the Marines.

•

SOL A. SCHWARTZ, RKO Theatres Western zone manager, left here yesterday on a Midwestern business trip.

•

ARTHUR BRILANT, RKO trade press publicist, will start a one-week vacation tomorrow night.

•

FRANK BRADEN, of the 20th Century-Fox publicity department, is in Boston.

•

LOU METZGER, WAC official, returned to his desk yesterday after a slight illness.

•

FRED QUIMBY, head of the M-G-M cartoon department on the Coast, is in New York for two days.

•

EMIL K. ELLIS, film attorney, is expected to return to New York today, after a two-week stay in Florida.

•

HARRY UNTERFORT, former Schine circuit city manager in Syracuse, is now stationed at Fort Custer, Mich.

Fellerman Opens Office

Max Fellerman, who recently resigned as head metropolitan film booker for RKO Theatres, will make his headquarters in Room 509 of the RKO Building, 1270 Sixth Ave.

Films Bring Profit After Fifty Years

Northampton, Mass., Dec. 1.—It took 50 years and motion pictures to make a profit on the operation of the city-owned Academy of Music.

Earnings this year, under a policy of films and stage shows—the Academy's first year with such programs—will exceed total earnings of the house for 50 years since it was acquired through the will of a late benefactor, according to Mayor Walter O'Donnell.

18 Studio Cameramen Academy Winners

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1.—Awards for best still photography in the annual Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences competition have been announced by Walter Wanger, Academy president. Subjects of the winning photographs are Linda Darnell, Jane Wyman, Ramsey Ames, Toumanova, Patricia Press, Gloria Holden and Gregory Peck.

Winners include: Hal McAlpin, Frank Tanner, Clarence Bull, Floyd McCarty, Ray Jones, Robert Coburn, Henry Waxman, Alexander Kahle, Gene Kornman, J. C. Milligan, Stax Graves, Jack Woods, Bert Six, Mickey Marigold, Ernest Bachrach, Fred Hendrickson, A. White Schaefer and Frank Bjerring.

Although there were no awards for color photography, more than 100 outstanding color prints by Jones, Coburn, Waxman, Ned Scott and others were shown. The display will move next to Chicago, and in January will be shown in New York, after which it will move to other American cities and to England and Australia, all for film industry goodwill.

Altec's Equipment Policy Is Discussed

L. W. Conrow, president of Altec Service, speaking yesterday at a conference of the company at the Park Central Hotel, touched upon Altec's future policy on the maintenance of equipment in the theatre field and Altec's post-war position in the development of new methods and equipment in motion picture projection.

The meeting opened with a technical seminar on various secret devices in use by the armed forces. The application of various techniques in connection with sound and projection apparatus was discussed.

Sees War Fund Quota Exceeded by $7,000

Samuel Rinzler, Greater New York chairman of the industry's National War Fund, reported yesterday that indications are the local industry's $150,000 quota will be exceeded by $7,000. As of yesterday the total received was $125,000, with $32,000 in pledges outstanding to be fulfilled before Dec. 6. Remittances are to go to Fred Schwartz, Century circuit executive.

Rodgers Leading 17 To Chicago Meeting

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of sales, will head a home-office delegation leaving here over the week-end for Chicago for the company's annual mid-season meeting of district managers and other sales personnel. The conclaves will start on Monday, at the Hotel Blackstone.

Leaving from New York will be: E. M. Saunders, assistant general sales manager; E. K. O'Shea, Eastern-Southern sales manager; Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity; E. W. Aaron, circuit sales manager; H. M. Richey, in charge of exhibitor relations; S. F. Seadler, advertising manager; W. R. Ferguson, exploitation manager; J. J. Bowen, New York district manager; A. F. Cummings, manager of exchange operations; Jay A. Gove, sales development manager; Harold Postman, assistant to Rodgers; Joel Bezahler and Irving Helfont, assistants to Western sales manager J. E. Flynn; I. L. Hirsch, assistant to O'Shea; C. F. Deesen and Paul Richrath, assistants to Central sales manager J. J. Maloney, and Mike Simons, editor of *The M-G-M Distributor*. Flynn makes his headquarters in Chicago and Maloney will arrive from Pittsburgh.

District managers attending in addition to Bowen will include: M. N. Wolf, Boston; Rudolph Berger, Washington; Robert Lynch, Philadelphia; C. E. Kessnich, Atlanta; J. P. Byrne, Detroit; H. P. Wolfberg, St. Louis; Burtus Bishop, Jr., Dallas; S. A. Shirley, Chicago, and G. A. Hickey, Los Angeles.

Majors Contemplate Network Promotions

With M-G-M now on the Mutual coast-to-coast network sponsoring the Fulton Oursler radio program, Warner Brothers is also planning to merchandise its product over a national hookup, using the company's stars as format for its show, it was learned here yesterday. Other majors are similarly planning expansion of the use of radio to exploit their product.

Charles Einfeld, Warner ad-publicity director, has been receiving suggestions for the contemplated program from agencies and radio producers. He is seeking a show which will not be harmful to box-office potentialities. Decision as to format and network is expected soon.

RKO Radio at present is sponsoring newscaster George Putnam on WEAF, New York, and several other NBC stations Saturday nights from 11 to 11:15 p.m. RKO metropolitan area theatres are sponsoring programs locally on WMCA and WOV five days each week, while Loew Theatres sponsor daily theatre bookings on WHN.

Gale Storm To Meet Press

Monogram will introduce Gale Storm, star of "Where Are Your Children?," to New York newspaper and trade press representatives at a cocktail party in the Hampshire House tomorrow afternoon.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec.

HOLLYWOOD Victory Comm tee today cleared 35 entertainme personalities to serve on the faculty the Army's special services seminar Santa Monica Junior College Dec. 11, instructing 500 enlisted men staging camp shows with their ov personnel.

•

Paramount has given contracts six New York authors who will a rive here after Jan. 1 to start wo as screen writers. Six are: Vince McHugh, Theodore Strauss, Abraha Polonsky, David Horwich, Richa Nussbaum and Dwight Mitchell Wil Deals were concluded by Willia Dozier and his assistant, Meta Reis.

•

Twentieth-Fox today added to schedule "Everything is Peach Down in Georgia", starring Charl Coburn. Lamar Trotti produces.

•

Universal has announced "Hi Spirits" as the next Olsen and Joh son vehicle. Edmund Hartmann w produce.

•

Columbia has given Andre Detoth directorial contract.

Seven L.A. 1st Runs For 'Unknown Gues

Monogram's "The Unknown Guest following a first run at the Carth Circle, Loew's State, Chinese and U town, Los Angeles, will move over t day to three Fox-West Coast fir run houses in that city, the Unit Artists, Ritz and Wilshire, Ste Broidy, general sales manager for t company, stated here yesterday.

This is the first time in Monogr history, Broidy added, that a Mon gram picture played four Los Angel first-run theatres simultaneously th moved over to three other L. A. dow town houses.

Disney Studies Use o Cartoons in Post-wa

Walt Disney, whose product is b ing used extensively for Governme war training films, started a study th week of the possibilities of animat cartoons in the post-war industri education field, meeting with officia of the Owens-Illinois Glass Co., at T ledo, according to press dispatches r ceived here yesterday from that cit

The meeting coincided with a nouncement of the establishing of industrial film division in Walt Di ney Productions in Hollywood.

Sol Edwards Quits Warners Sales Pos

BOSTON, Dec. 1.—Sol Edwards t day announced his resignation salesman with Warners' exchan here. Edwards said he would a nounce his plans in a few days a that he does not plan to leave N England. He was formerly circ sales manager for 20th-Fox in C cago.

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Fromkess Reported In Line for Added Authority in PRC

(*Continued from page* 1)

PRC president, for comment on the reports, were unsuccessful. Reporters were advised at the PRC home office that Briggs had not been at his office for the past two days. Likewise, efforts to reach Kenneth M. Young, representative of PRC financial interests and a member of the company's board of directors, were unsuccessful. Young was said to be in Cleveland attending a meeting of the board of the Chesapeake & Ohio R. R.

Fromkess spent several days here in conference with PRC financial interests recently and left for the Coast early last week. At that time it was reported that the PRC studio head sought a definition of authority as between the home office and himself on production policies, and won a complete grant of authority over studio affairs. The reported agreement was interpreted both in New York and on the Coast as signifying that the company's executive setup would remain unchanged as a result of what was indicated to be an amicable settlement of the differences between the studio and home office.

Subsequent reports heard yesterday were that further changes are in prospect both at the PRC studio and home office. It was primarily on these reports that comment was sought from Briggs unsuccessfully.

Vandalism Blamed On Parental Laxity

(*Continued from page* 1)

hearing. Gangster type pictures, she admitted, had probably contributed to delinquency but, she said, "practically killed themselves" by being overdone.

Dame Whitty explained that the industry has recognized the delinquency problem and is doing a great deal to help in handling it.

Weigh $9,500,000 RKO Refunding

(*Continued from page* 1)

rates average from four to four and one-quarter per cent, whereas the new money would be at the rate of approximately three per cent.

The discussions are unrelated to existing credit arrangements of RKO with the First of Boston which were entered into last year on behalf of the picture company.

SAG Postpones Talk On Extras' Wage Rise

Los Angeles, Dec. 1. — Screen Actors Guild today disclosed an indefinite postponement of arbitration with producers on wage increases sought for extra players. Delay is due to producers' unwillingness to proceed pending the National Labor Relations Board's decision on screen players union petition for an election to determine a bargaining agency for that class of players.

Long Books Monogram

Louis Long Theatres, with 19 houses in California and Arizona, has booked Monogram's product for 1943-44.

Exhibitors Assail Tax Rise at Senate Hearing

(*Continued from page* 1)

before the House Ways and Means Committee. In addition, however, both Kuykendall and Myers stressed the possible effect of a tax increase on audiences as diminishing the value of the exhibitors' efforts to further the Government's propaganda and war bond programs.

Majority vs. Tax Rise

The great majority of exhibitors firmly believe that they cannot stand a doubling of the admission tax, Kuykendall testified, and recommend that, if a raise in rate is necessary, it be limited, as suggested by the chief of staff of the Joint Congressional Committee on Taxation, to two cents on each 15 cents.

"This will allow thousands of small theatres to stay in business and continue to pay their taxes," he explained.

"We believe this would be the limit of special taxation that can be imposed on these theatres without irreparable injury."

If the theatres lose only one out of five present patrons, Kuykendall pointed out, it will defeat the effort to raise additional revenue.

Warning that the heavy business of downtown theatres in war-swollen Washington is not representative of the industry nationally, Myers warned that an increase in tax would stamp out the popular 15 and 25-cent admissions, which contribute largely to the admission-tax revenue. A Gallup survey, he testified, showed that the average admission price is only 32½ cents.

Getting Maximum Revenue

The existing tax, Myers said, is yielding the maximum revenue and any further tampering with the rate, especially on admissions up to 50 cents, " may destroy the bird that is laying those shining eggs."

Rural theatres are suffering severely from shifts of population, he said, and the situation has become so acute that some distributors are adjusting the rentals of such exhibitors to tide them over the emergency. A survey by Allied discloses that film rentals of exhibitors have increased 25 to 40 per cent in the past three years, he told the committee.

"The motion picture industry has its own peculiar problems and this committee will not want to hamper it with unnecessary restrictions," Myers declared. "We hope that the committee will see fit to retain the present tax without change. It is productive, the public is accustomed to it and the theatres can live under it.

"However, if the committee should conclude that the admission tax must be increased to some extent, we wish there was some way whereby the experience and advice of the theatre owners could be utilized so that the provision, when drafted, may have some flexibility and the theatres may be spared the harmful effects of imposing taxes in terms of flat percentages."

Other Exhibitors File Briefs

A number of other exhibitors filed briefs or testified regarding the situation of the neighborhood and small town theatres, among them Henry Reeve, Texas Theatre Owners; P. J. Wood, Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio; David Newman, Cooperative Theatres of Michigan; Roy Rowe, Theatre Owners of North and South Dakota; R. Biechele, Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association; Joseph H. Brennan, Allied of New England; Herman M. Levy, MPTO, Connecticut; E. M. Fay, C & P Theatre Co.; R. B. Livingston, Nebraska Theatre Association; W. F. Crocket, MPTO, Va.; Q. C. Lam, Lam Amusement Co., and Fred Wehrenberg, MPTO, St. Louis.

UIE to Testify

Senate Finance Committee holding hearings on the new tax bill has invited representatives of Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York, headed by Jesse L. Stern, to attend tomorrow's general tax hearing. UIE protested against the admission tax increase in a telegram to Senator George. The organization represents owners of some 65 independent theatres in New York.

UIE has called a general meeting for Dec. 15 at the Hotel Lincoln in New York to discuss the action being taken by the Department of Justice on consent decree revisions, as well as to discuss tax problems and theatre vandalism.

Gunnison, Perkins Arrive on Gripsholm

(*Continued from page* 1)

of conquered nations against the Americans and British. Theatres in Shanghai are exhibiting light, romantic films produced in Japan, he said. Some German and Chinese pictures are also being shown.

The Japanese, according to Gunnison, are producing many propaganda films, using a documentary "March of Time" technique, to glorify their conquest of Singapore, Shanghai and Bataan. He asserted that these films are very effective and include commentaries in many languages, including English. Production is excellent from a technical point of view, he said, except for certain "fuzzy" photographic effects.

400 Prints in Film Fire Were 'Uncanned'

(*Continued from page* 1)

containers because of war time conditions and priorities. The vault contained three barrels and two wooden boxes of loose films, he disclosed.

He admitted storage of film in wooden containers contravened the industry's safety code, but stated metal containers had not been used for a year because of the unavailability of such containers.

L. B. Davidson, of the fire marshal's office, when called to the stand, declared storage of film in barrels "would be contravention of regulations and transportation of films is supposed to be done in metal containers."

H. B. Carmody Dies

Boston, Dec. 1.—Hudson B. Carmody, 40, concert singer and former New York Radio City Music Hall soloist, died Monday at his home here.

Willkie in 'Topics Of the Day' Serie

(*Continued from page* 1)

material and being featured in int views. Plans call for the making one subject a month at the Pathe s dio here for release in Telenews a approximately 40 other newsr houses in key cities serving a potent audience of 2,000,000. First subj "Trade Barriers," deals with natio and international "economics" now a in the post-war period.

Telenews has produced some shorts for its own theatres and other newsreel theatres since it tered production almost four ye ago under the direction of Herb Scheftel, now a Captain in the Ar Air Forces serving overseas. P lic figures have been featured.

Stuart Scheftel, now manag Telenews for his brother, is publis and editor of *Young America,* wee magazine circulated in schools a having a claimed subscription of 4 000. Scheftel revealed that he just purchased the picture rights Taylor Caldwell's novel, "The Tu bulls," which he plans to produce w Orson Welles in the starring r No distribution arrangements h been made. Scheftel plans to sig co-producer since he is scheduled go overseas shortly to write a se of articles for *Life* and for his o publication.

Ricketson, Sturdiva In 4th Loan Pos

(*Continued from page* 1)

hibitor chairman in his area, and st chairman during bond drives, is c rently winding up the chairmanship the National War Fund for Colo for all industries. Sturdivant has l been a spearhead for various W efforts in the San Francisco territ

Skouras is expected to annou the campaign publicity director in next few days. The chairman his co-chairmen are winding up t own affairs and are making prepa tions to come to New York, wh they will make their headquarters the WAC offices for the duration the Fourth War Loan effort.

13 More Exhibitors Join 'Dimes' Dri

(*Continued from page* 1)

C. Rhoden, Kansas City; R. M. K nedy, Birmingham; Ray F. Bra Charlotte; John B. Carroll, Portl Me.; Melvin Morrison, Dover, D I. J. Hoffman, New Haven; M. Cooper, Grand Forks, N. D.; Down Thompson, Reno; J. O. Bro Detroit; Frank Vennett, Rutland, E. J. Schulte, Casper, Wyo., and C. Griffith, Oklahoma City.

Plan Reinhardt Memor

Hollywood, Dec. 1. — Friends the late Max Reinhardt will giv memorial program here in his ho on Jan. 12, proceeds to go int dramatic scholarship fund. Part pants will include Ernst Lubitsch, bert Basserman, William Diete Maria Jeritza, Franz Werfel, E Korngold, Thomas Mann and Jos Szigeti.

Lucky Stars' In Chicago Gets $27,000

CHICAGO, Dec. 1. — Family parties elled both matinee and evening busi-ss on the weekend following anksgiving. "Thank Your Lucky ars" at the Roosevelt should gross ,000 and "Old Acquaintance" at the ate-Lake will probably do $36,000. iversal's chillers, "Son of Dracula" d "Mad Ghoul" are doing excep-nal business at the Woods, probably ossing $18,000.

Estimated receipts for the week end-g Dec. 2:

uadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd ek. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,600).

rue to Life" (Para.)
HICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, l week. Stage: Hour of Charm. Gross: ,000. (Average: $45,000).

uadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
ARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, l week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,700).

he Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
ildersleeve on Broadway" (RKO)
RAND — (1,150) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 ys, 3rd week in Loop. Gross: $8,000. verage: $8,900).

oughboys in Ireland" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c) 7 ys. Stage: Blackstone the Magician. oss: $27,000. (Average: $23,400).

he Iron Major" (RKO)
lever a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
PALACE — (2,500) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 ys, 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: 0,000).

hank Your Lucky Stars" (W. B.)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. ross: $27,000. (Average: $19,200).

Old Acquaintance" (W. B.)
STATE-LAKE — (2,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 ys. Gross: $36,000. (Average: $22,600).

Claudia" (20th-Fox)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 ys, 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: 9,200).

on of Dracula" (Univ.)
Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
WOODS—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. ross: $18,000. (Average: $10,000).

Group to Dramatize Domestic Problems

"Stage Door to Action," organized present dramatizations on the need r united community action on home ont problems has been set up in New ork under sponsorship of William reen, AFL president; Alan Hay-ard, CIO; Paul McNutt, War Man-ower Commissioner, and others.

The organization claims the en-orsement of "liberal and progressive orces" in entertainment fields and the upport of actors, directors, writers nd scenic designers. They are said have agreed to lend their talents for hort dramatic plays which will be resented before community groups, lubs and civic meetings and before ny interested organization.

The dramatizations will be present-d admission-free with interested or-anizations expected to defray costs.

Frohman Estate Is Valued at $217,323

Estate of Daniel Frohman, theatri-al producer who died in December, 940, had a gross value of $235,325 nd a net of $217,323, according to n appraisal filed here this week. Prin-ipal assets were securities valued at 219,107. Bequests totaling $10,000 vere left to nine relatives, the residue eing divided between nephews Dan-el F. and Henry Davison.

IA Revolt Against Bioff, Browne Told

Lew C. G. Blix, former business manager of IATSE Local 37, Hollywood, testifying as a defense witness in Federal Court here yesterday, said that the local made an effort to break away from the parent organization in 1939 because of dissension over the activities of George E. Browne, then president of the IA, and William Bioff, labor racketeer.

Membership in the Hollywood local split into two factions, Blix said, one group favoring a severance of relations with the IA because of its domination by Browne and Bioff, the other group voting to go along with the parent organization.

"It was a wheel within a wheel," said Blix, "and came about because 4,500 of the 7,500 members wanted to get rid of Browne and Bioff."

Larger Group Forms USTG

The larger group, Blix related, formed the United Studio Technicians Guild and obtained permission from the National Labor Relations Board to conduct an election in an attempt to wrest collective bargaining status from the IATSE. The Labor Board called for a meeting of producers' representatives and union delegates which was attended by Browne, Pat Casey, labor representative for the producers group; Joseph M. Schenck, then chairman of the board of 20th Century-Fox; E. G. Mannix, M-G-M representative, and Herbert Freston, a Coast attorney representing Universal, according to Blix.

At the meeting, Blix testified, Bioff remarked that the IATSE "must win the election." A suggestion later was made that the IA studio unions should reenter the basic agreement with producers, from which they had withdrawn in 1938. Blix said that Bioff then demanded a 10 per cent wage increase for the studio locals, but was prevailed upon to hold the demand in abeyance until after the election to avoid confusion before the Labor Board.

"Bioff then instructed the delegates present that there would be no harm in passing the information along to the boys as being unofficial, but that they should know it and use it in connection with the election," Blix said.

Blix to Wind Up Testimony

After Blix left the witness stand, he told reporters that the guild group lost the election "by a vote of two to one." Blix will complete his testimony when the trial resumes today following an early adjournment yesterday because of the illness of a member of the jury.

Hochstein Trial Put Off to Jan. 3

Federal Judge Murray Hulbert yesterday adjourned until Jan. 3 the trial of Harry Hochstein, former chief morals inspector for the city of Chicago, on perjury charges.

Hochstein was indicted last Sept. 28 by the Federal grand jury which investigated the film extortion case. He is charged in four counts with having sworn falsely that in 1934 George E. Browne, Louis Campagna, Paul De Luccia and Charles Frischetti, did not attend a meeting in a Riverside, Ill., house which Hochstein maintained.

The Government charges that the Riverside house was the headquarters of the Al Capone gang during 1934 and 1935, and that the gang planned the 1934 election of Browne as IATSE president there. Campagna and De Luccia are among the seven defendants on trial here.

'Girl Crazy' in St. Louis Takes A Big $26,500

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 1.—Holiday and Christmas shoppers boosted nearly all first-runs here this week, with "Girl Crazy" at Loew's State leading with an estimated $26,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 1:

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
FOX—(5,038) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $16,500)

"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average, $13,500)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"There's Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $26,500. (Average, $16,900)

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 3rd week in St. Louis. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $8,000)

"Sahara" (Col.)
"The Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week in St. Louis. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $6,900)

"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $6,000)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
"Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (35c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $5,000)

RKO Sets 50-Theatre Premiere for Sinatra

Frank Sinatra's first picture for RKO, "Higher and Higher," will be given a 50-theatre premiere at RKO metropolitan New York houses on New Year's Eve, Ned Depinet, president of RKO Radio, has announced. The picture will be given a Broadway showing at a later date.

Holiday prices will prevail and performances at all theatres will be continuous. Edward L. Alperson, general manager of the circuit, estimates that 500,000 people will see the initial showings here.

The film, originally set for trade screening at the New York Exchange, will instead be screened at Loew's Ziegfeld Theatre on Dec. 8 at 10 a.m.

SOEG Asks U.S. to Intervene on Coast

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 1.—Screen Office Employes Guild has requested the appointment of a U. S. conciliator in its negotiations with exchanges due to the inability of the Guild and the distributors to get together on the inclusion of a reopening clause in the union's contract.

SOEG has requested a 15 per cent raise under the "Little Steel Formula" but said it would accept a proffered 10 per cent increase if a reopening clause was included against the possibility of a wage-increase ceiling being raised any time next year. Present contract expired on Oct. 19th.

'Acquaintance' At 3 in L. A. Is Up $33,500

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 1. — "Old Acquaintance" prospered at the three Warner first-runs to the tune of some $76,000, compared to a $42,500 average. Spread over four theatres, "Girl Crazy" was up about $10,000 over the aggregate average of $53,000 for the FWC topliners. Weather and other conditions continued ideal.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 1:

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"The Unknown Guest" (Mono.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $8,407)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"The Unknown Guest" (Mono.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $14,052)

"Crazy House" (Univ., 2nd week)
"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.)
EGYPTIAN — (1,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 4 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $12,000)

"The Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $5,266)

"The Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO, 4th week)
"Larceny With Music" (Univ.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $15,244)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"The Unknown Guest" (Mono.)
LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $31,000. (Average, $20,752)

"Crazy House" (Univ., 2nd week)
"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.)
LOS ANGELES (2,098) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 4 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $13,000)

"The Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO., 4th week)
"Larceny with Music" (Univ.)
PANTAGES — (2,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $12,810)

"True to Life" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD — (1,407) (45c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $10,808)

"True to Life" (Para.)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (3,595) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. Average, $19,768)

"Crazy House" (Univ., 2nd week)
"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.)
RITZ—(1,376) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 4 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $9,416)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"The Unknown Guest" (Mono.)
UPTOWN — (1,715) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average, $10,000)

"Old Acquaintance" (W. B.)
WARNER BROS. HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $25,199. (Average, $13,651)

"Old Acquaintance" (W. B.)
WARNER BROS. DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $28,082. (Average, $16,094)

"Old Acquaintance" (W. B.)
WARNER BROS. WILTERN — (2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $22,745. (Average, $12,794)

Kostelanetz Hints At New Indictments

(Continued from page 1)

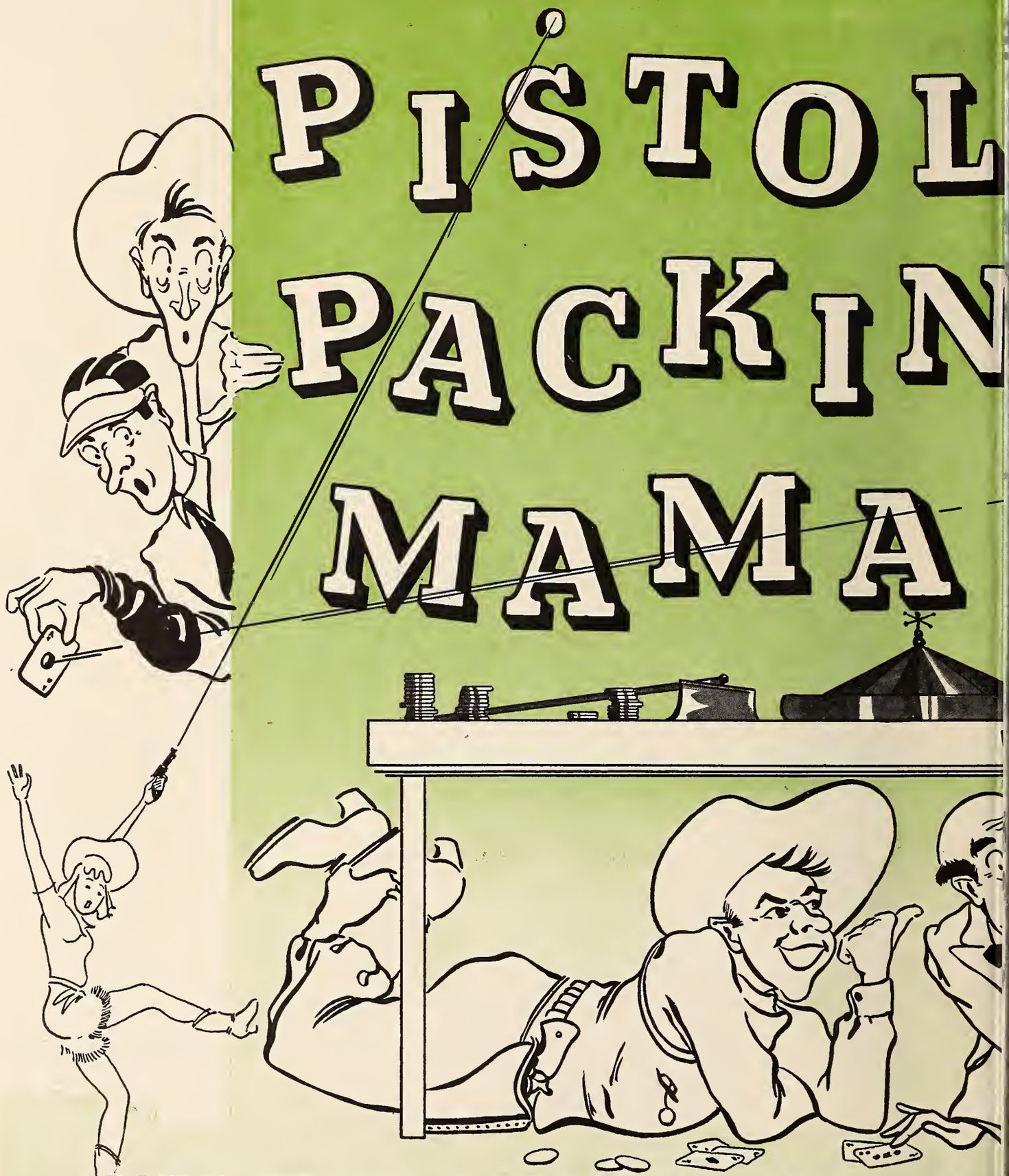
dicted, or when an indictment could be expected. He did, however, indicate that if any indictment is returned it will contain the names of persons high in the industry. Questioned as to whether these persons are executives or labor leaders, the prosecutor declined to answer.

Feingold Dies Suddenly

Barney Feingold, manager of the RKO Alden, Jamaica, L. I., passed away yesterday afternoon at his home following a heart attack.

A TREMENDOUS ENTE

PISTOL PACKIN MAMA



RUTH TERRY · ROBERT LIVINGSTON ·

Directed by FRANK WOODRUFF · *Original Story by* ARTHUR CAESAR · EDWAR

A REPUBLIC P

NMENT NOVELTY HIT.....

ECIALLY GEARED FOR HOLIDAY CROWDS

45 Shooting, 60 Preparing, 69 Editing

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1.—Work on various stages stepped up a bit during the past week with nine new films started to bring the total shooting to 45 for the week. Five were finished, 60 were preparing and 69 editing. Previous week saw seven finished, 41 shooting, 15 finished, 50 preparing and 84 editing. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Address Unknown," with Paul Lukas, K. T. Stevens, Peter Van Eyck, Mady Christians, Morris Carnovsky.

Shooting: "Yes, Sir, That's My Baby," "Nine Girls."

Finished: "Empire of the West," "The Wedding Guest Sat on a Stone."

M-G-M

Started: "Three Men in White," with Lionel Barrymore, Van Johnson, Marilyn Maxwell.

Shooting: "Dragon Seed," "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed," "The Canterville Ghost."

Monogram

Started: "Outlaw Trail" with Hoot Gibson, Bob Steele, Chief Thundercloud, Betty Miles.

Paramount

Started: "National Barn Dance," with Jean Heather, Charles Quigley, Robert Benchley.

Shooting: "You Can't Ration Love," "Take It Big," "Incendiary Blonde," "Tomorrow's Harvest," "The Hitler Gang," "Rainbow Island," "Double Indemnity," "I Love a Soldier."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Marine Raiders," "Seven Days Ashore," "Are These Our Children?", "Gildersleeve's Ghost" (formerly "Gildersleeve, Detective"), "Show Business," "International Zone."

Republic

Shooting: "Rosie the Riveter," "Fighting Seabees."

Finished: "Mojave Firebrand."

Twentieth Century-Fox

Started: "Wilson" with Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Thomas Mitchell, Alexander Knox, Charles Coburn, Vincent Price.

Shooting: "Greenwich Village," "Four Jills in a Jeep," "The Purple Heart," "Home in Indiana."

United Artists (Arnold)

Shooting: "It Happened Tomorrow."

(PCA)

Shooting: "Knickerbocker Holiday."

(Charles Rogers)

Started: "Song of the Open Road," with Edgar Bergen, Charlie McCarthy, Regis Toomey, Bonita Granville, Rose Hobart, W. C. Fields, Jane Powell.

(Vanguard)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

(Edward Small)

Started: "Up in Mabel's Room," with Marjorie Reynolds, Dennis O'Keefe, Gail Patrick, Mischa Auer, Binnie Barnes.

Universal

Started: "Christmas Holiday" with Deanna Durbin.

Shooting: "Three Cheers for the Boys," "Gypsy Wildcat."

Finished: "Cross Your Fingers," "Patrick the Great."

Warners

Started: "My Reputation," with Barbara Stanwyck, George Brent, John Ridgeley, Lucille Watson, Eve Arden, Robert Shane.

Shooting: "Hollywood Canteen," "Mr. Skeffington," "Between Two Worlds."

'Everybody Happy', $29,000 in Cincy

CINCINNATI, Dec. 1.—"Is Everybody Happy?", as the screen portion of a combination offering, with Earl Carroll's Vanities of 1944 on the stage, is zooming to an approximate $29,000 at the RKO Albee. Returns at other houses were mostly in the upper brackets over the weekend.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 1-4:

"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-75c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Earl Carroll's Vanities of 1944. Gross: $29,000. (Average, $22,000)

"The North Star" (RKO-Goldwyn)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (35c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $10,000)

"Man from Music Mountain" (Rep.)
"Nearly 18" (Mono.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 4 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average, $1,400)

"Doughboys in Ireland" (Col.)
"Gildersleeve on Broadway" (RKO)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average, $800)

"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $9,500)

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover from Grand. Gross: $4,500. (Average, $5,000)

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $4,200)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $15,000)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Palace. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $5,000)

Wm. Werner's Son Killed

Lt. William Werner, son of William Werner, office manager at 20th Century-Fox, was killed in the recent battle of the Gilbert Islands, it was reported here this week. Werner, graduate of Dartmouth, entered the Army two years ago. He is survived by his parents, two sisters and a brother.

'Johnny' Grosses $12,500

William Cagney's "Johnny Come Lately" grossed $12,500 at Detroit's Palm State during a three-day run there, the Cagney office has reported here, adding that the film is completing its fifth week at San Francisco's United Artists.

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Short Subject Review

"The Labor Front"

(United Artists-Warwick)

An interesting documentary in the Canadian National Film Board's "World in Action" series, this carries an intelligent plea for the recognition of the right of labor to enjoy the opportunities of gainful employment and pleasant working conditions in the post-war, and pays tribute to the part being played by labor in winning the war for belligerent democracies.

Series of shots shows the manufacture of war weapons throughout the world, placing emphasis on the mobilization of manpower. Registration of workers for war industries and their training is interestingly depicted. Other shots show solutions of domestic problems of women workers. Unemployment has been turned into gainful employment in meeting the demands of the war machine. Special emphasis is placed on the contrast between Hitler's enslaved labor and the free labor of the democracies in other shots. Running time, 21 mins.

'Girl Crazy' Tops With $22,000 Gross

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 1.—The holiday week found only two downtown theatres of the seven here out-distancing average receipts in an inexplicable slump. "Girl Crazy" at the Penn promised $22,000, and a double-bill reissue of "In Old Chicago" and "Banjo on My Knee" at the Senator headed for $3,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 29-Dec. 2:

"Top Man" (Univ.)
FULTON—(1,700) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,400)

"Crazy House" (Univ.)
HARRIS—(2,200) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,600)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
PENN—(3,400) (30c-40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average, $20,600)

"True to Life" (Para.)
RITZ—(1,100) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Penn. Gross: $2,000. (Average, $3,200)

"In Old Chicago" (20th-Fox)
SENATOR—(1,750) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average, $3,300)

"Hostages" (Para.)
STANLEY—(3,800) (35c-50c-75c) On stage, 6 days of vaudeville, including Richard Himber's orchestra. Gross: $21,000. (Average, $23,200)

"Princess O'Rourke" (W. B.)
WARNER—(2,000) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover after one week at Penn. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $8,300)

Latta Re-elected Barker

ALBANY, Dec. 1.—C. J. Latta, zone manager of Warner theatres, was re-elected chief barker of local Variety at a meeting held here. Herman Ripps, M-G-M branch manager, was re-elected assistant barker; Charles Smakwitz, assistant zone manager for Warners, second barker; Joe Shure, district booker, Fabian Theatres, secretary, and Clayton Eastman, branch manager, Paramount, treasurer.

Keene Joins Yorke

Rogers Keene, film editor formerly with Paramount, Grand National and Educational Pictures, has joined Emerson Yorke studio here.

Phila. Booms; 'Sahara' Tops With $29,70

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 1. — Holid business continued over the enti weekend with activity at downtov houses at high levels in keeping wi the increasingly booming theatric district. Way out in the lead "Sahara" at the Stanley, pointing $29,700 in addition to a $4,000 Sund at the Earle on a twin showin

Estimated receipts for the week en ing Dec. 1-3:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 4 week. Gross: $21,000. (Average, $10,300)

"The Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
ARCADIA—(600) (35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 da 2nd run. Gross: $4,750. (Average, $3,500)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,300. (Averag $19,000)

"Fired Wife" (Univ.) (6 days)
"Sahara" (Col.) 1 day
EARLE—(3,000) (46c-57c-75c) 6 days vaudeville including Ina Ray Hutton's o chestra, Ella Mae Morse, Jane Slater, W ter Dare Wahl, Kim Loo Sisters and Stu Foster. Gross: $24,000. (Average, $22,0

"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.)
FAY'S—(2,200) (29c-35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 da of vaudeville including the Internatio Sweethearts of Rhythm, Jackie Mabley a Spider Bruce & Co. Gross: $14,000. (A erage, $10,000)

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
FOX—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) days, 3rd week. Gross: $19,200. (Averag $17,800)

"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
KARLTON—(1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68 75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,500. (A erage, $5,600)

"The Man From Down Under" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,800. (Averag $5,000)

"Northern Pursuit" (W. B.)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68 75c) 7 days. Gross: $25,300. (Averag $22,000)

"Sahara" (Col.)
STANLEY—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68 75c) 7 days. Gross: $29,700. (Averag $18,300)

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
STANTON—(1,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68 75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,200. (A erage, $8,000)

National Cinema Club

CINCINNATI, Dec. 1. — Cinem Club at a meeting here voted to ta steps to form a national organizatic Christmas boxes will be sent to members in military service. Cl will hold its annual election, Dec.

'Tokyo' Tradeshowing S

Warners' "Destination Tokyo" w be nationally tradeshown Mond Dec. 20, it was announced here Ben Kalmenson, general sales man ger.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 106 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1943 | TEN CENTS

RODGERS ASKS ONE EXHIBITOR GROUP

Sees United Stand As A Solution to Vital Theatre Problems

The formation of one national exhibitor organization was advocated by William F. Rodgers, Loew's vice-president and general sales manager, at a luncheon conference with trade press representatives at the Hotel Astor yesterday.

Rodgers said that a united exhibitor front will accomplish more for the exhibitors in both internal and external industry affairs than any other factor. He said he had no suggestions to offer as to how the unification of exhibitor organizations might be accomplished, leaving the impression that the organizations and their leadership should shoulder the task. He made it clear that he believed affiliated theatres should be included in any united theatre organization.

Pending a unification, or in lieu of

(Continued on page 8)

Rodgers on Duals, Divorcement and Cancellation

"M-G-M will continue to offer a cancellation right with each block of pictures sold. Ninety-five per cent of the cancellations made to date are on the pictures you'd expect they'd be made. The distributor, therefore, is taking no unusual chance in granting cancellation. If a picture is cancelled which we do not believe deserves to be, we send a letter to the exhibitor advising him that we think he's making a mistake, tell him why and ask him to put it back. Most of them do.

"I believe in cancellation. A theatre should have the opportunity to eliminate something when it finds itself overloaded or for some other good reason.

"Double featuring is expanding. I do not believe there is any real product shortage

(Continued on page 8)

Clark Names Three Basic Decree Issues

Cancellation, Circuits, Arbitration Named

Washington, Dec. 2.—Illness of Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark has caused another setback in the consent decree negotiations, necessitating the calling off of a meeting scheduled for tomorrow with representatives of independent producers from Hollywood.

The answer whether there will be peace or an all-out war between the United States Government and Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warners, decree negotiators, depends now entirely on the extent to which they will concede:

Cancellation of sales and revision of the small-block selling system; regulation of circuit affiliation, pooling deals and preferential sales to large cir-

(Continued on page 5)

'Bernadette' May Be Sold for 70-30

Hollywood, Dec. 2.—Twentieth-Fox distribution and sales executives in conferences here, have decided to consider marketing "The Song of Bernadette" on a "Gone with the Wind" policy of a 70 per cent rental against a guarantee on advanced admissions. The determining factor will be public reaction to the Los Angeles run, opening Dec. 25 at the Carthay Circle and the New York run at the Rivoli opening sometime in January.

London Sees Ernst As Rank's Corporal

London, Dec. 2.—A proposal that America exchange its films and books with Britain on a barter basis was made by Morris Ernst, New York lawyer, in a mass interview at Claridge's here today, at which he was the guest of J. Arthur Rank and Filippo Del Giudice. Ernst said that if the barter basis was not adopted Britain could not engage in trade with America because Britain has gone off the gold standard.

Throwing in his lot with such critics of the American industry as Michael Balcon, Ernst said that wartime conditions have not impinged upon mass film production in America but have prohibited it here. He said that British films of a given quality,

(Continued on page 8)

Says He Complained About Loose Films

Toronto, Dec. 2.—Today's session of the coroner's inquest into the death of Herbert Naiman in the Film Building fire on Nov. 17, took a sensational turn when Tony Sapko, caretaker of the building, swore on the stand that he had complained to Col. John A. Cooper, chairman of the Motion Picture Distributors Association of Canada, that loose film had been detected in the basement and that Col. Cooper had said he would warn Royal Films to have it removed.

Recalled to the stand, Winslow

(Continued on page 8)

Three Areas Ordered on 48-Hr. Work Week

Chicago, Dec. 2.—The Springfield-Decatur area in Illinois and the Milwaukee and Kenosha regions in Wisconsin have been ordered to observe a 48-hour minimum work week by William H. Spencer, regional director of the WMC.

The order is effective immediately and those affected have until Jan. 16 to comply or secure exemption.

Way Out for Some Owners With Manpower Problems

Washington, Dec. 2.—An exhibitor's manpower problem depends on where his theatre stands as an essential service in the furtherance of the war in his community, according to Collis P. Stocking, deputy assistant director of the War Manpower Commission.

Though exhibitors are not on the national list of essential industries they can still seek designation by their area manpower director as a "locally needed" activity, WMC officials here reveal. This designation would give to exhibitors the same status and privilege as nationally essential war industries in hiring and retaining workers.

WMC "Field Instruction Number

(Continued on page 5)

Better PRC Product Seen in Policy Move

Hollywood, Dec. 2.—Producers Releasing Corp., in a new policy move, looks toward an improved quality of production. The company intends maintaining its announced total of releases, but will spend more money in an effort to reach better playing time. The decision is seen as marking a victory for Leon Fromkess, who has been insisting PRC must begin to carve a place as a producer of films beyond merely "good little ones." His view reputedly leans toward the post-war adjustment period when he foresees grosses hinging more on quality

(Continued on page 8)

Loan Executives to Meet with Skouras

Charles Skouras, general chairman of the industry's Fourth War Loan drive, has called a two-day meeting of industry War Loan executives in Los Angeles next Monday and Tuesday. Following the meetings, Skouras and his co-chairmen, Rick Ricketson and B. V. Sturdivant, will leave the Coast for New York for the duration of the campaign.

Features of the conferences will be

(Continued on page 8)

37 'Dimes' Chairmen Wire Acceptances

With 37 state chairmen candidates already responding with wire acceptances, the 1944 March of Dimes organization is being completed in record time, according to Harry Brandt of the national committee.

Acceptances from the following state chairmen and co-chairmen were received here yesterday:

Harry Katz and K. T. Collins, Indianapolis; Carter Barron, John Payette, Jos. D. Fiorie, Washington;

(Continued on page 8)

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, is planning a visit to the company's studios before the holidays.

•

STEVE EDWARDS, Republic's home office publicity director, will return Monday from a five weeks' trip in the field and a visit to the company's studios.

•

ZELMA BROOKOV, of the Warner Eastern talent scouting department, will be at Connecticut College, New London, today.

•

CHARLES QUICKLE, manager of the Palace, Crown Point, Ind., has been inducted into the Army. LESTER MCCAULEY will succeed him.

•

CAPT. HOLLIS KENNAHAN, formerly with Warners, left yesterday for the Fort Benning, Ga., Battalion Command School.

•

TOM CONNORS, WILLIAM KUPPER, HAL HORNE and CHARLES SCHLAIFER are expected to arrive in New York Monday from Hollywood.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, Universal assistant general sales manager, left for Chicago yesterday and will return Monday.

•

TED SHAW, assistant to W. C. GEHRING, 20th Century-Fox Western sales manager, is vacationing in Miami.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner circuit labor relations contact, is on a trip to Philadelphia, York and Lancaster, Pa.

•

P. S. HARRISON, renowned producer, has returned to New York after one year in Hollywood.

•

LOU SMITH, M-G-M publicity manager, is in Doctors' Hospital after being stricken with pneumonia.

•

B. BERNARD KREISLER of Universal left yesterday for Pittsburgh and Cleveland.

•

L. A. PAULSON, former 20th Century-Fox salesman in Des Moines, is now in India.

•

LT. LIONEL TOLL has become engaged to DOROTHY MORRIS, of New York.

•

ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR., will arrive Monday from Hollywood.

Treasury Salutes M-G-M

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Dec. 2.—M-G-M's branch here has been awarded the Treasury Department's Minute Man flag and T-flag for participation of its employes in the purchase of war bonds. Presentation was made by Col. Warner B. Gates, commanding officer of Morris Field Army Air Base here, to Benn H. Rosenwald, branch manager.

New Tax Bill Before Christmas: George

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Senator George (D.-Ga.), chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, now holding hearings on the new tax bill, which includes provision for a 20 per cent theatre admission tax, interrupted hearings to announce that he hoped to report the measure to the Senate "some time next week," that his deadline for the start of Senate debate is Dec. 13, and that he hopes to get the bill to the White House before Christmas.

Study Industry Testimony

Meanwhile, committee members were studying testimony of a long line of witnesses, including that of Ed Kuykendall, president of the MPTOA, and Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel, who on Wednesday both basically stressed the possible adverse effect of a tax increase on audiences as diminishing the value of exhibitor efforts to further the Government's propaganda and war bond programs.

In a brief left with the committee by Kuykendall he told the Senate that the increased admission tax is a special tax on a minority of the country's population. He revealed that while the average weekly attendance at some 17,000 theatres now operating may be 90,000,000, not more than 60,000,000 actually attend pictures because in the attendance estimates are included a considerable number who attend more than once a week. He said that not more than six out of every 13 are film patrons "and they are people of moderate means."

Kuykendall's report stressed the fact that exhibitors are not trying to escape taxation. Rather, they are trying to prevent added taxation burdens which would force them out of business and prevent them from continuing their notable contributions to the war effort, he added.

Branded as Retail Tax

The report characterized the 20 per cent admission tax as a retail sales tax and branded it as a special tax out of line with taxes on other retail fields. It emphasized the point that small theatres are not prosperous today and that the "small and weak ones face extinction from excessive tax increases."

Since the increased tax will mean an increase in the cost of admission to the theatre patron, eventually leading to a decrease in the number of theatre attendances, it is a false delusion to say that the tax is being passed on to the patron, Kuykendall warned.

He cited duplicate state and city taxes on admissions and pointed out that admission prices are fixed by the public and not by exhibitors. The new tax will be a heavy burden on the industry and is not a tax on Hollywood, he added.

Two Loew Dividends

Loew's board of directors have declared a dividend of 50 cents and an extra dividend of $1.50 per share on common to stockholders of record Dec. 17, payable on Dec. 31.

Plan Using Films in Post-War Education

Washington, Dec. 2.—The use of Hollywood product in influencing and re-educating to democracy the peoples of occupied and enemy nations is being considered by the Department of State. There are indications, also, that a permanent film official will be appointed to serve under the Secretary of State and that film attaches will be named to diplomatic missions.

Patriotic Films in WB Post-War Plans

"Production of pictures that instill patriotic pride and promote national unity in addition to providing entertainment will continue to be a Warner policy even after the war is won," Harry M. Warner said yesterday at a special screening of "Task Force" under the sponsorship of the U. S. Coast Guard at the Warner home office.

Warner, Major Albert Warner and Norman H. Moray, short subjects sales manager, were hosts to a preview audience representing the Coast Guard, SPARS, metropolitan dailies, government agencies and the trade press. Moray stated that local Warner branch offices throughout the country will tie in with the Coast Guard and SPAR recruiting drives in the showing of "Task Force," short subject, as was done with other service films.

"Task Force" is an account of the American invasion fleet flanked by the Coast Guard going into action "somewhere out there." The film was made by the Coast Guard with the original intention of distributing it among the armed forces. Warners will show it throughout the country to stimulate Coast Guard and SPAR enlistment. It will be released Dec. 11.

U.A. Mid-West Meet Will Start Tomorrow

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—Branch managers and sales personnel of the United Artists Mid-West district will hold a sales meeting at the Blackstone Hotel on Dec. 4 and 5, with Ed Schnitzer, Western division manager, and Rud Lohrenz, mid-West district manager, officiating.

Among those who will attend are branch managers Sid Rose, Chicago; Dick Frank, Indianapolis; Nat Nathanson, Milwaukee, and Ralph Cramblett, Minneapolis.

36,437 Blood Donors

New York City's film theatres have sent 36,437 blood donors to the blood banks of the Red Cross since the inception of the campaign to recruit plasma volunteers, it was announced yesterday by Eddie Dowden, WAC New York chairman for the drive.

Blumberg Better Attends Board Me

Nate J. Blumberg, Universal pr dent, recovered from a recent mi operation, made his first appeara at the home office in weeks in or to attend the monthly meeting of Universal board of directors th yesterday.

Blumberg, who originally plan to return to the Coast this mo now may remain in New York o the holidays.

NEW YORK THEATRI

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
ROSALIND RUSSELL IN BRIAN AHERN
"WHAT A WOMAN"
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A Columbia Picture
Gala Stage Show—Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4

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NAVAL LOG OF VICTOR
LATEST
MARCH OF TIM
Released by 20th Century-Fox
RADIO CITY MUSIC HA

Claudette COLBERT Fred MACMURR
"NO TIME FOR LOVE
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
Woody HERMAN and band
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
BUY MORE AND MORE WAR BON

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M-G-M SPECIALS—2 Reels
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JOHN NESBITT'S PASSING PARADE

M-G-M MINIATURES
(Carey Wilson, Robt. Benchley)

M-G-M CARTOONS
(In Technicolor)

M-G-M's NEWS OF THE DAY

Latest addition to the trophies and awards which James A. FitzPatrick has so richly won for his work in travel films is this medal, The Aztec Eagle Award, presented by the Mexican Government for his series of 8 travel shorts made in that country. Repeat bookings continue to delight audiences from coast-to-coast; a true expression of the Good Neighbor policy.

The Medal-Winning TECHNICOLOR Gems—

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(Season 1943-44)

His new De Luxe series takes your travel-hungry public on an All-American tour. The most entertaining subjects he has ever made. They've got quality and love-of-country appeal that sell extra tickets. It pays to play:

FITZPATRICK ALL-AMERICAN TRAVELTALKS

1. THROUGH THE COLORADO ROCKIES
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4. A DAY IN DEATH VALLEY
5. MACKINAC ISLAND
6. VISITING ST. LOUIS
7. MONUMENTAL UTAH
8. ALONG THE CACTUS TRAIL
9. COLORFUL COLORADO
10. CITY OF BRIGHAM YOUNG
11. ROAMING THROUGH ARIZONA
12. THE KING'S HIGHWAY

M-G-M... The Long and Short of it!

War Bonds for Christmas Gifts!

20th-Century Denies Schoenstadt Charges

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—Answer to the anti-trust suit of H. Schoenstadt & Sons, Inc., was filed in the district court here today by 20th Century-Fox.

It denies that there are any regularly established 20th-Fox first run theatres in Chicago, or so far as the exhibition of its films is concerned, and says that it recognizes no theatre as being entitled to exhibit any of its films first run in Chicago except pursuant to the terms of license agreements negotiated and entered into from time to time between it and the operators of certain theatres. The charge of monopoly is denied.

Time for the filing of answers by Loew's, RKO, Columbia, Universal and United Artists was extended to Dec. 4, and by Warner Brothers to Dec. 8.

Answers by Balaban & Katz and Paramount were filed last week.

Sinatra Sets Record At Keith's, Boston

BOSTON, Dec. 2.—Frank Sinatra's appearance on the stage at RKO Keith's, which started today for one week, is headed for an all-time record gross at the house, according to present indications. The screen attraction is "The Falcon and the Co-Ed." As early as 6:30 o'clock this morning a line formed at the theatre and by 8 a.m. traffic was tied up on Washington St. in the heart of downtown Boston. About 40 police were called in.

The gross today will be near $20,000 and it appears that business for the week may reach an all-time high for this city. Previous personalities who broke records here were: Mae West, Rudy Vallee, Gilda Gray and Amos and Andy, all of whom neared a $70,000 gross. Front-page news stories on Sinatra appeared today in every Boston paper and newspapers have given him a tremendous reception in their columns.

Empire-306 Trial Will Resume Monday

Trial in the attempt of several members of Empire State Motion Picture Operators' Union to upset the merger between the union and Local 306, IATSE, will continue Monday in Kings County Supreme Court after an adjournment last night. The trial is due to continue for several more days with Empire attorneys seeking to prove that the merger is desirable.

Among the strongest testimony to date upholding the merger was that by Father Boland, former chairman of the New York State Labor Relations Board, who expressed the opinion that the merger helped to eliminate dual unionism in the field here.

Bolstead, Samson Head Toronto Board

TORONTO, Dec. 2.—R. W. Bolstead, vice-president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., was elected chairman of the motion picture section of the Toronto board of trade at the annual meeting today at the King Edward Hotel, and Syd Samson, Canadian district manager for 20th-Fox Corp., was elected vice-president. Business was of a routine nature.

Reviews

"What a Woman!"

(Columbia)

A PICTURE with Rosalind Russell, Brian Aherne, a fine supporting cast, and excellent direction by Irving Cummings of a delightful screen story is bound to be a good one at the outset. "What a Woman!" definitely is out of Columbia's top drawer. It is escapist fare; light, frothy comedy, the kind that both exhibitors and audiences are asking for. And besides it brings forth Willard Parker, a 6-foot-4 actor, who is both good looking and capable. He has a future.

Rosalind Russell, portraying the role of a career woman as head of a talent agency, and Aherne, as a magazine writer, will more than please their fans in this one. They seem to enjoy their parts; the dialogue and story give them plenty to do. In this fast company, Parker, a former Broadway stage personality, makes his screen debut as an author who turns actor. He holds his own and then some.

Aherne, who has a particular distaste for career women who are beautiful, is assigned by his publisher to write a profile of Miss Russell, who has just scooped her competition by selling the screen rights of a novel, "The Whirlwind," and is spending a fortune to find the right man to play the part. Aherne suggests that the author of the book might be just the type. To her chagrin, she learns that the author, who had written the book under a pseudonym, is a college professor. But on visiting the professor, she finds that he is what Hollywood is screaming for: young, tall, good looking and blond.

With Aherne heckling from the sidelines, she purposely gets the author, Willard Parker, into trouble with the college head, and takes Parker to New York, putting him through a course in dress and manners. His first screen-test is a dud, and he decides to return to college. Meanwhile, Aherne is of the opinion that Miss Russell might be terrific if she had anything other than a dollar sign for her heart. He talks Parker into staying, convincing the latter that Rosalind is worthy of much admiration. Overnight, Parker blooms into the masterful type, racing Miss Russell through a courtship that makes "The Whirlwind" look like a breeze. The denouement, wherein Miss Russell ends the foolishness of an impending marriage to Parker, winding up in Aherne's arms, is a strong climax.

A substantial supporting cast including Alan Dinehart, Edward Fielding, Ann Savage, Norma Varden and others adds stature to this Irving Cummings' production. The screen play by Therese Lewis and Barry Trivers, based on an original by Erik Charrell is chock-full of witty dialogue. Everybody should be happy with "What a Woman!"

Running time, 93 mins. "G"* FRED STENGEL

"She's for Me"

(Universal)

THE pleasant combination of a diverting light romantic story and Grace McDonald's appealing performance in her usual singing and dancing role makes Universal's "She's for Me" a nice even hour's entertainment. Featured besides Miss McDonald in this escapist comedy offering are David Bruce, Lois Collier, George Dolenz and Charles Dingle. Frank Gross produced.

The original screenplay is credited to Henry Blankfort and revolves around a feud between Bruce, a serious-minded young lawyer, and Miss Collier, his boss's frivolous niece. Bruce has incurred Miss Collier's ire in his attempts to curtail her extravagances as administrator of her estate. The situation is complicated by the boss's attempts to plunge Bruce and Miss Collier into a romance. Bruce sticks his neck out when he induces Dingle, the boss, to hire Dolenz, his college chum, as the firm's tax expert. Dolenz is an expert in affairs of the heart and he immediately proceeds to woo Miss Collier. In desperation to save his job, Bruce finally brings Miss McDonald, one of Dolenz' former heart throbs to the scene. Further complications ensue when Bruce falls in love with Miss McDonald. However, everything turns out well in the end when Dingle reluctantly lends his blessings to the romance between his niece and Dolenz and between Bruce and Miss McDonald, giving both men a partnership in his law firm.

Reginald Le Borg's direction does justice to the story. The acting performances turned in by the principals are first-rate. Eddie LeBaron and his orchestra provide good musical accompaniment to Miss McDonald's singing and dancing numbers.

Running time, 60 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

Twig, Wright Switch

CLEVELAND, Dec. 2. — Bill Twig, Paramount salesman in the Cincinnati territory, has been transferred here, succeeding John Wright, who takes over in Cincinnati.

'True to Life' Tieup

Car cards on transportation lines in 40 cities estimated to reach a total circulation of 850,000,000 are being used by Paramount in a tie-up with Dari-Rich to promote "True to Life."

Ginsberg, Griffis In Film Stock Deals

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2.—Light trad ing in film stocks in October is dis closed by the Securities and Exchang Commission in its monthly summary released here tonight.

The largest transactions called fo blocks of 500 shares, Henry Ginsber Hollywood officer in Paramount Pic tures, purchasing that much Para mount common stock to give him total of 1,400 shares, and Robert I Daine, New York, officer in Tran Lux, selling a similar amount of Tran Lux common to reduce his interest t 2,000 shares.

Also in Paramount, Stanton Griff reported the disposition by gift of 12 shares of common, leaving him wit 5,880 shares, while another gift di position, of 100 Universal commo voting trust certificate warrants, w reported by Charles D. Prutzma New York, leaving him with 11,90 The only other transaction was th purchase of 48 shares of Loew's Bo ton Theatres common by Loew's, In which now holds 120,058 Bost shares.

Reports on the holdings of perso becoming officers or directors of re istered companies showed that Arth C. Bromberg, Atlanta, held no Mon gram Pictures securities direct but he 15,777 shares of common stock throu Monogram Southern Exchanges, In when he became a director in Mon gram on Oct. 21.

Altec Head Speaks o Equipment Upkee

L. W. Conrow, president of Alt Service, speaking yesterday at t second day of a division manage conference, held at the Park Centr Hotel, discussed the responsibility of service organization in keeping moti picture equipment at its peak efficie cy, despite unpredictable shortages war-needed materials. "We are goi to be called upon for a still great enlargement of technical usefulness the motion picture industry as a res of the knowledge gained in the wo being done for the armed forces," Co row stated.

Today's session, which will tou upon credits, contracts and general d cussion on servicing routines and pr cedures, will be followed by luncheon to be given for Allen Smith, chief of the amusement secti of the War Production Board.

Frank Donovan at Delinquency Hearin

Frank Donovan, writer and dire tor of RKO's "Children of Mar has been called to give testimony b fore the Senate sub-committee ho ing hearings at Washington on r tional child health and education. is screening the film this morning part of his testimony, at the comm tee's request.

Holden Rites Held

Funeral services for James Hold were held yesterday morning at t Church of the Holy Spirit, Univ sity Ave. and Burnside, Bronx. Ho en, who died Monday, was a veter film salesman connected variou with FBO, RKO and Universal. is survived by a sister.

U.S. Holds Unionist On Perjury Charge

Andrew J. Roach, Government witness in the Chicago film extortioners' trial, last night was arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Garrett W. Cotter here on a complaint sworn to by Boris Kostelanetz, Federal prosecutor, charging Roach with perjury in falsely testifying as to material matter in the trial while on the stand Nov. 22." Roach was held in $3,000 bail for trial.

Roach had testified before Judge John Bright that in November, 1939, Louis Kaufman sent him to Chicago with a wax-sealed envelope, presumably containing money extorted from the industry, and that he had delivered it to the late Frank Nitti, Capone gang chief. This testimony was repudiated in court yesterday after a check-up by the FBI. Kostelanetz revealed that investigations of Roach's story showed that he went to Chicago primarily to see a friend, Betty Lawrence and to ask her to marry him. It was also discovered that Nitti was at that time registered at a Hot Springs, Ark., hotel.

Roach, recalled to the stand, denied his version of his Chicago trip and also denied knowing any girl by that name.

Kostelanetz, after a conference of all attorneys in Judge Bright's chambers, announced before the jury that the Government is willing to stipulate that if Mrs. Betty Lawrence were called to testify" she would corroborate the FBI findings. He also stated that introduction of the records of the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs would show Nitti was registered there at the time.

It is believed the crack-up of Roach's testimony will prove of considerable aid to Louis Kaufman's chances of winning an acquittal.

Roach, at the afternoon session, was called to the witness stand and, after repeating testimony he had previously given, that he did not know Betty Lawrence, was led away by deputy U. S. marshals at the demand of Kostelanetz.

'Union Management Not Court's Affair'

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—An answer to the $5,000,000 suit for wages that members of the Chicago projectionists' union are claimed to have lost through an alleged conspiracy between union officials, exhibitors and members of the "Capone Mob," filed by defendants John P. Smith, Clarence A. Jalas and Glenn Sweeney, officers of the union, claims that there is no equity in the complaint. Removal of two operators from their jobs is admitted by the defendants, but they deny the men were threatened. A court of equity, it is claimed, has no right to interfere with the internal management of a union.

Every available remedy within the union, the answer says, must be exhausted before the aid of the court may be invoked. The union's constitution and by-laws are said to provide for impeachment of any officer for violation of oath of office by an appeal to the president of the IATSE, to the general executive board from his decision and from this ruling to the IATSE when assembled in convention. It is charged that plaintiffs have taken no action under these provisions.

An amendment to the complaint makes it clear that the suit is filed in the interest of all members of the union.

Answer by other deefndants is due on or before Dec. 6. These include Balaban and Katz, Paramount, Publix Great States, RKO-Radio, Warner Bros. Theatres, United Artists, H. Schoenstadt & Sons, Essaness Theatres, Allied Theatres of Illinois, M-G-M, Loew's and James Cisco, George Karg and Joseph Bernstein, members of the union's board of directors.

Meanwhile there was great interest by union members in the meeting held here tonight. Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, has ordered it called for midnight presumably for an airing of charges against the temporarily ousted local officials.

Clark Names Three Basic Consent Decree Demands

(*Continued from page 1*)

cuits; Government-supervised adjustment of exhibitor complaints on clearance and run either by freer arbitration or by some new method.

Tom C. Clark, Assistant U. S. Attorney-General, made this clear at his Department of Justice headquarters in an interview with *Motion Picture Herald,* which will be published today. Clark said that exhibitors appear "pretty solidly agreed" on the need for changes in the three aforementioned categories and the extent to which he concurs was emphasized by his declaration that Federal court prosecution of the five distributors on a scale never before seen in this industry will be the alternative to an unsatisfactory submission by the companies to the three basic demands.

The Government, according to Clark, is prepared to go to court in many of the key exchange centers if current negotiations fail. It will file suits in the Crescent pattern against many leading independent and affiliated circuits. The New York complaint would be pressed with the Government seeking a judgment against both the consenting distributors and the United Artists, Universal and Columbia, non-decree signers.

Field suits would seek dissolution of the affiliated circuits and many large independent combinations on the ground that they restrained competition if the Government decided to go into court, Clark said. He admitted that it might take a year or longer for the cases to be prepared, but left no doubt that the Government was prepared to seek a drastic and a long range solution of trade problems.

There are many jurisdictions less crowded than New York in which the Government could begin its first actions, Clark said. He mentioned Washington, Philadelphia, Atlanta and Los Angeles as possible locales for suits in Federal court.

Clark expressed the belief that distributors would try to reach a fair compromise. Recalling his injunction to Joseph Hazen, representative of the distributors, to "give more milk" in the second proposal, he expressed the hope that it might even be possible to agree on a little "cream" for a new decree.

Noting that exhibitors were universally upset with the current selling system, Clark told the *Herald* that all distributors were not unwilling to accept a change. A cancellation formula up to 20 per cent and blocks equal to approximately a three-month output are among the possible solutions. This would be almost identical with the "UMPI" selling plan rejected by Thurman Arnold last year.

The regulation of preferred deals to circuits was described as being very close to the basic issues of the New York suit. It may well be the determining point on which the Government will base its decision whether to seek dissolution of large circuits.

The many complaints over clearance and run indicate that the present arbitration clauses of the decree have not provided satisfactory machinery for settling these issues and it is to be determined, Clark said, whether these clauses may be broadened sufficiently to speed arbitration, reduce costs and restore exhibitor confidence.

The decree picture has been further complicated, Clark added, by complaints from independent exhibitors that the distributors were refusing to distribute pictures. Following his meeting with California independents, Clark arranged a conference with independent producers' representatives for today, in Washington.

Clark said that he expected to set a new meeting date for Hazen and other distributor representatives.

Luncheon to Booker

Circuit bookers in the metropolitan area will be tendered a luncheon at the Piccadilly Hotel Thursday, Dec. 9. The affair is being arranged by Joseph St. Clair, chairman of the Ray Moon 20th Century-Fox New York exchange sales drive.

Century's Springer Changes Managers

Joseph R. Springer, general manager of Century Circuit, has made the following personnel changes in Brooklyn and Long Island: Wm. H. Appelgate, formerly district manager in Flatbush, transferred to the home office maintenance department; Edward Freiberger, formerly Nassau County district manager, replaces Appelgate; Emanuel Friedman of the Lynbrook, moves over to the Fantasy as district manager in the Nassau division; Benjamin Mindlin, Valley Stream manager, shifts to the Lynbrook in the same capacity; Larry Rosenthal, manager of the Strand, succeeds Mindlin at the Valley Stream; McHendee Williams, Parkside manager, shifts to the Strand in the same position; Jack Raven, assistant manager at the Nostrand, transferred to the Parkside as manager; Helen Beckerman, assistant manager at the Marine, shifts to the Nostrand in the same capacity; Joseph McGovern, formerly with the Police Athletic League, appointed assistant manager at the Marine; Joseph Parlante, manager at the Town, replaces Ted Ehrsam as manager of the Bliss; S. Weening, formerly of the Central in Cedarhurst, replaces Joe Parlante as manager of the Town.

Solution Given Some Owners On Man Power

(*Continued from page 1*)

2," already applied to theatres, says "A trade or service primarily local in character which is required to maintain services necessary for the health, welfare and safety of the area, or services necessary to the conduct of essential activity," may be rated as "locally needed."

Theatres can obtain replacement workers in critical labor shortage areas once they get "essential" ratings through the United States Employment Service, and can also get a prohibition on their workers leaving their jobs for other work, even for essential industry, without certificates of availability from their employers or the local USES.

Procedure for theatres to obtain "essential" ratings, is as follows:

1. A committee of theatremen or their trade association files a formal request with the local WMC office that it be designated "locally needed."

2. After hearings by the local manpower advisory committee the area director makes a decision. It is subject to review by the regional director, but in practice the local ruling is seldom changed.

3. Designation as "locally needed" is made by the director. He directs the USES to give the same priority of service as to an essential industry; equal recruitment and placement services are made available to the local activity; it is covered by the regional employment stabilization plan.

4. Theatres, or other designated activities must file individual certificates of compliance to participate in the benefits of the rating.

Theatres Must Make Pledges

Theatres securing the "essential" rating must pledge that they will fully utilize all local sources of labor supply; employ workers at their highest skill; upgrade trainable employees, and set hiring specifications at a minimum sufficient to insure adequate job performance.

Further, the minimum wartime work week must be instituted which means compliance with 48-hour work week standards in areas where it has been instituted. Also wages must not be less than War Labor Board standards. But "luxury" services like car parking, check rooms and candy or refreshment stands might have to be dispensed with, it is pointed out by WMC officials.

"Local need," however, does not grant draft deferments, it is pointed out.

Director Ben Holmes Dies of Lung Infection

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 2.—Ben Holmes, 53, RKO director, died here today in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, of a lung infection. Born in Richmond, Va., he started his career as an actor and was at one time associated with William Brady as stage director.

Holmes became a screen director in 1927, joining Fox in that capacity. He moved to Universal in 1929 and went to RKO in 1931. Among his better-known pictures were "Top Hat," several "Saint" stories, "Little Orphan Annie" and "One Crowded Night."

ON DEC. 20TH

TRADESHOW 'DI

CARY GRANT. • JOHN GARFIELD in "DESTINATION TOKYO" with DANE CLARK • ROBERT HUTTON • WARNER ANDERSON • JOHN R

WARNERS WILL
TINATION TOKYO

WE ARE SERVING
NOTICE THIS FAR IN
ADVANCE BECAUSE
NO TRADE SHOW
WAS EVER MORE
IMPORTANT TO YOU!

• WILLIAM PRINCE • Directed by DELMER DAVES • Screen Play by Delmer Daves and Albert Maltz • From an Original Story by Steve Fisher • Music by Franz Waxman • Produced by JERRY WALD

Rodgers on Duals, Divorcement and Cancellation

(Continued from page 1)

except momentarily in some neighborhood situations as a result of extended playing time granted to a succession of releases in prior runs.

"I don't care what is done about divorcement of theatres. Divorcement would be the silliest. . . . But I don't care what they do."

"Metro has no big backlog of completed pictures that could be sold now. Our practice of selling in blocks of 10 and 12 pictures does not permit of any accumulation.

"We achieved the greatest circulation of our pictures during the past season in the company's history."

Says He Complained About Loose Films

(Continued from page 1)

Brown, manager of the supply department of Regal Films, said he had no knowledge of any warning by Col. Cooper. Coroner Smirle Lawson immediately issued an order to subpoena Col. Cooper as a witness tomorrow afternoon to give his version of the matter. Dr. Lawson brought out that only 11 exchanges in the United States were not one or two story buildings and his suggestion indicated that action would be taken in Canada to follow the same course.

Evidence today by Fire Marshal W. J. Scott and Professor Jocelyn Rogers of the University of Toronto agreed the fire started in the film vault in the basement but they could offer no direct evidence on how the fire started. Walter Windeyer, who was in the building when the fire started, swore the first of three explosions occurred before the automatic alarm bell sounded, indicating, he said, there had been no fire to set off the alarms before the first blast swept the building.

Loan Executives to Meet with Skouras

(Continued from page 1)

plans for the preparation of a press book, discussions with the Hollywood Victory Committee, final decision on a film program and general outlining of the industry's participation in the $14,000,000,000 drive, which is scheduled for Jan. 18 to Feb. 15.

Others attending will be Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator; S. H. Fabian, theatres division chairman; Ed. Schreiber, WAC publicity director, and John Flinn, WAC Hollywood division coordinator.

Better PRC Product Seen in Policy Move

(Continued from page 1)

than quantity. PRC is not transferring its headquarters here, although the studio will exercise greater influence in overall operations.

Rodgers Advocates Single Exhibitor Organization

(Continued from page 1)

it, the M-G-M executive declared that there should be some rapprochement among all exhibitor organizations which would give them an immediate united front on all vital issues. He pointed to the current exhibitor solidarity in opposition to Federal admission tax increases as an example of the practicability of coordinated exhibitor activity.

Favors Strong Exhibitor Group

"Exhibitor organizations and leaders," Rogers said, "are silly not to have one strong, national organization to speak for them and act for them on important topics. Their present diversified viewpoints contribute to ineffectual results within the industry and a foolish spectacle outside of it. We have public hearings, such as those on the Neely Bill, at which one exhibitor faction goes on record with a declaration that a proposed measure will be ruinous, only to have it countered by a statement from another exhibitor segment that the measure will be harmless or, even, beneficial. The net result is negative."

Rodgers' observations on exhibitor unity and strength followed by one week those of W. A. Steffes, long prominent in independent exhibitor activities, on the same subject. At the recent meeting of the Allied States board of directors in conjunction with the I.T.P.A. of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Steffes urged the expansion and solidification of Allied as the only practical method of attaining strength enough to effectively settle major exhibitor problems.

M-G-M Extending Aid

Discussing the business problems of some exhibitors who have not benefited from wartime spending, or who have lost business to wartime population shifts or for other reasons, Rodgers said that M-G-M is making continuing practical efforts to aid such exhibitors, even to the extent of sending business building experts to their aid. Rodgers conceded that the company's interest was not purely altruistic.

"No theatre," he said, "should be permitted to go out of business because of a condition that may be temporary. If we can save him, we keep a customer for the future. Lowering film rentals for distress cases is not the solution. More often than not they are the very ones who are paying the lowest rentals. A reduction wouldn't help. Ways must be found of curing the disease at the source—by finding methods of increasing the business of such theatres."

Rodgers defended M-G-M's policy of blind designations for its product, against which some exhibitor criticism has been levelled recently.

'Door Always Open'

"If the customer ever is hurt," he said, "my door always is open and, if he deserves an adjustment, he will get it. We stand ready at any time to sell a specific picture at a specific price to anyone, but only after we know what each picture is worth. Only one exhibitor organization opposed our policy on designations. Others, apparently, refused to join that one. That organization made no attempt to iron out its objections with us before airing its complaint."

The designation policy, Rodgers said, permits the M-G-M studio the greatest leeway possible in the production of top-grade pictures. The studio is not restricted to production of a limited number of top bracket pictures. It is not obliged to defer production of an important picture simply because all top bracket designations may have been made already, he said. In turn, as many pictures as the studio can turn out which merit the top bracket, can be given their proper designation by the sales department, he pointed out.

Metro does not sell its pictures on the basis of their production cost, Rodgers said. "We designate them where we think they belong," he said.

No Market for Small Films

Rodgers declared that it is difficult to make small pictures today and difficult to find a market for them if they are made. He viewed most of the company's forthcoming product during his recent visit to the studio and expressed the belief that the new pictures are "the most diversified and outstanding that M-G-M ever has offered." He singled out as especially promising "The White Cliffs of Dover," which he said is possibly the biggest picture from M-G-M since "The Big Parade." Others for which he claimed special merit were: the new Andy Hardy picture, "Madame Curie," "A Guy Named Joe," "America," "See Here, Private Hargrove," "Broadway Rhythm," "The Heavenly Body," "Swing Fever," "The Song of Russia," "The Cross of Lorraine" and "Cry 'Havoc'."

The new product and sales plans for it will be discussed at an M-G-M sales meeting in Chicago, starting Monday.

Joseph Chadwick Passes

BELLMAWR, N. J., Dec. 2.—Joseph D. Chadwick, 79, former vaudeville actor, died here Tuesday. Founder of the Chadwick Trio, comedy song and dance act, which included his wife and daughter, he toured for 25 years before retiring. He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. Ida May Levy of New York.

Martin Replaces Thomas

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 2.—Robert Martin, Paramount salesman in Des Moines, will replace Frank Thomas as a member of the local Paramount sales staff.

War Chest Quota Passed

DETROIT, Dec. 2. — Film industry here contributed $41,005, $2,405 above its quota, to the local war chest drive, Alex Schreiber, committee chairman, reports. Amount is $9,000 over last year's total. Drive committee included Frank Wetsman, Arthur Robinson, Joe Lenahan, Arvid Kanto, Sid Bowman, Erwin Pollard, Jay Frankel and Charlie Garner.

Chicago Newsreel Moves

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—Offices of All-American News, Negro newsreel, have been moved to 2901 Prairie Ave., this city.

Kuykendall Favors, Myers Is Against

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president, made the following comment here today regarding W. F. Rodgers' plea for one national exhibitor organization: "There was never a time since the MPTOA was first established in 1920 when one unified national league of all state and regional exhibitor associations, in which would be represented every reputable and responsible theatre owner, would not have been a tremendous advantage in protecting the exhibitors' interests and advancing the standard of business conduct and showmanship, settling disputes among ourselves within the organization and presenting a united front to outside attacks.

"MPTOA exhibitors have always supported this principle. Our organization's structure provides full representation for all types of theatres, home rule in local units and a means of effective cooperation with each other on national issues and problems. No one has devised or presented another plan for a national organization that would represent every theatre interest."

Abram F. Myers, general counsel of National Allied, made this comment to Rodgers' proposal: "I know of no exhibitor problems that could be solved by consolidation of independent exhibitor associations with circuit dominated organizations. Rodgers is evidently unfamiliar with cooperation of various groups on admission tax. While I value Rodgers' opinion on most subjects, I think he should devote himself to reforms in distribution practices and spend less time criticising exhibitor groups."

London Sees Ernst As Rank's Corporate

(Continued from page 1)

citing "In Which We Serve" as an example, are welcomed in independent theatres in America, and that a fight against British films is being conducted primarily by the major companies there.

Ernst, it is believed, is engaged in Rank's effort to acquire American film outlets, rumors concerning which continue to be plentiful here. The latest is that, having had bids rejected by Paramount and United Artists, Rank is now negotiating with RKO.

37 'Dimes' Chairmen Wire Acceptance

(Continued from page 1)

George M. Mann, San Francisco; Charles Skouras and Robert H. Poole, Los Angeles; Fred J. Dolle, Louisville; Harry Arthur, St. Louis; M. Silver, Pittsburgh; Sidney E. Samuelson, Philadelphia; J. Meyer Schine, Gloversville, N. Y.; Max M. Yellen, Buffalo; Jack Kirsch, Jules J. Rubel, Chicago; E. M. Fay, Providence; Charles Klein, Deadwood, S. D.; H. Workman, William C. Sear, Minneapolis; Walter Reade and D. Jacocks, New Jersey.

Henderson Named

TORONTO, Dec. 2—W. T. R. Henderson, formerly a manager of the Bank of Montreal, has been named director of licensing with the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

TWO ALL-TIME HIGHS

WITH millions of feet required by our Armed Forces for training and other military purposes, the total production of Eastman motion picture films has pushed into new high ground. And the all-around quality of this huge output has never been excelled. Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*
Fort Lee Chicago Hollywood

EASTMAN FILMS

'Girl Crazy' Is Big On $26,000 Take

CLEVELAND, Dec. 2.—"Girl Crazy," with a big $26,000 promises to be the only smash of the week. With only fair Thanksgiving business, the week's take was nothing to brag about. Of the holdovers, "Rosie O'Grady" was the only one to do real business. Estimates for this are $11,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 1:

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
ALLEN—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $8,500)
"Iron Major" (RKO)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. Average, $17,500)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,200. (Average, $3,000)
"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (No average as this is the first picture to play here at popular prices)
"Tarzan's Desert Victory" (RKO)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c and 85c Sunday and holidays) 7 days. Stage: Jerry Wald orchestra, with Wee Bonny Baker and Johnny Burke. Gross: $24,000. (Average, $22,000)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average, $17,500)
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $9,500)

'Happy Land' Opens In Iowa and Italy

Over 150,000 Iowans yesterday packed 61 theatres participating in the statewide world premiere of 20th Century-Fox's "Happy Land," MacKinlay Kantor's story with an Iowa background, the home office announced last night.

At the same time, 4,000 miles away, "somewhere on the Italian front," Gordon Gammack, Des Moines *Register and Tribune* war correspondent, presented the film, especially flown across for the occasion, to members of the Iowa Regiment stationed with the 5th Army. This is said to be the first time a screening for the armed forces has been effected simultaneously with a film's premiere in America.

'Stalingrad' Aided by Soviet Amity Groups

Paramount's release of the official Red Army film, "The City That Stopped Hitler—Heroic Stalingrad," is being aided in large cities by the cooperation of local chapters of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship in promoting the film, the company reports.

Local units of the parent organization cooperating with local exhibitors include the Massachusetts Council of American-Soviet Friendship in Boston, New Haven, Cleveland, Detroit, Tampa, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, New Orleans, Jacksonville, Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Denver, Des Moines, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Paterson and New Brunswick, N. J.

Crouch Finishes 30

Thirty more "Minoco Movies," band and song short reels, have been completed here for Soundies Distributing Co. by William Crouch, executive producer, who returned yesterday to Chicago headquarters. Crouch has signed with Ben Hersh of RCM Productions, Hollywood, to make 20 subjects.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Dec. 2

EVEN before he begins negotiations for a release, Producer-exhibitor W. R. Frank will take his picture "The Private Life of Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels" to Minnesota for its first test showing on Dec. 22 in his State Theatre at Owatonna, one of 17 he operates.

In addition to Frank, Alfred Zeisler, director, and Herbert O. Phillips, who scripted and did the original with Zeisler, will journey to Owatonna for the test before going on to New York to line up talent for Frank's next, "Springtime in Vienna." Frank plans to return here after the holidays to line up a releasing deal.

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Three Powells playing singing roles in different United Artists pictures were at work at one time on the General Service lot the other day. They were Dick Powell in Arnold Pressburger's "It Happened Tomorrow," Eleanor, who forsakes dancing for singing in Andrew Stone's "Sensations of 1944," and Jane, new singing star featured in Charles R. Roger's "Song of the Open Road."

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RKO Radio has signed Bryant Washburn, silent picture star, to a term deal and given him a featured role in "Elizabeth Kenny," starring Rosalind Russell. . . . Ann Gwynne has the feminine lead in Universal's "Anybody Here Seen Kelly?" . . . Lou Edelman's "At Night We Dream," Technicolor film starring Merle Oberon and Paul Muni, is before the cameras at Columbia with Charles Vidor directing.

'Maisie' and Dorsey Dual for $21,900

OMAHA, Dec. 2. — "Swing Shift Maisie," given a boost by Jimmy Dorsey and his band on the stage, recorded the best box office score here at the Paramount theatre since "This Is the Army," soaring to $21,900.

Estimated receipts for week ending Dec. 1-2:

"The Iron Major" (RKO)
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
BRANDEIS — (1,200) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $7,100. (Average, $5,500)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"The Good Fellows" (Para.)
OMAHA — (2,000) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $8,400. (Average, $6,900)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
"Adventure in Iraq" (W. B.)
ORPHEUM — (3,000) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $9,000)
"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Jimmy Dorsey and his band on the stage. Gross: $21,900. (Average, $9,800)

Medal to Lt. Holder

First Lt. Maxwell R. Holder, U. S. Army Air Forces of Charlotte, N. C. and former M-G-M booker in that city, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross by Lt. Gen. George C. Kennedy, commander of the Fifth Air Force, operating somewhere in the Southwest Pacific area, M-G-M announced here yesterday. Lt. Holder was cited for "extraordinary achievement while participating in operational flight missions in the Southwest Pacific."

Boston Business Drops to Average

BOSTON, Dec. 2.—Business was a trifle "off" from the preceding week, although still better than one year ago. "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" and "Submarine Alert" at the big Metropolitan Theatre continued to do good business as did "Girl Crazy" and "Something About a Soldier" at the two Loew's houses.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 1:

"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $28,100. (Average, $28,300)
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,980) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $19,300)
"Doughboys in Ireland" (Col.)
RKO BOSTON—(3,800) (44c-55c-65c-85c). Stage show: Ink Spots and Ted Fiorito. Gross: $26,700. (Average, $26,800)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,200) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $17,100. (Average, $17,000)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"Something About a Soldier" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $24,000. (Average, $24,200)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
"Murder on the Waterfront" (WB)
PARAMOUNT — (1,400) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $8,400. (Average $8,600)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
"Murder on the Waterfront" (W.B.)
FENWAY—(1,087) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $5,600. (Average, $6,100)

'Girl Crazy' Tops In Buffalo: $21,000

BUFFALO, Dec. 2.—"Girl Crazy," proving Mickey Rooney's and Judy Garland's continued popularity, will gross $21,000 to lead here at the Great Lakes.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 4:

"Let's Face It" (Para.)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. (Dr. I. Q. Monday night). Gross: $16,000. (Average, $16,500)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average, $16,400)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. 2nd week, moveover. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $9,500)
"The North Star" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $10,600)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
"Sleepy Lagoon" (Rep.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $10,500)

Thomas P. Gunn Dies

Thomas Patrick Gunn, 71, character actor, died Tuesday of bronchial pneumonia at his home in Brooklyn. He was a veteran of vaudeville and the stage and at one time appeared in silent films. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Rose Hazlin Gunn, and a daughter, Patricia Ann.

Strauss Joins Para.

Theodore Strauss, Jr., film reporter and feature writer for the New York *Times* for several years, will leave for the Coast around Jan. 1 to start as a scenario writer for Paramount.

Screenings Postponed

Tradeshowings of M-G-M's "The Heavenly Body" and "Song of Russia," originally scheduled for Dec. 11-14, have been postponed, the company announced here yesterday.

Short Subject Review

"Naval Log of Victory"

(March of Time)

March of Time comes up with a stirring graphic story of the U. S. Navy overcoming the disastrous Pearl Harbor defeat to emerge triumphant in the Pacific, keeping open supply lines to Allied Nations despite the war in both hemispheres. "Naval Log of Victory" is a tribute to Admiral Chester Nimitz for accomplishing a well-nigh impossible feat, that of building up a nearly broken Pacific Naval force. There are excellent shots of actual battle with particularly impressive shots of night fighting. Commentary is interesting and absorbing. Direction and photography are excellent. Running time, 19½ mins.

'Crazy House' Leads With Big $22,750

DENVER, Dec. 2.—Down-town theatres with first runs and moveovers are both doing nicely. "Crazy House" on a dual at the Denver led with a reported gross of $22,750 while "Spitfire" at the Paramount was second with $17,100.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 29-Dec. 1:

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"The Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (30c-40c-50c-60c) Moveover. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $3,000).
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"The Falcon and The Co-eds" (RKO)
BROADWAY — (1,040) (30c-40c-50c-60c) Moveover. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $2,500).
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
DENVER—(2,600) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,750. (Average: $13,000).
"True to Life" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (30c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $7,000).
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(740) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,250. (Average: $3,000).
"Spitfire" (RKO)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT — (2,200) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,100. (Average: $9,000).
"Princess O'Rourke" (W. B.)
"Find the Blackmailer" (W. B.)
RIALTO—(900) (40c-60c-65c) Moveover Gross: $8,050. (Average: $4,600).

'Girl Crazy' Is Big In Providence, Too

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 2.—"Girl Crazy" zoomed to a fine $23,000 at Loew's State, as all houses, helped by advanced holiday prices, did well.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 1:

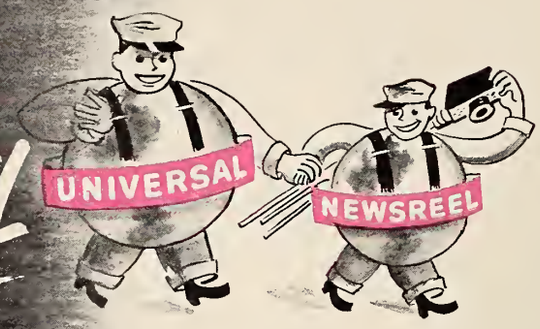
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"Victory Through Air Power" (U. A.)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (30c-40c-50c-55c) days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $12,900).
"True to Life" (Para.)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
STRAND—(2,200) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross $10,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (30c-40c-50c) days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $15,500).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,000).
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
CARLTON—(1,526) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days 3rd week, moved over after two weeks at Majestic. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,900
"Under Two Flags" (20th-Fox)
FAY'S—(1,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. On stage: Roy Smeck, Al & Connie Roth, Brian O'Mara, Bruce Morgan, Phillips & Killeen Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500).
"Mr. Muggs Steps Out" (Mono.)
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (65c) 4 days On stage: Tommy Tucker's Orchestra Gross: $10,000. (Average: 3 days, $8,000).

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Nov. 6	SILVER CITY RAIDERS Russell Hayden Adele Mara O—(5202)	(First Block) ABOVE SUSPICION D—90 mins. (402)	MYSTERY OF THE 13th GUEST Dick Purcell D—(211)	(First Block) LET'S FACE IT Bob Hope Betty Hutton M—76 mins. (4301)	THE DEVIL RIDERS Buster Crabbe O—(460)		(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C—(405)	GUADALCANAL DIARY Wm. Bendix Lloyd Nolan D (412)		SON OF DRACULA Robert Paige Louise Allbritton—D (8013)	FIND THE BLACKMAILER Jerome Cowan Faye Emerson D—(306)
Nov. 13	RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE Nina Foch Bela Lugosi D	BEST FOOT FORWARD Lucille Ball M—94 mins. (405) (Technicolor)	NEARLY EIGHTEEN Gale Storm Bill Henry D—61 mins. (226)	TRUE TO LIFE Mary Martin Franchot Tone Dick Powell C—94 mins. (4303)		HERE COMES ELMER Al Pearce Dale Evans C—(303)	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D—(401)	BATTLE OF RUSSIA (U .S. Government Feature) 80 mins. (414)		THE MAD GHOUL Evelyn Ankers David Bruce—D (8038)	NORTHERN PURSUIT Errol Flynn Julie Bishop D—(307)
Nov. 20		DR. GILLESPIE'S CRIMINAL CASE Lionel Barrymore D—89 mins. (407)	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43) M—(210)	HOSTAGES Luise Rainer Arturo de Cordova Paul Lukas D—88 mins. (4305)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN BOSS OF RAWHIDE O—(452) HARVEST MELODY M—(402)	MYSTERY BROADCAST D—(304) OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY O—(376) DEERSLAYER Bruce Kellogg O—67 mins. (306)	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C—(402)	DANCING MASTERS Laurel and Hardy C—63 mins. (413)		NEVER A DULL MOMENT The Ritz Brotherss Frances Langford Mary Beth Hughes (8030)	
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal D—(5017)	GIRL CRAZY Mickey Rooney Judy Garland C—99 mins. (409)	TEXAS KID Johnny Mack Brown O—(351)	THE GOOD FELLOWS Cecil Kellaway Helen Walker James Brown C—70 mins. (4302)		DRUMS OF FU MANCHU (Adapted from Serial) Henry Brandon D—(305)	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D—(403)	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)		HIS BUTLER'S SISTER Deanna Durbin Pat O'Brien Franchot Tone D—(8004)	OLD ACQUAINTANCE Bette Davis Miriam Hopkins D—110 mins. (308)
Dec. 4	THE HEATS ON Victor Moore William Gaxton Mae West Hazel Scott	LASSIE COME HOME (410) Roddy MacDowall D (Technicolor)	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer) O—56 mins. (361)	TORNADO Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—83 mins. (4304)		CANYON CITY Don "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O TUMBLING TUMBLEWEEDS Gene Autry (Re-Issue) O—(2308) IN OLD OKLAHOMA John Wayne Martha Scott O—102 mins.	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C—(404)	HAPPY LAND Don Ameche Frances Dee Ann Rutherford 75 mins. (415)		SO'S YOUR UNCLE Billie Burke Elyse Knox Donald Woods C—(8042)	(Re-Issues) CRIME SCHOOL Humphrey Bogart Dead End Kids 86 mins. (327)
Dec. 11	THE CRIME DOCTOR'S STRANGEST CASE Warner Baxter Rose Hobart Lynn Merrick	SALUTE TO THE MARINES Wallace Beery Fay Bainter D—(401) (Technicolor)	MR. MUG STEPS OUT East Side Kids D—64 mins. (301)	(Special Release) THE CITY THAT STOPPED HITLER—HEROIC STALINGRAD 58 mins. (4331)			(Second Block) THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)			SHE'S FOR ME David Bruce Grace McDonald George Dolenz D—(8041)	GIRLS ON PROBATION Jane Bryan Ronald Reagan 63 mins. (328)
Dec. 18	KLONDIKE KATE Tom Neal Ann Savage	SWING SHIFT MAISIE (404) Ann Sothern C—86 mins.	SMART GUY Rick Vallin D—63 mins. (227)	(Second Block) RIDING HIGH (Technicolor) Dorothy Lamour Dick Powell Victor Moore M—89 mins. (4307)	THE DRIFTER Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John (461) JIVE JUNCTION Dickie Moore Tina Thayer M—65 mins. (407)	PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA Ruth Terry Robert Livingston C Wally Vernon RAIDERS OF SUNSET PASS O—56 mins.	GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)			CALLING DR. DEATH Lon Chaney Patricia Morrison Ramsey Ames D	
Dec. 25	SWING OUT THE BLUES Bob Haymes Lynn Merrick COWBOY IN THE CLOUDS Charles Starrett Walter "Dub" Taylor	ADVENTURES OF TARTU (406) Robert Donat Valerie Hobson D—103 mins.		NO TIME FOR LOVE Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Ilka Chase C—83 mins. (4309)		WHISPERING FOOTSTEPS John Hubbard D—56 mins. OH. MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Frank Albertson C—69c mins.	GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)	THE GANG'S ALL HERE Carmen Miranda Alice Faye James Ellison 103 mins. (416) (Technicolor)		MOONLIGHT IN VERMONT Gloria Jean Fay Helm Sidney Miller Ray Malone D	
Jan. 1	WHAT A WOMAN Rosalind Russell Brian Aherne Willard Parker D	YOUNG IDEAS Susan Peters (408) Mary Astor D—77 mins.	SULTAN'S DAUGHTER Ann Corio Charles Butterworth C—64 mins.	HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith John Litel C—73 mins. (4306)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN GUNSMOKE MESA James Newill (453)	CALIFORNIA JOE Don "Red' Barry Helen Talbot Wally Vernon O	GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)			GUNGO HO Randolph Scott Alan Curtis David Bruce Noah Beery, Jr. D	
Jan. 8	HEY ROOKIE Ann Miller Joe Besser Larry Parks Joe Sawyer C	THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER D—103 mins. (411) I DOOD IT D—102 mins. (403)	RAIDERS OF THE BORDER Johnny Mack Brown O—(352) "SWEETHEART OF THE U. S. A. Una Merkel		CAREER GIRL Frances Langford M	PRIDE OF THE PLAINS Bob Livingston Smiley Burnette O	THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D—(410)			SING A JINGLE Allan Jones June Vincent Samuel S. Hinds 62 mins. M	
Jan. 15		WHISTLING IN BROOKLYN Red Skelton Ann Rutherford C—87 mins. (412)	WOMEN IN BONDAGE Gail Patrick D—71 mins. (304) WHERE ARE YOUR CHILDREN Jackie Cooper D—72 mins. (302)	MINESWEEPER Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—67 mins. (4308)	NABONGA Buster Crabbe Fifi D'Orsay Barton MacLane		NORTH STAR Anne Baxter Walter Huston Dana Andrews D—105 mins. (451)			ALI BABA AND THE 40 THIEVES (in Technicolor) Maria Montez Jon Hall Terhan Bey	

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama, (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses.]

Wonders are performed in getting out the NEWSREEL



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This is No. 1 of a series of advertisements about Universal Newsreel.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 107 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1943 | TEN CENTS

Hicks Advises OWI on Films For Overseas

Will Serve as Consultant For Liberated Areas

The Office of War Information will be advised on distribution of American motion pictures in liberated countries abroad by John W. Hicks, vice-president in charge of foreign affairs of Paramount Pictures, it was learned at the weekend.

John W. Hicks

Hicks has agreed to serve in the capacity of consultant to the overseas motion picture bureau of the OWI, following a request made to Carl Milliken, in charge of foreign relations of the

(Continued on page 8)

Frank Walker Hits Postal Increases

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—The House-revised postal rate increases that would have affected every branch of business and other industries were seen as definitely out of the tax bill following representations Friday by Postmaster General Frank C. Walker that a reduction rather than expansion of postal revenues was likely to result.

Walker told the Senate Finance Committee that the experience of the Post Office Department has been that every increase in rates has been followed by a reduction in the use of the service, and expressed definite opposition to any rates that would make his

(Continued on page 8)

PRC Increases Its Budget on Features

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Producers Releasing Corp. will increase its budget for features produced during the remainder of the 1943-44 season, it was revealed here at the weekend, following conferences between Leon Fromkess, vice-president, and Leo J. McCarthy, general sales manager. McCarthy has recently taken over the

(Continued on page 8)

Extort Trial Defense To End This Week; Mobsters Silent

Testimony in the defense of seven Capone gang members from Chicago and Louis Kaufman, of Newark, in the $1,000,000 extortion trial taking place in Federal Court here is expected to be completed this week. It is not believed that any of the defendants, with the possible exception of Kaufman, will take the witness stand.

William Bioff, convicted labor racketeer, was described in Federal Court on Friday as a strike-breaking agent of film producers, rather than the scourge of the film industry. Herbert Sorrell, business agent of the Studio Painters' Union in Hollywood, and head of the A.F.L. group of film craft unions, drew this picture as a witness for the defense in the trial.

Sorrell described how the IATSE, of which Bioff was the boss on the Coast as the special representative of former President George E. Browne,

(Continued on page 8)

Senators Cite Films' Fight on Delinquency

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5. — What the film industry is doing to help combat juvenile delinquency was exhibited to members of the Pepper investigating subcommittee at the weekend, eliciting from the Florida senator and from other senators statements recognizing the importance of motion pictures in this field.

On Friday, the sub-committee saw "Children of Mars," one of the RKO "This Is America" series dealing

(Continued on page 8)

See Tax Decision By End of the Week

Washington, Dec. 5.—The Senate Finance Committee is expected to report out its new revenue bill sometime late this week. Hearings probably will be concluded tomorrow and the committee will go into executive session immediately.

Sam Gillette, head of Inter-Mountain Theatres Association, and spokesman also for the Rocky Mountain area theatres, was heard by the committee Friday in opposition to the proposed increase in the admission tax. Observers here feel that exhibitors have about an even chance of winning a decrease.

Theatre Equipment 'Streamlining' Starts

New "streamlined" WPB rulings on equipment under the new limitation order L-325 become effective today.

The new regulations supersede all existing orders and will be administered by Allen G. Smith, chief of the theatre equipment section of WPB. Hereafter equipment dealers must secure WPB authority to lend or sell any equipment except for the loan of equipment to a theatre for an emergency period not to exceed 16 weeks.

New controls are imposed upon the manufacture of equipment but do not affect the situation—since the WPB does not permit the sale of new equipment except to replace installations broken down or beyond repair.

Majors Financing and Bidding for New Plays

New and marked activities by major motion picture companies is discernible in the stage-play field with two new plays financed, two purchased and three the subjects of spirited bidding and others in various stages of production.

Twentieth Century-Fox has a financial interest in Jed Harris' "The World's Full of Girls," which opens at the Royale Theatre here tonight. Play by Nunally Johnson is based on Thomas Bell's book, "Till I Come Back to You." Warner Bros. has secured a substantial interest in Brock Pemberton's "Pillar to Post," which opens at the Playhouse in New York tomorrow.

Columbia is reported to have pur-

(Continued on page 8)

Moss Warns Owners To Watch for Fires

Stricter observance of fire regulations and a more constant thorough inspection of theatres by theatre managers or their assistants to prevent a repetition of recent theatre fires, was urged by License Commissioner Paul Moss at a special emergency meeting attended by New York circuit executives, theatre managers and assistant managers at the Ziegfeld Theatre here on Friday morning.

Citing the recent fires at the Criterion, Victoria and Trans-Lux theatres on Broadway, Moss further cautioned the exhibitors to watch for acts of vandalism.

Exchanges Turn to USES For Workers

Shortage of Help Acute In Nearly All Areas

For the first time in the war emergency, film exchanges are turning to United States Employment Service field offices almost everywhere to fill manpower needs, it was learned at the weekend.

Exchange officials of practically all distributors are already feeling the pinch caused by Army induction of employes who are fathers, and with the announcement last week by Selective Service officials that more and more fathers will be drafted starting with the new year, exchange heads expect to become increasingly dependent upon the USES to fill manpower needs.

The War Manpower Commission

(Continued on page 8)

Independent Guilds May Seek New Int'l.

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Possible development of another international film union among independent guilds in studios was seen in Screen Publicists Guild's action last night, authorizing the executive committee to seek international affiliation. Resolution did not limit affiliation to the AFL, as previously indicated, but left it the prerogative for seeking affiliation with any professional guild of international scope, or the formulation of a new international with other independent guilds here. They include screen readers, art directors, film editors, script clerks, and the Screen Writers' Guild.

Loew's Join List Of Bonus Payers

David Bernstein, treasurer of Loew's, announced at the weekend that the company had made application to the War Labor Board for permission to extend its usual Christmas bonus to include employees receiving over $40 and up to $50 per week, affecting an additional 350 workers. For years Loew's has given a bonus of two weeks' pay, not exceeding $50, to em-

(Continued on page 8)

Personal Mention

FRED C. QUIMBY, head of M-G-M's short subject department, arrived in New York at the weekend and left for Chicago yesterday to attend a Midwest sales meeting. He will return here Thursday.

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J. M. FRANKLIN, president of Franklin & Herschorn Theatres, St. John, N. B., will leave for Miami Beach about Dec. 15 to spend the Winter convalescing from a recent illness.

•

L. KERR, 20th Century-Fox exchange booker at St. John, N. B., has been given special recognition by the Red Cross for his sixth donation to the blood bank there.

•

J. J. O'LEARY, general manager of Comerford Theatres, was a "captain" in last week's special gifts division of the Scranton, Pa., War Community Chest drive.

•

M. HERSCHORN, vice-president of Franklin & Herschorn Theatres, St. John, N. B., and MRS. HERSCHORN have returned to Halifax, N. S., after a trip to Montreal.

•

JULIA SULLIVAN, secretary to ROBERT GILLHAM, Paramount's ad-publicity director, observed a birthday last weekend.

•

PHIL KEENAN, general manager of Hillman Periodicals, publishers of *Movieland* and other magazines, has returned from a trip to Rochester and Buffalo.

•

ALLEN USHER, Paramount Midwest district manager, has left Chicago for a three-week vacation at Excelsior Springs.

•

LT. FRANK MANENTE, formerly of the Loew Poli, New Haven, is now in charge of recruiting for the WACS in the Greenville, Texas area.

•

BENEDICT BOGEAUS, United Artists producer, and MRS. BOGEAUS (MIMI FORSAYTHE), will leave Hollywood for New York Dec. 17.

•

J. J. FITZGIBBONS, president of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., has returned from an inspection trip through the Maritime provinces.

•

GEORGE BROWN, Paramount studio publicity director, will arrive in New York today from Hollywood.

•

M. J. SIEGEL, president of Republic's production subsidiary, returned to Hollywood over the weekend.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO's general sales manager, left over the weekend for a tour of Southern exchanges.

•

M. BERNSTEIN, president of B. & L. Theatres, St. John, N. B., was a Montreal Film Row visitor last week.

•

WALT DISNEY is expected here from the Coast late this week.

(*More Personals on page 6*)

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

BILL RODGERS, in advocating a single national exhibitor organization at his meeting with trade press representatives last Thursday, shied away from a query as to how such an objective might be accomplished.

One of the major obstacles to unification of exhibitor organizations is the necessity for dissolution of the existing ones or their loss of identity and significance through consolidation. A possible procedure which would avert just that, might be found in the traditional American way—the ballot.

For the sake of illustration, we will liken Allied States to the Republican party, not because the 20th Century-Fox board chairman says that party is in the ascendancy, but simply because Abram Myers came to the industry in a Republican administration from the post of a Federal Trade Commissioner. Then MPTOA, also for the sake of illustration, becomes the Democratic party, if only because Ed Kuykendall is its multiterm president, and would have been shooed out of his native Mississippi long ago if he wasn't a Democrat in good standing. An election is held with theatre operators as the voters, entitled to one vote for each theatre owned or operated. Jim Mason's De Luxe at Cherry Valley, O., would cast as potent a ballot as Gus Eyssell's Music Hall in Radio City.

• •

If Allied won the election it would become the exhibitors' "administration party" for a term of one or more years. MPTOA would not dissolve nor, even, become inactive. It would enjoy the status of an organized minority until such time as it was victorious in a popular election and itself became the "administration party." During the term of the elected organization it would enjoy the status of official spokesman for the exhibitors, giving them a united front on all questions of public policy affecting exhibition.

A congress would be elected in which the non-administration organization would be represented for joint action on both internal and external policies. Conflicting exhibitor viewpoints could be reconciled from within before they had a chance to break into the open. Yet existing exhibitor organizations could be preserved; their virility, even, could be strengthened by the challenge of a regular possibility of victory or defeat at the polls. Simple enough, isn't it?

• •

News headlines, particularly in London, are heavy with the reported maneuverings of J. Arthur Rank to acquire an interest in a large American film company, presumably any one will do—so many have been mentioned—in order to assure distribution here for his post-war product. Someone ought to tell him to look in that 1938 filing cabinet. There's a 25 per cent interest in Universal in there that's his; all his.

• •

Reading *Motion Picture Herald's* recent tabulation of arbitration cases won by exhibitors in the clearance category alone set us to speculating about the soundness of those criticisms of arbitration which emanate so frequently from exhibition quarters. How many of those doing the sounding off actually have had experience with a case of their own before the arbitration tribunals? How many of them who had such experience and were soured by it, had meritorious cases to begin with?

It is difficult to imagine an exhibitor who succeeded in having clearance over his theatre reduced by 50 per cent (and the *Herald* tabulation showed that more than 100 did) joining that chorus which is calling for the junking of the industry arbitration system. Is arbitration too costly? The answer to that can be given only by those exhibitors with meritorious cases who won their awards. Is it too time-consuming? Then what is the alternative? Are the law courts speedier? Is it unfair that legal experts of the decree companies oppose an exhibitor without counsel or with inexperienced counsel? What have these 150 exhibitors who won awards or attained acceptable settlements to say about that? Is arbitration too restricted? Undoubtedly so. But that can be corrected without junking a system that has benefited so many in its trial period.

Coming Events

Dec. 6-7—M-G-M district manage and home office representativ meeting, Blackstone Hotel, Ch cago.

Dec. 6-8—Industry WAC war lo executives meeting in Los A geles.

Dec. 7—NEIC Service Flag dedic tion, New York.

Dec. 9—Circuit bookers' lunchec Piccadilly Hotel, New York.

Dec. 9—Cinema Lodge B'Nai B'ri meeting, Hotel Piccadilly, N York.

Dec. 12 — Reelfellows Electic Blackstone Hotel, Chicago.

Dec. 12-18—20th-Fox district mar gers' meeting, New York.

Dec. 17—Quarterly meeting of t council of Actors' Equity, Ho Astor, New York.

Jan. 12—Max Reinhardt memor program, Hollywood.

Jan. 18-Feb. 15—Fourth War Lo Drive.

Jan. 24-30—"March of Dimes" ca paign.

Feb. 5—Annual dance, Press Ph tographers' association of N York, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

United Artists Sales Meeting at Columbu

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 5.—Cincinn Detroit and Cleveland sales will represented at a United Artists sa meeting to be held here Dec. 10 at Neil House. New product a sales policies will be discussed.

Scheduled to attend from Det are: Moe Dudelson, Ralph Form Sid Bowman and L. Weingard from Cincinnati: Harris Dudels Don Galvin, Mitchell Bachschla and Jack Finberg; from Clevela Morris Orr, Lester Dowdell, I Geiger, Matt Goodman and Jack La rence; from Pittsburgh: M. Ma Dave Brown, Harry Rees, Willi Scott and Jimmy Nash.

Fitzgerald Becomes Warner News Edit

John Fitzgerald, veteran newspap man and newsreel editor rejoins M Blumenstock's publicity staff at W ner Bros. here today as general n editor.

In addition to his former associat with the Warner publicity departm Fitzgerald was at one time a mem of the Steve Hannagan publicity ganization.

Rodgers in Chicago For M-G-M Meeti

CHICAGO, Dec. 5. — William Rodgers, sales manager and a n ber of other M-G-M home o officials are due here from New Y today for a meeting of district m agers and home office representat to be held tomorrow through Wed day at the Blackstone Hotel.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, President and Editor-in-Chief; Colvin Brown, Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Executive Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Su and holidays by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York, 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpuhco, York." Martin Quigley, President; Colvin Brown, Vice-President; Red Kann, Vice-President; T. J. Sullivan, Secretary; Sherwin Kane, Executive Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, A tising Manager; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue, Oscar Lundy, Correspondent; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Lo Bureau, 4 Golden Square, London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." All contents copyrighted 1943 by Quigley Publishing Company, Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac and Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

TOGETHER AGAIN
IN A NEW TRIUMPH!

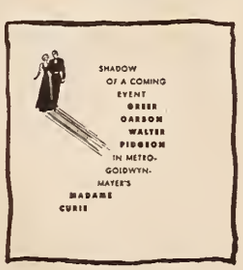
Greer Garson
Walter Pidgeon
Madame Curie

A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PRODUCTION

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL—DEC. 16th

The teaser ads
Tell one and all
It's coming to
The Music Hall

Also in Los Angeles where it opens in 4 theatres on Dec. 16th. Simultaneous World Premiere with New York's Radio City Music Hall receives fan-fare worthy of the year's greatest coming attraction



GREER GARSON • WALTER PIDGEON in "MADAME CURIE" • Directed by MERVYN LEROY • Produced by SIDNEY FRANKLIN
With Henry Travers • Albert Bosserman • Robert Wolker • C. Aubrey Smith • Dame May Whitty • Victor Francen • Elsa Bassermon
Reginald Owen • Van Johnson • Margaret O'Brien • Screen Play by Paul Osborn and Paul H. Rameou • Based an the Book
"Modome Curie" by Eve Curie • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

War Bonds for Christmas Gifts!

MICKEY ROONEY • JUDY GARLAND in "GIRL CRAZY" with Gil Stratton • Robert E. Strickland • "Rags" Ragland • June Allyson • Nancy Walker • Guy Kibbee • TOMMY DORSEY and his Orchestra • Screen Play by Fred F. Finklehoffe • Based Upon Musical Play "Girl Crazy" by Guy Bolton and Jack McGowan • Music by George Gershwin • Lyrics by Ira Gershwin Directed by NORMAN TAUROG • Produced by ARTHUR FREED • An M-G-M Picture.

War B

"And a long run everywhere!"

It's going like C-R-A-Z-Y! Off to a runaway start! Seattle, the first date, broke all records for 12 years! And now box-offices everywhere are going c-r-a-z-y over "Girl Crazy". Yippee Mickey! Whoopee Judy! Advertised in national magazines! Advertised on the air waves!

Personal Mention

(Other Personals on page 2)

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, returned from Washington at the weekend.

•

R. G. MARCH, exchange manager for 20th Century-Fox at St. John, N. B., has been named chairman of a new juvenile recreation committee in that city.

•

LILYAN HERSKOVITZ, secretary to NED E. DEPINET, president of RKO Radio, will leave Dec. 15 to wed SGT. LOUIS GETTERMAN in San Francisco, Dec. 19.

•

WILLIAM PERLBERG, 20th-Fox producer of "The Song of Bernadette," arrived here from the Coast at the weekend.

•

MILT HOFFMAN of Paramount's exploitation department has been inducted and will leave for Camp Upton Thursday.

•

PATRICIA REIS today will celebrate her 21st anniversary with M-G-M as assistant to HOWARD DIETZ.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, head of Malco Theatres, will leave New York today for Memphis.

•

DAVID PALFREYMAN of the MPPDA, returned from Washington at the weekend.

•

ALFRED HITCHCOCK arrived here at the weekend from the Coast.

More Enemy Film Patents Are Seized

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Several hundred additional patents owned by enemy nationals, including five relating to motion pictures owned by citizens of Germany, have been taken over by the Alien Property Custodian, it was disclosed here at the weekend.

The film patents covered a projecting apparatus, a film feeding mechanism, a film developing device, a film developing spool and a cinematographic camera.

Freeman, Unionists, OPA to Meet on Gas

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Facing the threat of further curtailment of the gasoline supply for Western motorists, the president of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, Y. Frank Freeman, has called a meeting of studio union heads for tomorrow night to confer with OPA executives on ways and means of effecting required conservation without crippling the studios. The meeting is the first in a series in which representatives of all branches of the industry will describe their problems to the OPA.

To Mark Films' 50th Year

Preparations have been started by Ralph Staub for a special 'Screen Snapshots' subject to mark the 50th anniversary of motion pictures. Columbia will release the film in Feb., 1944, on the anniversary.

Two Deny Rosyl's Anti-Trust Charges

Rosewelt Realty Co., Inc., and Leon Rosenblatt, defendants in the Sherman anti-trust suit brought against 23 film companies and circuits by Rosyl Amusement Corp., operator of the Cameo, Jersey City, N. J., filed answers in Federal court on Friday denying all charges and demanding dismissal of the complaint.

Specifically, the two defendants denied that they are favored customers of defendant distributors, nor have they received special privileges or preferments or priorities as far as first runs are concerned.

Seven Circuits Named

Seven theatre circuit defendants named in the complaint are Warners, Skouras, Loew's, Stanley Co., Metropolitan Playhouses, RKO and Rosewelt Realty Co., operators of 21 theatres in the Jersey City area. Other defendants are 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, M-G-M, United Artists, Columbia, Republic, Monogram, Warner Bros., Universal, and MPPDA.

The complaint charges that independent exhibitors in the territory must accept products of the defendant distributors under terms that they arbitrarily dictate, or else go out of business.

Seek Bill of Particulars

After the denials were filed, notices were filed by several of the remaining defendants that they will seek on Dec. 10, an order directing the plaintiff corporation to supply them with a detailed bill of particulars concerning the alleged restraint and for an extension of time in which to file answers.

Metropolitan Playhouses filed notice that it will seek dismissal of the complaint as far as it is concerned on the ground that there is no general issue as to any material facts and that it is entitled to summary judgment.

Smith, Altec Guest At District Meeting

Altec Service's final session of a three-day division managers' conference, held at the Park Central Hotel, Friday, concerned discussion on credit, contracts, routines and procedures and was followed by a luncheon given for Allen G. Smith, chief of the amusement section of the War Production Board, at which he clarified the recently announced WPB limitation order L-325 covering the distribution of 35-projection equipment and accessories. Session closed with a dinner at the Union League Club Friday night.

Monogram Party For Gale Storm

Monogram gave a cocktail party for Gale Storm, feminine lead of "Where Are Your Children?" at the Hampshire House on Friday, attended by company executives and members of the press.

Among those present were Steve Broidy, Harry Thomas, Lou Lifton, Madeline White, P. S. Harrison, Roy Chartier, Sherwin Kane, Al Steen, Jack Harrison, Chick Lewis, James Cron, Tom Kennedy, James Ivers, Herman Schleier, William Formby, and others.

Tarawa Newsreel a 'Knock-out': Davis

Washington, Dec. 5.—Newsreel of the Tarawa and Makin Island battle will be a "knock-out," it was declared at the week-end by OWI Director Elmer Davis.

The work of the Navy Public Relations staff in handling news and pictures of the Gilbert Islands campaign, Davis said, is "one of the best jobs done by any Government department since the war began."

The five newsreels will release the pictures tomorrow.

Resignations Climax Chicago IA Meeting

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—Resignation of all officers and three members of the board of directors climaxed a long meeting of the Chicago Operators' Local 110 here Friday. Those resigning were: Peter Shayne, president; Glenn Sweeney, vice-president; Clarence Jalas, secretary-treasurer; John Smith, business agent, and Joseph Bernstein, James Cisco and George Karg, members of the board.

Richard Walsh, president of the IATSE, who presided at the meeting, said that the state of emergency which he declared three weeks ago, would continue until the union is being run to the satisfaction of the membership. Nominations for new officers will be held in January and elections in February.

Resignations Follow

Resignations followed bitter quarreling between officers and members of the union. Secret meetings had been held and petitions drawn up, with charges finally being aired in a suit for an estimated $5,000,000 which the members claim to have lost as a result of conspiracy between union officers, members of the "Capone gang" and theatre owners.

Government attorneys in the New York extortion trial have accused Smith of kicking back half his salary to Willie Bioff, Nick Circella and others.

Among charges made during the meeting were that some projectionists had been forced to work for less than union scale, largely in smaller theatres.

Crescent Anti-Trust Hearing Is Deferred

NASHVILLE, Dec. 5.—In the Government's anti-trust suit against Crescent Amusement Co. and affiliates, Judge Elmer D. Davies has issued an order extending the time for completing and transmitting records in the case for the Supreme Court hearing at Washington, from Dec. 7 to Feb. 7.

William D. Waller is preparing an appeal for the defendant, while the plaintiff's filing is being assembled by James Galloway, clerk of the District court.

'Inn' Re-booked by Army

"Holiday Inn" has been rebooked to play the entire U. S. Army circuit, numbering more than 1,100 post theatres for the holidays, Paramount revealed at the weekend.

Para. Officers Must Answer to Charges

Under an order signed by Federal Judge Murray Hulbert here at the weekend, attorneys for Joseph Cooper, Colorado circuit owner, will proceed with the examination of Paramount officials, at a date to be fixed, in connection with Paramount's suit for a determination of the ownership of three Colorado theatre circuits: Rialto Inc., J. H. Cooper Enterprises of Colorado and Interstate Theatre Corp.

Paramount claims that it entered into an agreement with Cooper for joint acquisition of the three circuits and that all of the stock of the corporations was placed in Cooper's name. Cooper has denied Paramount's claim to ownership of any of the securities.

Jury Trial Denied

At the same time Federal Judge John C. Knox denied Cooper's demand for a jury trial in his $250,000 recovery action against Paramount which is based on Cooper's claim that Paramount committed certain acts in 1937 which resulted in his payment of $100,000 in taxes to the Government and that Paramount altered the books of the Lincoln Theatre Corp. of Nebraska in which he and Paramount were partners. Cooper is seeking $150,000 in that action for alleged damage to his business reputation and credit, plus the $100,000.

Cooper's demand for a jury trial was opposed by Albert C. Bickford, Paramount attorney. Judge Knox ruled that the involved litigation was too intricate and the questions involved are too legalistic for a jury to consider. The case will be tried before a Federal judge.

Disney Gives Dinner For RKO Official

Walt Disney Productions gave a dinner to RKO sales, theatre and other executives at Toot's Shors last week prior to a re-screening of "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" which will be re-issued by RKO around Jan. 1. William Levy, Disney sales manager, was host.

Among those present were: Ned E. Depinet, Edward L. Alperson, Robert Mochrie, Harold Mirisch, N. Levy, S. Barret McCormick, Walter Branson, Terry Turner, Bob Wolf, Kay Kamen, Leo Samuels, Harry Gittleson, Sid Kramer, Vladimir Lissin, Robert Hawkinson, Michael Hoffay, Leon Bamberger, Sol Bernstein, Jack Kennedy, Carl Moss.

Also, Harry Mandel, Dave Strumpf, Ben Grimm, Charles Levy, Carl Rigrod, Al Adams, Fred Schaefer, Jack Level, Lou Goldberg, H. R. Emde, Charles MacDonald, Lou Miller, Bill Dahler, Frank Mooney, C. A. McGeary, William McShea, William Zimmerman, Frank Waldheim, Emmet Cashman and Lou Geaudreau.

Skouras, Century Give $7,500 to War Fund

Harold H. Holm, vice-chairman of New York City's campaign for the National War Fund, announced at the weekend that contributions of $5,000 and $2,500 had been received, respectively, from Skouras Theatres, headed by George Skouras, and Century Circuit, Albert Hovell and Fred Schwartz

PAUL TERRY *presents* TERRY-TOONS REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

MIGHTY MOUSE

IN TECHNICOLOR!

WHAT A CHARACTER!

MIGHTY IN ENTERTAINMENT!

BULGING WITH BOXOFFICE MUSCLE!

© TERRYTOONS INC.

There's fun even in the titles of these forthcoming releases!
'THE WRECK OF THE HESPERUS' • 'THE CHAMPION OF JUSTICE' • 'MIGHTY MOUSE MEETS JEKYLL AND HYDE CAT' • 'MIGHTY MOUSE AND WOLF! WOLF!'

Distributed by 20th *Century-Fox*

Exchanges Turn to USES For Workers

(Continued from page 1)

has set in motion more rigid restrictions on the hiring of employes by non-essentials. Hence, exchange heads look with approval on applicants for employment sent to them by USES, since they can rightfully assume that the applicants have "clearance" rights to take non-essential jobs.

Several weeks ago, it was learned, distribution officials conferred with WMC executives as to the latter's views on essentiality of branch managers, film salesmen, office managers, bookers, inspectors, shippers and several other employe categories. WMC has ruled that these workers will be considered essential to the extent that they would not be transferred to other industries. Distributors did not seek Army deferment for these employes.

Frank Walker Hits Postal Increases

(Continued from page 1)

department a profit-making rather than a service organization.

However, he said, scientific cost studies of the various services are now being completed and early next year some changes in rates will be suggested which will make every branch of the department pay its own way. Under the House bill, postage rates on advertising matter, parcel post and various services would have been increased from three to 100 per cent.

Meanwhile additional exhibitor representatives are filing their views on the proposed doubling of the admission tax, opposed at hearings last Wednesday.

Loew's Join List Of Bonus Payers

(Continued from page 1)

ployees with the company over one year and receiving up to $40 per week; and one week's salary, but not over $25, to employees making up to $40 per week and with the company over six months but less than a year.

Columbia and United Artists have increased bonus applications pending before WLB; Universal is sending out bonus checks to employees who are now in armed forces and RKO Theatres has 'earmarked' more than $100,000 for bonuses for its workers.

RKO Advances Date For Sinatra Film

RKO has advanced the release date of Frank Sinatra's first film for the company, "Higher and Higher," Robert Mochrie, general sales manager announced at the weekend. The picture will be available to first-runs throughout the country as a New Year's holiday attraction.

"Higher and Higher" will be given a premiere New Year's Eve in 50 RKO theatres in the New York area.

Major Companies in B'way Stage Deals

(Continued from page 1)

chased screen rights to "Another Love Story," current Broadway stage play backed by Joseph P. Kennedy, for $35,000. Twentieth Century is about to sign contracts, it is understood, for the purchase of rights to Robert E. Sherwood's Pulitzer Prize play of 1940-41, "There Shall Be No Night." Purchase price is said to be around $100,000. Play deals with the Russian invasion of Finland, but when it was produced in London locale was switched from Norway to Greece with Germany being the aggressor instead of Russia.

Columbia is also reported to be working out a deal with George Abbott for rights to "Kiss and Tell," whereby the company would supply finances and facilities for a picture to be made by Abbott and F. Hugh Herbert, author of the comedy.

Para. Scans Todd Musical

Paramount is understood to be interested in securing rights to Michael Todd's forthcoming musical, "Mexican Hayride," as a vehicle for Bob Hope. The company recently attempted to share in the financing of the production. Todd offered Paramount a chance to buy rights for $400,000, half on a down payment and the other half to come from weekly payments based on a percentage of the show's receipts. Paramount turned down the offer and will make a bid when the play is offered on the open market after its opening.

Major and independent producers are said to be bidding for film rights to Moss Hart's Army Air Force play, "Winged Victory." Conditions set down by Howard Reinheimer, attorney authorized to negotiate the film sale, are said to involve advance payment of $1,000,000 as well as all net profits going to Army Emergency Relief, as in the case of "This Is the Army."

PRC Increases Its Budget on Features

(Continued from page 1)

duties of the post left vacant by the resignation of Arthur Greenblatt.

PRC does not intend to add to its total of announced releases, but the decision to spend more on those already scheduled aims at reaching better playing time. Fromkess has long been urging the move and it is accepted in informed circles here that he has an eye to postwar conditions when he foresees quality rather than quantity as the decisive factor in box-office grosses.

Cash Prizes for RKO Contest on 'Comrade'

Cash prizes are being offered to exhibitors and circuit employes and house managers in the U. S. and Canada by RKO in a contest seeking best sales-promotion-by-mail idea for "Tender Comrade," Leon Bamberger, RKO sales promotion manager, announced at the weekend.

The contest, which closes Jan. 10, will be judged by Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio president; Arthur Mayer, New York exhibitor; Jack Pegler, of Foote, Cone and Belding and Henry Hoke, publisher of *The Reporter of Direct Mail Advertising.*

Not a Single Warner Release This Month

For the first time in decades, a major distributor, Warners, will not have a single release for an entire month, December. "Crime School" and "Girls on Probation" will be reissued this month.

"Destination Tokyo" has been set for national release on Jan. 1, Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager, announced here.

Hicks Advises OWI On Overseas Films

(Continued from page 1)

MPPDA, by Robert Riskin, head of the OWI's overseas film bureau, who arrived in London this week from New York for an extended visit to confer with U. S. and British officials there, and, later, with officials in Africa and Italy on distribution and other plans for placing American films in liberated territories.

Hicks recently returned from four week in Great Britain. He will perform his services for the OWI without leaving his Paramount post, it is understood.

Navy Epic to Be Made By OWI Overseas Bureau

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—OWI overseas film bureau will make a feature picture entitled "The Battle of the Pacific," it was learned here at the weekend. Phillip Dunne, former Hollywood scenarist now with the OWI, wrote the script for this epic of the United States Navy, and Edward H. Griffith has been assigned to direct.

Griffith will go to Washington to confer with Robert Riskin and it is understood that the film will be under the supervision of Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, with Admiral Ernest J. King assisting. The narration will be spoken by Rear Admiral Harry E. Yarnell.

The picture will be made up principally of footage already shot by the Navy's cameramen, scenes of Pearl Harbor and later naval battles playing a large part, although Griffith and a crew of technicians will go to sea for additional material, it is understood. No exhibition of the film inside the United States is contemplated.

Senators Cite Films' Fight on Delinquency

(Continued from page 1)

with the problem of delinquency, and heard the testimony of Frank Donovan, author and director of the film, that the growth of delinquency was but one part of the child problem raised by the war. Donovan testified that communities can do much toward dealing with the question by establishing facilities to improve the condition of children of war workers.

Huffman Back at M-G-M

Robert W. Huffman, Denver field representative for M-G-M has received an honorable discharge from the Maritime Service and has returned to his former position, it was disclosed here at the weekend.

Extort Trial Defense To End This Week; Mobsters Silent

(Continued from page 1)

his fellow-racketeer, broke a strike of other A.F.L. unions in the studios in June, 1937, including the machinists, common laborers and painters.

"They (the IATSE) used strike breaking tactics that no one else could have used except under the cloak of labor," Sorrell said. "They hired detectives and advertised in the newspapers for strikebreakers." The IATSE and the Painters' union had offices in the same building, which also had a hiring hall for studio workers, Sorrell testified. The strikebreakers who answered the IATSE ads so filled the building on one day that the strikers from the painters' union couldn't get into their own headquarters, the witness continued.

Sorrell Visits Bioff

After the strike had been broken in June, 1937, Sorrell said he went to visit Bioff and told the latter: "The IATSE doesn't look like a union to me." During the conversation, the witness testified, Bioff cursed Pat Casey, producers' labor representative, upon hearing which, Sorrell said he told Bioff: "If that's how you feel I'm willing to shake hands with you," but he asked Bioff first to call Casey on the phone and repeat the language he had used.

Bioff, the witness said, pleaded illness and said that he and Sorrell would both see Casey later.

Sorrell testified that he later met Bioff in Casey's office and that while Casey left the room, Bioff dickered with Sorrell for a 10 per cent wage increase for the studio painters. Bioff tentatively suggested a $56,000 "jackpot" to represent back pay and told Sorrell that he "didn't have to give to the men" if Sorrell would prefer to pocket it, testified Sorrell.

Boris Kostelanetz, special Federal prosecutor, showed Sorrell a clipping which he said had been taken from *Variety,* a theatrical trade paper which quoted Sorrell as crediting Bioff with aiding his union in reaching an agreement with the producers to end the 1937 strike.

"I was astounded to read it in the paper," said Sorrell after reading the clipping. "I was interrogated by income tax agents when Bioff was investigated on tax evasion charges in 193 I was Bioff's enemy and everybody knew it."

Earle Takes Stand

The next witness, Charles C. Earle, member of Local 244, Newark IATSE affiliate, in response to questions asked by J. Bertram Weggman, Kaufman's attorney, denied that Kaufman had voiced any threats at a meeting of the local in January, 1942. Several prosecution witnesses had testified that Kaufman had uttered death threats at the meeting. Under cross-examination by Kostelanetz, Earle admitted that he was a member of the Loyalty Club, a group comprising members of the local, which once presented Kaufman with a cash gift of $1,375.

Conrow Names Reiss

L. W. Conrow, president of Alt Service, has named Reiss Agency he to handle advertising for the compa after Jan. 1.

A PROMISE TO A GALLANT LADY

Because you have helped Uncle Sam so unselfishly

Because thousands of men are at battle stations thanks to your releasing them from shore jobs

Because America desperately needs more and more WAVES to send fighting men to sea

We promise:

To get behind the WAVE enlistment drive

To show on our screens the stirring 1-reel subject "CHIEF NEELEY REPORTS TO THE NATION" released December 2nd

To put the fighting campaign book into action and to use the free posters and stills

That's the promise of 16,000 American showmen to the gallant ladies of the U. S. Navy!

("Chief Neeley Reports To The Nation" is a War Activity Committee Information Subject and is released through Columbia Pictures with the Press Book)

War Activities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry, 1501 Broadway, New York City

'Girl Crazy' on a Dual Gets $25,000

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 5. — "Girl Crazy" plus "Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" at the Midland are drawing approximately $25,000 to lead first-run grosses. Sunday business here was especially good.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 1-2:

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
ESQUIRE—(800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $5,500)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
MIDLAND—(3,600) (35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $14,000)
"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $11,000)
"The Iron Major" (RKO)
"The Falcon and the Co-Eds" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $10,000)
"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col.)
"Hi Ya, Sailor?" (Univ.)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,400)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $5,600)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average, $1,450)

'Acquaintance' Gets Big $20,000 Gross

BALTIMORE, Dec. 5.—Strong openings on a holiday continuing brisk over the weekend put current figures here in the class of boom-time business. Heading the list is "Old Acquaintance" due for $20,000 at the Stanley, followed by "Girl Crazy" set to take $18,500 at the Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 2:

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c-50c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average, $16,500)
"True to Life" (Para.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (30c-40c-50c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $12,000)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (28c-35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average, $9,700)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (28c-40c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $16,900)
"The Iron Major" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (28c-39c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days. On stage: Clark & Thomas, Table Tennis Champs, Maysy & Brach, Six Debutones, Cappy Barra Boys, Jerry Mann. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $16,800)
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (75c-$1.10) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average, at regular prices, $5,900)

Grauman's Chinese to House Oscar Awards

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—The board of governors of the Academy of Motion Pictur Arts and Sciences Friday night selected Grauman's Chinese for the 16th annual award of presentations, Mar. 2, foregoing the traditional banquet for the first time. The Academy will offer approximately 700 of the Chinese's 2,500 seats for sale to the public at an as yet undetermined price. The governors also set rules for awards voting, to be announced later.

Atlanta Critic Named

ATLANTA, Dec. 5.—Ernest Rogers, for many years film and radio editor of the *Atlanta Journal*, has been given a roving assignment for the paper calling for a daily column. Rogers is co-founder of the Marquee Club here. His former duties will be taken over by Linton Hopkins, *Journal* editorial staff member.

Reviews

"Fighting Valley"

(PRC)

"FIGHTING VALLEY" is a walloping Western about a valley full of "fightin' mad" miners, a crooked smelting corporation and some Texas Rangers, led by Dave "Tex" O'Brien, Jim Newill and Guy Wilkerson. Producers Alfred Stern and Arthur Alexander have polished off this one quite nicely, injecting some really good comedy in proper spots, furnishing some pleasing musical renditions and giving leading roles to the right people.

The story concerns a girl, in the person of pretty Patti McCarty, who returns to the West to sell the Independent Smelting Company, which she has inherited from her father, and which is about to "fold" as a result of "dirty work" of a smelting syndicate which has been hijacking gold shipments. In order to salvage what's left, Miss McCarty decides to sell to the syndicate, leaving neighboring miners, who have an interest in the Independent, "holding the bag." The Rangers arrive, sense that the syndicate is back of the hijacking, and convince Miss McCarty she should hang on until the hijackers are apprehended. Much shooting and hand-to-hand fighting ensues and the Rangers emerge triumphant, uncovering the plot and saving the Independent and the miners from ruin.

The film has been embellished with the songs of O'Brien and his boys and rich Western humor that is superior to the usual "horse opera" corn. Oliver Drake's screen-play is well above average. Ira Morgan has handled photographic possibilities nicely, and Drake, as director, has moulded all into a pleasing picture for Western fans. Good performances are turned in by O'Brien, Newill, Miss McCarty and Wilkerson, who handles the comic element with natural cow-hand "finesse."

HELEN MCNAMARA

Running time, 60 mins. "G."*

"Pride of the Plains"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Dec. 5

THIS is the first of the series that were tagged John Paul Revere's after Eddie Dew left the studio and Bob Livingston took over. It stacks up well with the formula Western that Republic has been turning out and should help to make Livingston stand out with Western followers.

With the support of Smiley Burnette, Nancy Gay, Stephen Barclay, Kenne Duncan, and Jack Kirk, producer Lou Gray and director Wallace Fox bring out a believable Western plot that concerns itself with the usual land grab deal. Revere and his pal ride into the scene just in time to solve the plot, tangle up the outlaws and expose the "dirty" deal.

JACK CARTWRIGHT.

Running time, 56 minutes. "G."*

"G" denotes general classification.

Unique: $14,500 for Each of Three Houses

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 5.—Unique situation exists here this week. The three larger first-run houses expect to complete the week with identical grosses, $14,500 each. This is $3,500 above average for the Circle and Loew's and $3,000 over for the Indiana, largest house. The features are "Always a Bridesmaid" and a stage show at the Circle, "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" at the Indiana and "Girl Crazy" at Loew's.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 30-Dec. 2:

"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
CIRCLE — (2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Stage show: Will Osborne. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $11,000).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
INDIANA—(3,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $11,500).
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $11,000).
"Northern Pursuit" (W. B.)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, moved from Indiana. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

Variety Dinner Dec. 10

CHICAGO, Dec. 5. — Variety Club Tent No. 28 here will have a dinner and election of new directors on Friday, Dec. 10.

Film Center Expands

Princeton Film Center, Princeton, N. J., has announced purchase of new and enlarged quarters necessitated by a steadily increasing volume of production and distribution. A tract of 35 acres was acquired in addition to a large main structure and several smaller adjoining buildings. Property is located in an outlying district of Princeton.

The Center is producing and distributing educational and informational pictures for the United States Government and makers of aircraft.

Kyser to Tour Camps

Trainees in desert camps in the Southwest will be entertained by Kay Kyser and his troupe throughout December, RKO Radio announced here last week. The star of RKO's "Around the World" will broadcast his Wednesday night programs from the various bases visited.

Paramount Revives Two

Two Paramount pictures, "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine" in Technicolor, and "Island of Lost Souls," are being revived. They opened at the Squire Theatre, 44th St. and Eighth Ave., at the weekend.

'Rising Sun' Shines With $13,100 Tak

TORONTO, Dec. 5. — "Behind t Rising Sun" was making a bid f $13,100 at the Imperial but "Flesh a Fantasy" at the Uptown Theatre w traveling to a proportionately high gross of $11,200 in relation to hou average. Second week of "Claudi was pointing to $10,800 at Shea's a business at Loew's suggested $9,3 for "Johnny Come Lately" in its se ond week.

Estimated receipts for the week en ing Dec. 2:

"Cottage to Let" (British)
EGLINTON — (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Avera $3,900)
"Behind the Rising Sun" (RKO)
IMPERIAL — (3,373) (18c-20c-42c-60c-9 6 days. Gross: $13,100. (Average, $12,6
"Johnny Come Lately" (U. A.)
"Yanks Ahoy" (U. A.)
LOEW'S — (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,300. (Avera $10,800)
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
SHEA'S — (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,800. (Avera $12,300)
"Heaven Can Wait" (20th-Fox)
"Bomber's Moon" (20th-Fox)
TIVOLI — (1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 da Gross: $4,100. (Average, $4,600)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
UPTOWN — (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c days. Gross: $11,200. (Average, $9,700)

'Girl Crazy' on Dual, Hits $2,200 Over Pa

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 5.—At the Loe Poli "Girl Crazy," dualled w "Scream in the Dark" took $11,500 an 8-day run, over par by $2,200, a moves to the College for another eig the prolonged run being for the pu pose of moving opening dates grad ally to New Year's Eve. Total fi run business was $38,400. Average $29,200.

Estimated receipts for the week en ing Dec. 2:

"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
"Silver Spurs" (Rep.)
BIJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gro $4,500. (Average: $3,500).
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col.)
COLLEGE—(1,565) (40c-50c) 8 days, 2 week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,200).
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"Scream in the Dark" (Rep.)
LOEW-POLI—(3,005), (40c-50c) 8 da Gross: $11,500. (Average: $9,300).
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
"Good Fellows" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,373) (40c-55c) 7 da Gross: $8,200. (Average: $6,400).
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
ROGER SHERMAN—(2,037) (40c-50c) days. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $6,400).

Circuits Book Monogra

Additional circuits which ha closed for Monogram's 1943-44 pro uct, according to Steve Broidy, vi president and general sales manag include Jefferson Amusement a East Texas Theatres, operating houses in Texas and Essaness Th atres, with 29 in Illinois.

Cut Service Shows

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 5.—Sunc shows for members of the arm forces held here under the auspi of the Famous Players Canad Corp., have been cancelled indefinit due to the coal shortage. Need conservation has also necessitated c tailment of patriotic Sunday conce

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 5

EONARD GOLDENSON, Para- mount vice-president in charge of eatre operations; Sam Dembow, eatre department executive; Robert Weitman, managing director of the ew York Paramount, and Harry vine, Paramount stage booker, have rived here from New York.

•

Dr. Charles Mees, vice-president of astman Kodak, has left here for ochester after a visit of several eeks with Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, esident of Technicolor.

•

David O. Selznick has assigned Al- ed Hitchcock to direct "House of r. Edwardes," English mystery ory, to start May 1 on the direc- r's return from England.

•

Spyros Skouras, Tom Connors and al Horne, of 20th-Fox, have left ere for the East. W. J. Kupper and harles Schlaifer have also departed r the East.

•

RKO has signed John Wayne to a ven-year contract for one picture an- ually. His first will be "Tall in the addle" from a *Saturday Evening Post* rial.

•

Paramount has closed a deal for cture rights for "Stork Club." B. G. eSylva has announced Betty Hutton or the feminine lead.

•

Universal has added to its sched- le, "Radio Revels," Warren Wilson oducing, and "Girl of the Jungle," ed Richmond producing.

•

Herman Millakowsky will leave ere tomorrow for Milwaukee to at- end the premiere of his "Women in ondage."

•

Mary Pickford Co. has signed avid Minch as production business anager.

•

Nate Spingold and Frank Rosen- erg, of Columbia, will leave here for e East on Dec. 10.

•

PRC has purchased "At the Post," n original racetrack story.

Author Sponsors Ship

Adela Rogers St. John, writer, who ost a son in the R.A.F. last Septem- er, sponsored the new Naval combat arrier *Achernar,* launched at the eekend at Kearny, N. J. Among the uests were two children of Pilot Offi- er William St. John, who met death eturning from a raid over Germany.

Mary Gaffney to Center

Mary Gaffney, member of the Radio ity Music Hall publicity department ince 1932 has transferred to the Cen- er Theatre as assistant to Charles Vashburn, publicity director, it was nnounced here at the weekend.

NBC Fetes Ginny Simms

Ginny Simms, NBC star will be iven a luncheon today at the Hotel Plaza by C. L. Menser, NBC vice- resident.

Off the Antenna

THE magnetic wire recorder goes a long way toward solving the problems of front line recording, in the opinion of Edward M. Kirby, chief of the radio branch, bureau of public relations of the War Department. A 66-minute recording can be made on a strand of wire weighing a quarter of a pound with playback and erasure features permitting it to be censored immediately, he said. Kirby predicts that they will be available for every theatre of war before Christmas. . . . Upward trend this fall in NBC radio time sales indicates a 15 per cent gain over last year in the net's revenue for 1943, according to Wall Street estimates. . . . C. Worthington Minor, CBS television program manager in New York and Paul Knight, Philco program manager, will speak at the American Television Society meeting in New York on Dec 9. . . . WJZ time sales in November were 69 per cent over the same month in 1942. Total sales for the first 11 months of this year increased 42 per cent over the same period in 1942. . . . The Crosley Corp. is negotiating to sell station WSAI in Cincinnati, in accordance with the new FCC rule against multiple ownership of stations in the same area. Prospective purchaser is said to own another station outside the local area. . . . Fibber McGee and Molly, Bob Hope and Charlie McCarthy are placed one, two, three in the latest Hooper program ratings report. . . . The musicians' union in Philadelphia has asked the three major network stations, WCAU, KYW and WFIL to open negotiations for a new contract to replace the present one which expires Jan. 17. . . .

• • •

Purely Personal: *—Buckingham W. Gunn assumes his new duties as program director of WGN, Chicago today. . . . Ralph Dennis is the new Eastern sales manager of the Blue's spot sales department. . . . Joseph K. Mason is the new NBC continuity acceptance department manager. . . . Dwight B. Herrick is acting manager of guest relations at NBC. . . . Edmund B. Ruffner is the new director of daytime programming at WOR. . . .*

• • •

Program Notes: The weekly program of the Radio City Music Hall returned to the air at the weekend on NBC after a year's absence. The program features the theatre's symphony orchestra under direction of Erno Rapee in a half hour of musical variety, including soloists. . . . Republic has bought time on WABC's "Personally It's Off the Record" to promote "In Old Oklahoma." . . . CBS Lux Radio Theatre features "Mrs. Miniver" starring Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon tonight. . . . Averaging 60 song plugs on national network shows during the past seven weeks for the songs from "Thank Your Lucky Stars," Warner Bros. claims a record for the promotion of a musical score on the air. . . .Brian Aherne, starred in Columbia's "What a Woman," has been set for six-network guest appearances during the next two weeks.

Urges Changes in Storage of Films

TORONTO, Dec. 5.—The trend of the investigation by chief coroner Smirle Lawson into the death of Herbert Naiman, projectionist, as a result of the film exchange fire here, became evident toward the close of Friday's hearing before the jury when L. C. Anderson, inspector of the Ontario fire marshal's office, entered three formal recommendations that all films be stored in accordance with the regulations and the industry's national code that class "A" fire doors be installed to shut off all film departments and that all stairways be totally enclosed. To this draft Coroner Lawson had previously emphasized limitation of film exchanges to separate structures of one or two floors.

William J. Allen, inspector of the Fire Underwriters, suggested the construction of film vaults on the roof of the film buildings as a new safeguard, while Inspector Neville Mousley explained that film vapor was heavier than air, and roof vents for vaults might have had the effect of confining the fumes in basement vaults, although such outlets are intended for air circulation. Mousley testified that "storage of loose film in vaults was the fundamental cause of the fire." The coroner suggested that if the film had been in metal containers there would have been no explosion.

Colonel J. A. Cooper, called to the stand, denied a complaint had been made to him that loose film was allowed to accumulate in the basement and said he had not ordered its removal.

Television's Future DependsUponPublic

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—Television is an "established fact" and improvement in both the quality and quantity of current television programs is constantly taking place, C. L. Menser, NBC vice-president in charge of programs, said while visiting here. "But, success of television," added Menser, "depends upon the right given the public to choose its programs and the freedom given broadcasters to respect the public choice."

Menser also said that there is no place in the world where radio even approaches the American system of free broadcasting from the listener's point of view. His observation is the result of studying operations of radio in Europe and Australia.

Radio stands alone in variety of programs from which to choose, in its extent of coverage, in its freedom from cost to the listener, in its quality of program, and in its desire to meet the preferences of its listeners, he said.

The NBC executive indicated that further development of television is awaiting only the end of the war and sanction of the Government. Television will probably find its greatest fulfillment in the home, in Menser's opinion.

"Television will complement and fortify radio rather than oppose or nullify contributions which have been made by radio," Menser said.

Army Appoints Barnett

George Barnett, president of Modern Film, New York, has been appointed representative for the Antilles department, motion picture service.

Short Subject Reviews

"Task Force"

(*Coast Guard-Warners*)

"Task Force" is an account of the American invasion fleet flanked by the Coast Guard going into action "somewhere out there." The film was made by the Coast Guard with the original intention of distributing it among the armed forces. Warners will show it at theatres throughout the country to stimulate Coast Guard and SPAR enlistment.

A convoy comprising raiders, tankers and troop transports is photographed in Technicolor as it sets out to "do a job" on some beachhead on the other side of the world. There are shots of the men on board as they relax and wait for the "attack" order, of the look-outs as they watch for enemy submarines and surface raiders and, as a lurking U-boat is discovered, pictures of it being bombed to the surface and then sunk. Particularly stirring are night sequences showing big Navy guns blasting at the shore and, finally, the landing of the troops and supplies amid a rain of enemy shells and bombs.

Credit for the fine photography goes to Ensign Lloyd Durant, who explained to the audience that footage for the film was taken from actual battle scenes in the Mediterranean, Pacific and the more recent Salerno theatres of war. Narration by Jackson Beck is excellent. Running time, 20 mins. Release date, Dec. 11.

"Trade Horizons"

(*Stuart Scheftel*)

Presenting Wendell L. Willkie in the role of commentator on post-war American world trade relations, this is the first of a contemplated series of six titled "The World and You," by and with Willkie.

Commentary interspersed with a series of appropriate stock shots contrasts the two possible courses which America can follow in world trade relations after the war, and described as isolationism which will return the country to a depression and attendant problems, or world trade which will continue present benefits of wide employment. Willkie's presentation is a plea for the latter course both in commentary and its picturization. Running time, 6½ mins.

Britannica Acquires W.E. Subsidiary

Acquisition of Erpi Classroom Films Inc., from Western Electric by Encyclopedia Britannica Inc. was announced over the weekend by William Benton, chairman of the board of Britannica and vice-president of the University of Chicago, owner of the book publishing firm.

Included in the transfer are negatives and prints of Erpi's complete production of over 200 educational subjects in 16 fields of knowledge. Erpi is described as one of the largest producers and distributors of instructional sound films.

20 Cents RCA Dividend

Radio Corp. directors voted at the weekend a dividend of 20 cents on common stock, payable Jan. 26 to stockholders of record on Dec. 17, the same as voted last year.

Walter Wanger presents

GUNG HO!

Front-page news in the nation's press . . . featured in America's biggest circulation magazines . . . Life . . . Saturday Evening Post . . . Reader's Digest . . . Liberty

NO PICTURE EVER SO TIMELY!

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Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 108 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1943 | TEN CENTS

VAC to Name Field Groups On Manpower

Rinzler, Schwartz to Head First Unit Here

A special committee, which is expected to be followed by the appointment of other committees throughout the nation to meet exhibitors' manpower problems was pointed here yesterday by the War Activities Committee to handle manpower crises in the New York exchange area, according to an announcement from Sam Rinzler and Ed Schwartz, co-chairmen of the WAC group.

***Motion Picture Daily's* story yesterday exclusively reported that film exchanges in the field are turning to the United States Employment Service branch offices almost everywhere to fill manpower needs.**

Besides Rinzler and Schwartz, the group named yesterday includes Charles Moskowitz, Loew's, Inc., vice-president; Leslie Thompson,

(*Continued on page 6*)

12 Shorts Announced by M-G-M at Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 6.—Sixty-two short subjects for 1943-44 were announced at the first of three M-G-M district meetings at the Blackstone Hotel today. The program will include four two-reel specialties to head the series, 12 Fitzpatrick Travelogues in Technicolor, 10 M-G-M Minutiae, 16 M-G-M cartoons, 14 Pete Smith specialties and six Johnny Nesbitt Passing Parades. Our Gang will be represented in one of the Miniatures to keep alive that line which has been

(*Continued on page 6*)

Detroit Workers Back Pending Adjustment

DETROIT, Dec. 6. — All back-room employes who walked out of all exchanges here Friday returned to work today under a 10-day trial period, while distributors will seek National Labor Relation Board's approval of increases promised the workers there. There was no stoppage in shipments at the weekend, salesmen having been recruited to pitch in during the brief strike.

3,500 Local Film Personnel Under WLB's Wage Ruling

Approximately 3,500 industry white collarites in the New York City area alone come under the new schedule of approvable wage rates for 70 job classifications ranging from $18 to $70 a week covering Metropolitan New York and Northern New Jersey issued by the Regional War Labor Board.

By calling them "approvable" wage rates, the RWLB means that requests for wage increases up to those levels will be viewed favorably by the WLB. However, rates in the classifications which range from office boys to accountants may not be raised automatically even though still within the approvable brackets. Permission must still be received from the WLB.

Motion Picture Office Employees

(*Continued on page 6*)

Leserman Lists U.A. Releases to June 1

Because of United Artists' backlog of seven completed productions, Carl Leserman, general sales manager, on returning from a three-day Canadian branch managers' meeting yesterday, set definite release dates for U. A. product up to June 1 of next year.

U. A. will have at least two and possibly three features a month from now until June 1. National release dates were set as follows: Dec. 24, "Jack London"; Dec. 31, "The Woman of

(*Continued on page 6*)

Seasonal Box-Office Drop-Off Sets In

***Motion Picture Daily's* field correspondents report that the holiday-buying box office slump, which started in many spots immediately after Thanksgiving Day, is growing, with Chicago, Cincinnati, Washington, Baltimore and New York among the latest to witness a depression. However, receipts are not expected to go much below house averages. Business had been much over par for months, and in the holiday-buying spree is tapering off to about par, although Chicago reports "signs of the drop being particularly emphasized this year."**

Electricians' Strike Seen as Threat to West Coast Studios

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6.—A possible strike of 700 electrical workers in the studios and 100 in allied industries, is threatened in a strike-vote resolution forwarded to the National Labor Relations Board, the War Labor Board and the Labor Department at the weekend by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

The union seeks a 10 per cent wage increase, retroactive to July 1, 1941, under provisions of the basic agreement. The resolution, declaring its intent to take a strike-vote within 30 days, is the first in the industry under

(*Continued on page 6*)

Gov't Relaxes Rule on Stars In Uniform

May Make Films While On Furlough

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6.—The long sought Government consent for film stars in service to appear in pictures was extended conditionally in a communication from Adjutant General J. A. Ulio and read by President Y. Frank Freeman at today's meeting of the Association of M. P. Producers' board.

According to the rules forwarded by Ulio, any soldier on furlough may accept a part in motion picture as an extra, featured player, or star, providing War Department approval for such appearance is given.

Ulio's letter stresses the point that no furloughs will be given for the specific purposes of appearing in pictures, as is done in England, and that a soldier working in a picture is sub-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Decree Talks Await Return of Clark

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—Continued illness of Assistant U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark has made impossible the scheduling of any conferences with the major companies or independent producers or exhibitors and attaches of Clark's office said today that no arrangements for such meetings would be made until he returns to his desk.

Clark has influenza which has reached epidemic proportions in Washington, equalling in extent the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Eire Censors Slash War From Hollywood Product

By MILT LIVINGSTON

A shortage of American-made films is developing in Eire as a result of the unpredictable actions of the censorship authorities in slashing war material from Hollywood product, banning approximately one film and cutting two or three others weekly, Martin Quigley, Jr., revealed in an interview at the MPPDA office here yesterday. Quigley recently returned from Dublin where he spent five months on a special assignment for the MPPDA.

Quigley explained that his assignment was to try to increase the prestige of American films and to observe

(*Continued on page 6*)

N. L. Nathanson Estate Is $3,536,207

TORONTO, Dec. 6.—Probate of the will of N. L. Nathanson, who was an important Canadian film industry figure, who died last May, discloses an estate of $3,536,207, gross. Bequests to charity and relatives outside of the immediate family amount to $213,000, the residue being divided equally between his widow, two daughters and a son.

Over $3,000,000 was listed as personal assets, with real estate totalling $158,883, insurance, $159,193, and cash $50,159.

Employers Cannot Absorb Bonus Taxes

Employers of Loew's, Universal, RKO, Columbia, United Artists, Monogram and other companies contemplating Christmas bonuses for their employes, will not be permitted to absorb withholding or Victory tax payments on bonuses, nor will employers in other fields, Theodore W. Kheel, chairman of the Regional War Labor Board embracing New Jersey and New York, has announced here. He has also set a deadline of Dec. 15 on applications for WLB approval of bonuses.

Personal Mention

S. BARRET McCORMICK, RKO Radio advertising and publicity head, is confined to his home with illness.

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M/SGT. JOHN D'AMATO, formerly of the Warner Embassy, New Britain, Conn., is with the Army in Sicily; Pvt. SIDNEY WOLPER, formerly of the State, Hartford, is with the Army Air Corps in India.

•

SOL A. SCHWARTZ, RKO Theatres' Western zone manager, returned yesterday from a one-week trip through the mid-West.

•

F. J. A. McCARTHY, Universal Canadian and Southern sales manager, returned yesterday from a tour of Southern exchanges.

•

MELVIN KOFF, veteran Philadelphian, will head the local 1944 March of Dimes drive, replacing Charles Golfdine, who is Army-bound.

•

CPL. SIDNEY GANS, Army Air Force, former Columbia New England exploiteer, has been promoted to sergeant at Windsor Locks, Conn.

•

HERBERT GIVEN, PRC Pictures' branch manager in Philadelphia, has returned from a visit with his son in service at Oklahoma City.

•

J. PARKER KENNEDY of the Orpheum, Philadelphia and CHARLES GRAHAM of RCA, Philadelphia, are vacationing in Florida.

•

LT. JEFF LIVINGSTON, former M-G-M home office publicist is in New York on furlough.

•

HALSEY RAINES of M-G-M's publicity department has returned to his desk after an illness of one week.

•

LOU SMITH, M-G-M Eastern publicity head, is on the mend at Doctor's Hospital following a pneumonia crisis.

•

ARTHUR SCHWARTZ, Warner producer, will leave for the Coast about Jan. 1.

•

DAVID BADER of the 20th Century-Fox home office publicity department is home with winter ailments.

•

HAROLD BAUMSTONE, executive of Pictorial Films and MRS. BAUMSTONE are the parents of a second boy.

•

BEN BLUMBERG, manager of Warners' Uptown Theatre, Philadelphia, will enter the Army Dec. 22.

•

MIKE STRANGER, assistant manager at Loew's Poli Palace, Hartford, is vacationing in New York.

•

WILLIAM O'NEILL, theatre ad solicitor for the *Philadelphia Bulletin*, has entered the Army.

•

B. E. J. FRAWLEY, Paramount home office executive, has a birthday today.

Toronto Jury Asks Exchange Changes

TORONTO, Dec. 6.—The Ontario film business will be required to effect a drastic physical reorganization under a proposal by a coroner's jury hearing testimony at the inquest into the death of Herbert Naiman in the Film Exchange fire here. The proposal requires that films must be kept in metal containers, despite war metal shortages and as provided in the Theatres and Cinematographs Act and also requires that film exchanges each be placed in a building of not more than two stories above street level. The buildings must not contain other offices or any projection rooms and would be located outside the city.

Also, Fire Chairman O. J. Silverthorne of the inspection branch of the Ontario government has placed a restriction on screenings in film exchange theatres by banning all showings after six o'clock when offices generally are unoccupied and front doors are locked.

The jury at the weekend brought in a verdict finding "marked negligence in not carrying out sections 72A and 72B of the (Theatres) act by allowing a quantity of uncanned films to be stored in vaults at Regal Films Corp." The jury also asked for more stringent inspections by government officials and that copies of the underwriters' reports be forwarded to the Ontario fire marshal's office. A. S. Dickinson of the MPPDA will consult with Col. John A. Cooper, chairman of the distributors association, on the recommendations.

Raftery, Sears Ill; UA Defers Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6.—United Artists stockholders' meeting, called for today, has been postponed until tomorrow, due to illness of Edward C. Raftery, president, and Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution, both of whom are confined to their homes with colds.

Raftery, for the second time in a week today denied published reports that the corporation has acquired stock held by Sir Alexander Korda.

Mono. Third Quarter '43 Net Is $54,057

Monogram Pictures and subsidiaries report a gross of $115,835 for the 13 weeks ending Sept. 25 and a net of $54,057 after provision for employe bonuses and Federal incomes taxes, W. Ray Johnston, president, reports. Gross for the first quarter last year was $63,620 and the net, $30,739.

Wilby and Kincey in Film Poster Business

ATLANTA, Dec. 6.—R. B. Wilby and H. F. Kincey, circuit partners, and J. H. Harrison have formed a new company, Rebel Poster Exchange, Inc., it is disclosed here.

Universal Bonus Buys War Bonds

Universal's 25 per cent bonus to former employes now serving in the Armed Forces is stimulating the sale of war bonds. Sgt. Harry Fellerman, for one, turned his entire $1,300 check into war bonds.

Fellerman is with the Suffolk Army Air Base Special Services at West Hampton Beach, L. I. He has been serving for two years.

Thug Slays Head of Butterfield Theatres

DETROIT, Dec. 6.—Bay City police today are looking for a mustached man about 24 who last night shot and killed Floyd Ackerman, 45, veteran Bay City manager for Butterfield Circuit. Ackerman was in the act of putting $1,500 change and receipts into the depository of the Peoples Commercial and Savings Bank. The killer picked up the dropped money bag in the presence of several passersby and fled.

Money was from two of Butterfield's four Bay City houses, the Bay and the Regent. Ackerman was rushed to General Hospital where he died 45 minutes later, after describing his assailant to police.

Ackerman started in show business with the Butterfield circuit about 20 years ago. He leaves a wife and daughter.

16 French Versions Coming from W.B.

TORONTO, Dec. 6.—Following the test of "Le Ciel et Toi," French-language version of "All This and Heaven Too," at the Capitol, Montreal, Wolfe Cohen, Canadian district manager for Warner Bros., announces that at least 15 other French versions of Warner product will be available for distribution this season.

Among the next to be released will be French editions of "The Sea Hawk," "They Drive By Night," "Virginia City," "Till We Meet Again," "Sergeant York" and "Elizabeth and Essex," with others now being prepared in Hollywood under supervision of Roger Woog, who handled synchronization of Warner pictures in Paris before the war.

Owners Get Extension In Chicago Union Suit

CHICAGO, Dec. 6.—Exhibitor defendants in the Chicago projectionists' $5,000,000 suit for back wages that members of the union are claimed to have lost through an alleged conspiracy between union officials, exhibitors and members of the "Capone mob," have been granted an extension for filing answers until Dec. 20.

Exhibitor defendants include Balaban and Katz, Paramount, Publix Great States, RKO-Radio, Warner Bros. Theatres, United Artists, H. Schoendstadt & Sons, Essaness Theatres and Allied Theatres of Illinois.

Dedicate Times Sq Flag to 78,808 Toda

Lawrence Tibbett, president of th American Federation of Radio Artist and of the American Guild of Musi cal Artists; Bert Lytell, president o Actors Equity Association and Jame Sauter, coordinator of the Nationa Entertainment Industry Council wi preside today at ceremonies in Time Square when the NEIC will dedicat a service flag containing 78,808 blu stars and 135 gold stars representin men and women in the armed force from all branches of the entertainme field.

Among guests at the ceremonie which will commence at 12:30, will b Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia and 1st L Perry H. Smith, chaplain from Fo Jay. Others participating will be chorus from "Winged Victory," military band from Governors Islan and stars of screen, stage and radio.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
ROSALIND RUSSELL IN BRIAN AHERNE
"WHAT A WOMAN"
with WILLARD PARKER
A Columbia Picture
Gala Stage Show—Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

LATEST
MARCH OF TIME
Released by 20th Century-Fox
RADIO CITY MUSIC HAL

Claudette COLBERT Fred MACMURRAY
"NO TIME FOR LOVE"
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
Woody HERMAN and band
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
BUY MORE AND MORE WAR BONDS

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—Cl 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Screen
'CROSS of LORRAINE'
Jean Pierre AUMONT
Gene KELLY
In Person
AL TRACE and his SILLY Symphonists
EXTRA! PATRICIA BOWMAN

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Unionist Denies Mob Helped Elect Browne

One of the main props in the Government's case against seven Chicago gangsters on trial in Federal Court here for conspiring to extort more than $1,000,000 from the film industry, was loosened by the testimony of a defense witness yesterday, Harry S. Oppenheimer, secretary of the Newark local of the IATSE.

The Government's contention is that members of the Capone mob met in 1934 to plan the election of George E. Browne as president of the IATSE, and that the mobsters were the unseen delegates to the 1934 convention when Browne was elected.

Oppenheimer told Federal Judge John Bright and a jury yesterday that he submitted Browne's name in nomination at the 1934 Louisville convention and said that no one knew that the then president of the IATSE, William Elliot, was planning to withdraw until he read his annual report.

Browne's Name Submitted

Oppenheimer, under cross-examination by Boris Kostelanetz, for the Government, denied that any of the defendants approached him on behalf of Browne at the 1934 convention. He said he did not know any of the defendants except Louis Kaufman, business agent of the Newark local and alleged Eastern collector for the mob.

William Bioff, the Government's star witness who with Browne, is serving a long prison term for the same extortion charged against the present defendants, had testified that the gang made plans to have Browne elected to the presidency of the IATSE after which they began to loot the film industry.

Roach Testimony Contradicted

The testimony of Oppenheimer and Louis P. Marcianti, state president of the New Jersey Federation of Labor, who preceded him as a witness, contradicted the earlier testimony of Andrew J. Roach, a Newark projectionist and Government witness, who said he had driven Kaufman, Oppenheimer and Gioe, a defendant, to a Florida racetrack in 1939. Oppenheimer testified that Roach, whom he admitted knowing, had never driven him anywhere. Oppenheimer also denied that he had ever been in the company of Campagna and Kaufman in 1939, as Roach had testified.

Roach is now being held by Federal authorities for perjury committed as a Government witness.

$350,000 to Promote 'Fighting Seabees'

James R. Grainger, president of Republic Pictures, reports that the company will give extensive publicity to "The Fighting Seabees" with more than $250,000 allocated for key city advertising and publicity in pre-release engagements and $100,000 for campaigns in subordinate cities.

Radio spot announcements, 24-sheets in outdoor locations and one-sheets on subways, elevated platforms and Railway Express trucks, and increased newspaper advertising space will be utilized. Advertising will be handled by Charles Reed Jones, director of advertising. Steve Edwards will supervise publicity.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 6

WITH 396 performers making 938 appearances in 186 events during November, Hollywood Victory Committee has reached a post-Pearl Harbor total of 2,613 personalities making 19,703 appearances in 6,229 events, it was disclosed today. Joe E. Brown and Harry Barris have arrived in China heading the first USO camp show to reach that country, the report stated.

•

A committee of the Screen Actors Class B membership is scheduled to appear tonight before the SAG board of directors to protest a plan to allow temporary guild applicants to join as permanent members.

•

Leon Fromkess, vice-president of PRC, today elevated Martin Mooney, casting director, and Ray Schrock, story editor, to associate producerships.

•

John Wayne has one film more for Republic following "Fighting Seabees," slated for April production, after which his deal with RKO takes effect.

•

Paramount today purchased Edward Small's rights to "Two Years Before the Mast" for Alan Ladd's second vehicle. Seton I. Miller will produce.

•

Paramount will make eight musical shorts for 1943-44 instead of the previously announced six, it was learned here today.

•

Corp. George Montgomery and Dinah Shore were married in Las Vegas, Nev., Sunday, a 20th-Fox spokesman disclosed here.

•

Roy Rogers has recovered from winter ailments and will start work for Republic shortly.

Phila. Variety Club To Be Honored Dec.27

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 6.—Local Variety Club Tent No. 13 will receive a plaque in recognition of outstanding charity work done in 1943. National chief barkers John H. Harris and Robert J. O'Donnell will make the presentation at a special meeting, Dec. 27 at club quarters in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. Al Davis of the local chapter is in charge of banquet plans for the affair.

Newly elected board of governors are Ben Amsterdam, Jack Beresin, Harry Blumberg, James P. Clark, Al Davis, Mike Felt, Jack Greenburg, Frank L. McNamee, William A. MacAvoy, George Sobel and Clinton Weyer.

Cooperative Buys Para.

Closing of a deal with Cooperative Theatres of Michigan for the first two blocks of Paramount's product for 1943-44 was announced here yesterday by Neil Agnew, general sales manager. The deal was negotiated by Hugh Owen, Paramount Eastern division sales manager, with James Sharkey, film buyer for Cooperative, who came to New York for the purpose.

Depinet 1st Witness In RKO-MOT Suit

Ned Depinet, president of RKO Radio, stated in Federal court here yesterday that his company plans to make Frank Sinatra, the singer, a screen star after the release of his first picture, "Higher and Higher," scheduled for the coming holiday season.

Depinet was a witness at the trial before Judge John Knox, sitting without jury, of RKO's suit to prevent March of Time from releasing a short film showing Sinatra singing for the WAVES at Hunter College. The shots, RKO charges, were taken without its knowledge and after permission to do so had been refused. Showing of the short, Depinet said, would result in exhibitors featuring Sinatra's name before the March of Time, which would be damaging to RKO's investment in the singer and would violate the terms of his exclusive contract with them.

Trial of the action was ordered by Judge Knox so that disposition of the case can be made before the scheduled release of the March of Time film, set for the end of this month.

Disney Sees Films In Every Classroom

Walt Disney is of the opinion that "it is only a matter of time before motion pictures will be shown in every classroom in the world." He made the statement on the Coast, according to a home office release, prior to his leaving for the East.

Disney, who now is pioneering in the production of educational pictures, stated that films will never replace the textbook entirely but "will supplement the written word and, working as a team, undoubtedly will bring about a higher standard of education, thus creating a better standard of living the world over."

He pointed to the pictures his company is producing for the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs which are being distributed in Latin American, dealing with health and sanitation improvements in these countries.

Disney Schedules 40; Several Go to Army

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 6.—Walt Disney has announced a 1944 schedule of 40 productions including several listed as "restricted" or "confidential," and destined for the armed forces.

By the first of the year 13 Disney entertainment shorts will start shooting, with an additional 10 in story preparation.

J. F. Norman, Former Tri-State Head, Dies

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 6.—Jesse F. Norman, 56, past president of Tri-State Theatre Owners and past president of Independent Theatre Owners of Arkansas, died at his home in Little Rock at the weekend. Norman had owned and operated the Best at England, Ark., for the past 15 years. Burial was held in Roselawn Memorial Park, Little Rock. Pallbearers included M. S. McCord, operator of the Rialto; O. G. Wren, operator of the Crescent, and Claude C. Mundo, operator of the Liberty and Rex.

"What a Woman!" at $95,000 Leads Quiet Week on Broadway

Leader on a comparatively quiet Broadway film-theatre front this week is the opening week's gross at Radio City Music Hall where "What a Woman!" and a stage show are headed for an estimated $95,000. "Girl Crazy" and a stage show featuring Raymond Scott and his band at the Capitol is expected to hit an estimated $73,000 gross for their first week. Both grosses are slightly over-average and both bills will hold over.

'Guadalcanal' Ending Third Week

"Guadalcanal Diary" and the Ritz Bros. topping a vaudeville bill at the Roxy will wind up a three-week stay at that house with an estimated $68,000 for the final week which ends tonight. "Happy Land" and Frank Fay on the stage open there tomorrow. "No Time for Love" and Woody Herman and his band on the stage of the Paramount will do about $65,000 in their first week.

"The North Star" is expected to hit approximately $33,000 at the Palace and $13,000 at the Victoria. "Northern Pursuit" and Glen Gray and his orchestra on the stage at the Strand should gross an estimated $41,000 in a second week. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" in the eighth week of a continuous-run at the Rivoli is expected to gross an estimated $30,000.

'Fantasy' Holding Up

"Flesh and Fantasy" is still going strong at the Criterion where it will do about $23,000 for the third week. "Old Acquaintance" is holding up well at the Hollywood with a $19,500 gross expected for the fifth week. "Cry Havoc," falling below expectations at the Astor, will do in the neighborhood of $16,000 for its second week. "In Old Oklahoma," following a fairly strong opening at the Globe is expected to gross $12,000 for its first week and holds over. "Dancing Masters" will gross about $8,500 in the first stanza at the Rialto.

'Lorraine', 'Ghost' Get 'B' Ratings

National Legion of Decency's current ratings follow: Class A-I, for general patronage: "Destination Tokyo," Warners; "Gunsmoke Mesa," PRC; "Lucky Days," Universal; "Pride of the Plains," Republic; "Tarzan's Desert Mystery," RKO; "The Vigilantes Ride," Columbia; Class A-II, for adults: "Swing Fever," M-G-M; "What a Woman," Columbia; "Where Are Your Children?", Monogram; "Whispering Footsteps," Republic; Class B, objectionable in part: "The Cross of Lorraine," M-G-M, which the Legion says contains excessive brutality, and "The Ghost Ship," RKO, objected to because it "reflects the acceptability of divorce."

'Desert Song' Set

Premiere of Warner's "Desert Song," musical in Technicolor, has been set for Dec. 17 at the Hollywood Theatre, the company announced here yesterday.

MacKinlay Kantor's

HAPPY LAND

DON AMECHE • FRANCES DEE
HARRY CAREY • ANN RUTHERFORD
and CARA WILLIAMS • RICHARD CRANE
HENRY MORGAN • MINOR WATSON • DICKIE MOORE

Directed by
IRVING PICHEL • KENNETH MACGOWAN
Produced by

Screen Play by Kathryn Scola and Julien Josephson

64 Pre

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS!

State-wide celebration in Iowa! . . . Banquet honors "native son" MacKinlay Kantor! . . . Full-page announcements in Des Moines papers! . . . 6 day campaign in 64 other newspapers! . . . Contest sponsored by papers and radio search for parents contributing most to war effort! . . . Editorial page comment! . . . Radio saturation on 14 stations! . . . Elaborate ceremonies on opening night! (Dec. 2) . . . State and city officials attend! . . . Unending national publicity!...Biggest send-off a picture could get!

theatre miere!

GALA "HAPPY LAND" CELEBRATION AS 64 THEATRES IN IOWA AND NEBRASKA PARTICIPATE IN THE BIGGEST PREMIERE IN INDUSTRY'S HISTORY!

HAPPY LAND

20th Century-Fox Show-Selling!

3,500 Local Film Personnel Under WLB's Wage Ruling

(Continued from page 1)

Union, Local 23169, AFL, which has a petition pending before the RWLB covering almost 750 Warner home office and music company subsidiaries white collarites in 31 job classifications, indicates that the new classifications issued by the RWLB resemble their own. But MPOE spokesmen and an official of Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, CIO, which is engaged in wage and job classification negotiations with several major film companies, declare that the new minimum salaries termed by RWLB as "approvable" are slightly lower than their own requests. Both groups favor the RWLB move.

The bottom classification in the new schedule which applies to all industries except banks and brokerage firms is called "Messenger-office boy or girl" and the approvable single rate is $20 a week or, if the employer prefers, a varied rate of pay. The approvable range is $18 to $22 a week.

Two Grades of Typists Listed

Two grades of typists are listed. For Typist I, an employe who does routine work only, the single rate is $22 and the range is $20 to $24. For Typist II, a "proficient worker," the single rate is $25 and the range is from $23 to $30. Bookkeepers are similarly divided. For Bookkeeper I, the single rate is $38 and the range $33 to $48. The top classification is that of accountant, for which the single rate is $55 and the range is $48 to $70. Brief job definitions are given in the RWLB order for the 70 classifications. Where an employe performs a number of tasks, the classification recommended is the one to which the greatest amount of time is devoted.

Eire Censors Slash War from Product

(Continued from page 1)

Eire censorship in operation for the MPPDA. His mission was under the supervision of F. W. Allport, European manager for MPPDA.

Quigley saw many top government figures, church and educational authorities in Eire. Commenting upon the attitude of the people of Eire toward American films, he revealed that the public is "very fond of American films, but it abides by the decisions of its leaders on questions which affect Eire neutrality."

There is no standard of consistency in Eire censorship, according to Quigley who pointed to the banning of the war film "Yank in the RAF" after it had played to almost 40,000 people in Dublin, while "Crash Dive," another war film, was passed. An appeal is possible when deletions are ordered on moral grounds, but no legal appeal is possible when authorities ban a film because it might jeopardize Eire neutrality.

American films dominate the Eire market to the extent of 90 per cent, Quigley pointed out in explaining that the people of Eire "don't like the slow-movement of British films."

Conciliation Office Branch Opens Here

The conciliation service of the United States Department of Labor has opened an office here in a move to speed conciliation of labor disputes in this region. Cases from New York and New Jersey formerly handled in Washington will henceforth be handled in the new quarters here, according to John R. Steelman, director.

H. R. Colwell, regional director and George McGahan, regional supervisor, will be in charge of the new office. "Certification of labor disputes will be expedited and the backlog of pending cases will be cleaned up quickly," Colwell pointed out.

Censorship Eased In War, Says Censor

Columbus, O., Dec. 6.—War has brought relaxation of film censorship in Ohio, according to Kenneth Ray, state director of education and ex-officio of the censor board, in his biennial report on educational activities.

After pointing out that approximately 75 per cent of the films reviewed in the last year pertained to the war, Ray said: "It is necessary, because of the war, to be unusually cautious and discriminatory in deciding what is acceptable and at times it has seemed desirable to permit showing of scenes which might not have been approved in peace times."

62 Shorts Announced By M-G-M at Chicago

(Continued from page 1)

identified with M-G-M shorts for so long.

It was announced that Harris P. Wolfberg, who has been district manager for St. Louis, Indianapolis and Cincinnati, is no longer with the company. Supervisor for his territory will be announced on Thursday.

Major Dean Davenport, technical advisor for "Thirty Seconds Over Tokio," who was with Major Doolittle on the historic Tokio bombing, spoke at the afternoon meeting today.

Walter Immerman, James Coston, Jack Firsch, Jack Rose and a number of local exhibitors will be special guests at a luncheon tomorrow to hear a talk by William F. Rodgers, M-G-M general sales manager.

Coast Electricians In Strike Threat

(Continued from page 1)

the provisions of the Smith-Connolly Act.

IBEW representative Al Speed told MOTION PICTURE DAILY "Producers agreed at Newark, September, 1941, when we entered into the present contract that any subsequent increase given to other studio unions would apply automatically to us. Precision machinists were given a 10 per cent increase in May, 1942, but producers have refused to grant us a similar increase or negotiate the matter."

Decree Talks Await Return of Clark

(Continued from page 1)

epidemic which with high death rates, swept the country in 1918.

Owing to Clark's illness, a meeting with representatives of the California independent producers scheduled for last Friday had to be called off, as reported, and other meetings tentatively set for this week were postponed, including one with the majors at which the latest draft of their decree proposals was to be discussed.

WAC to Name Field Groups On Manpower

(Continued from page 1)

RKO labor official; William White Skouras Theatres' general manager and Harry Brandt, New York exhibitor. These men will meet on Thursday with Lou Metzger, WAC official in charge of manpower, to canvass the situation.

Applied to San Diego, Seattle

Metzger, who joined the WAC several weeks ago, stated yesterday that the so-called "Los Angeles experiment" in which theatres in that area were placed in a Class 2, or semi-essential category, by the War Manpower Commission—freezing staffs as of Oct. 1, 1943, and giving exhibitors the privilege to make application to the U. S. Employment Service for personnel replacements—had been applied to San Diego and Seattle. The WMC has Portland and San Francisco areas under consideration as well.

He further stated that the committee which will meet Thursday will offer its services to the War Manpower Commission director in the local area should the WMC officials desire to use its services in formulating regulations concerning manpower in the metropolitan New York exchange area.

Others on 'Critical' List

Metzger added that Akron, Hartford and Detroit areas have been placed on the "critical" list by the WMC, with Cleveland and Buffalo territories soon to follow. He stated that exhibitors in these areas are moving ahead with plans to cooperate with WMC officials should their services be needed or their advice sought.

Leserman Lists U.A. Releases to June

(Continued from page 1)

the Town"; Jan. 14, "Three Russian Girls"; Jan. 28, "Knickerbocker Holiday"; Feb. 11, "The Bridge of San Luis Rey"; Feb. 25, "It Happened Tomorrow"; March 10, "Voice in the Wind"; March 24, "Song of the Open Road."

April releases are headed by "Up in Mabel's Room," April 7; "The Moon Their Mistress," April 21; May 5, "Sensations of 1944; May 19, "The Hairy Ape"; and on June 1, "Here's Your War."

The schedule will be interspersed with releases of the Hopalong Cassidy westerns.

POSTPONEMENT OF TRADE SHOWS

on M-G-M's

"THE HEAVENLY BODY"
"THE SONG OF RUSSIA"
"A GUY NAMED JOE"
"BROADWAY RHYTHM"

WATCH FOR NEW DATES

in M. P. Herald and Boxoffice, Dec. 11 Issues

("The Heavenly Body" and "The Song of Russia" were previously announced for Dec. 11 at Memphis—Dec. 13 at Buffalo—Dec. 14 at all other M-G-M Branch Office Cities. "A Guy Named Joe" and "Broadway Rhythm" were previously announced for December 28 everywhere.)

JACK SHAINDLIN
MUSICAL DIRECTION
MARCH OF TIME
UNIVERSAL SHORTS
"SOUNDIES"
COLUMBIA SHORTS

'Maisie' and Spivak Swing $48,000 for Chicago Loop Run

CHICAGO, Dec. 6.—Usual pre-Christmas slump is beginning early in Chicago's Loop and is giving signs of being particularly emphasized this year. "Swing Shift Maisie" at the Chicago Theatre with Charlie Spivak and his orchestra on the stage will gross about $48,000 this week. "Crazy House" and "The Falcon and the Co-Eds" will do well at the Palace Theatre with about $22,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 9:

"True to Life" (Para.)
"Battle of Russia" (20th-Fox)
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $10,600)

"Swing Shift Maisie" (M-G-M)
CHICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Charlie Spivak and his orchestra. Gross: $48,000. (Average, $45,000)

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2d week. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $8,700)

"Iron Major" (RKO)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
GRAND—(1,150) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week in Loop. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $8,900)

"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days. Stage: Jane Withers. Gross: $22,000. (Average, $23,400)

"Crazy House" (Univ.)
"Falcon and the Co-Eds" (RKO)
PALACE—(2,500) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average, $20,000)

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average, $19,200)

"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $32,000. (Average, $22,600)

"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average, $19,200)

"Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
WOODS—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $10,-000)

$500,000 New Bonds For General Theatres

MONTREAL, Dec. 6.—Public offering was made this week of $500,000 first mortgage bonds of General Theatres Investment Co., Ltd., it was learned here. The series is divided between $250,000 3 per cent and 3½ per cent bonds maturing Dec. 1, 1944-48, and $250,000 4½ per cent bonds maturing Dec. 1, 1955.

The company owns nine Vancouver theatres; seven are leased to and operated by Famous Players Canadian Corp., and the other two are operated by Odeon Theatres.

Greer Garson Again To Do 'Dimes' Trailer

Following suggestions from exhibitors, Nicholas M. Schenck, chairman of the 1944 March of Dimes Drive, Jan. 24 to 30, has arranged for Greer Garson again to make the screen appeal. Frank Whitbeck, of M-G-M's Coast studio, will again produce the trailer.

Through the cooperation of Herman Robbins, National Screen will again distribute the trailers gratis to all theatres sending in the drive pledge. Washington has approved a priority on 2,500,000 feet of film for the trailer.

Review

"The Ghost Ship"

(RKO-Radio)

Hollywood, Dec. 6

IN this latest of the Val Lewton-produced horror pictures based on a psychological plot, suspense is built up in the key sequences only to suffer a substantial let-down in one or two of them by the ill-advised intrusion of sailors singing at their work and by a very weak ending. However, Mark Robson did a good job of directing Richard Dix, as the insane sea captain; Russell Wade, as the youthful third officer; Ben Bard, as the second officer; Skelton Knaggs, as the mute Finn with a long knife, and others in the suspense-building situations and in anti-climactic and climactic fights aboard ship.

Dix, sea captain, realizes something is wrong and that perhaps he's going insane because of things that occur for which he feels he may be responsible, but of which he has no knowledge. Wade is the first to suspect him. Unable to convince anyone, Wade nearly meets his end as have several others in horrible mysterious deaths, only to be saved by the mute Finn. But the captain is killed in a bloody knife battle with the Finn.

The cast gives an acceptable account of itself in support of the lead roles with the direction of Robson accounting for the realism of the events at sea. Photography by Nicholas Musuraca does much to aid the seaworthiness of the picture as do the special effects by Vernon L. Walker.

Running time, 69 minutes. "G."*

JACK CARTWRIGHT

**"G" denotes general classification.*

'Whistling' with a Mind-Reader Toots A Merry $25,000

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—"Whistling in the Dark" aided by a strong publicity campaign around Dunninger, the mind-reader, pulled Loew's Capitol into the top-grosser of the week with an estimated $25,000. "The North Star" in its third week at RKO-Keith's is doing nicely with approximately $9,500 as its figure. "Old Acquaintance" hasn't fared so well and should do about $17,000 in its second week at Warner's Earle. Other grosses remain a little above average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 9:

"Whistling in the Dark" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S CAPITOL—(3,434) (28c-39c-44c-66c) 7 days. On stage: Dunninger. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $22,000)

"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
LOEW'S COLUMBIA—(1,234) (30c-50c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $7,000)

"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
WARNER'S EARLE—(2,210) (30c-40c-50c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. On stage: Marie Nash, Gaudsmith Bros. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $18,800)

"The North Star" (RKO-Goldwyn)
RKO-KEITH'S—(1,800) (40c-50c-65c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $9,-500. (Average, $11,800)

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNER'S METROPOLITAN—(1,600) (30c-44c) 7 days, 3rd downtown week. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $6,900)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S PALACE—(2,242) (28c-55c) 7 days, 2nd downtown week. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $17,600)

Theatre Man Hurt Critically in Crash

LITTLE ROCK, Dec. 6.—Carl Sims, 21, advertising manager for the Crescent Theatre here, was seriously injured when the Film Transit Co. truck in which he was riding collided with a lumber truck near Walnut Ridge, at the weekend. He is not expected to live.

Harold Perdue, 37, North Little Rock, driver of the truck, was injured slightly. The men were on the way to Jonesboro with early editions of the *Arkansas Gazette*.

Gov't Relaxes Rule On Uniformed Stars

(Continued from page 1)

ject to recall to active service at his commanding officer's discretion.

Standing regulations governing the use of uniform, etc., continue unchanged and War Department approval of the subject and treatment of the picture is mandatory. Although no detailed interpretation is as yet available, the ruling indicates Gable, Stewart, and other ranking stars, can play in pictures while on furlough, if it is practical to match studio schedules with the period of their availability.

M-G-M Tradeshow Dates

New tradeshow dates for three M-G-M pictures were announced yesterday. "The Heavenly Body" and "Song of Russia" will be screened in exchange centers nationally on Dec. 28, and "A Guy Named Joe" will be shown Dec. 30. A new trade show date for "Broadway Rhythm" will be announced soon.

2,415 Serving from 20th

Twentieth Century-Fox and subsidiaries has 2,415 men and women in the armed forces, a check-up this week reveals. Of this total, approximately 30 per cent are abroad.

W.B. Toronto Club Elects

TORONTO, Dec. 6.—George Altman has been elected president of the local Warner Club for 1944. Other officers elected include Theresa Mancino, secretary; Rose Grossman, treasurer; W. McGuire, entertainment; Mary Quinlan, welfare; Eva Cohen, membership, and J. Plottel, funds and contributions.

The Marines have landed and great drama is now at hand!

Gung Ho! That's the battle-cry of the Marine Raiders...the battle-cry of victory...the battle-cry of action and thrills.

Gung Ho! That's the saga of the first Marines to notch their guns with victory over the Rising Sun...

Gung Ho! That's the beginning of the end for the Sons of Heaven and the Sinking Sun of the Nipponese Empire...

Gung Ho! Here are men you know...boys you love...your kind of people...living, loving, laughing, fighting...

Here is action that supercharges the blood. Here are thrills that raise the hair on your head. Here is a man-to-man story of men and boys who love like you and I... live like you and I...fight like blazes and go back for more...

Here is the brilliant, tight-as-a-drum, never-before-told story of the fighting Marine Raiders ...first to make the Japs taste the bitterness of defeat.

Here, in a few words...is the picture we've been waiting for...the dramatic, fiery smashing, drama of America on the move...

Gung Ho!...the glory picture of Uncle Sam's boys who are first to fight...proving once again that a Marine may be down but he's never out!

Walter Wanger
presents
GUNG HO!
starring
RANDOLPH SCOTT
with
Noah Beery, Jr. • Alan Curtis
Peter Coe • David Bruce
Sam Levene • J. Carrol Naish
Richard Lane • Milburn Stone
and Grace McDonald
Screen Play by Lucien Hubbard
Based on the factual story "GUNG HO"
by Lt. W. S. Le Francois, U.S.M.C.
Additional Dialogue by Joseph Hoffman
Directed by RAY ENRIGHT
Produced by WALTER WANGER

THE FIRST DRAMA OF THE U. S. MARINE RAIDERS ON MAKIN ISLAND

Gung Ho! *a Universal Picture*

BIG enough...GREAT enough... DRAMATIC enough for Universal to tell the public about it in full-page newspaper ads like this!

THE PRESENT WITH A FUTURE.
WAR BONDS FOR CHRISTMAS

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 109 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1943 | TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

31% Increase In Paramount Deals: Agnew

7,293 Sales on First Two Blocks for 1943-44

Sales of the first two groups of Paramount 1943-44 features are running 31 per cent ahead of similar numerical groups last year, Neil F. Agnew, vice-president and general sales manager, revealed here yesterday. This is a record increase since the start of decree selling by Paramount, Agnew added.

He stated that all important independent circuits have been sold on the two groups. Also that sales of short subjects are running 33 per cent ahead of last year. Oscar Morgan is in charge of Paramount short subject sales.

Available figures up to and including the past week-end and none of which include any major circuit deals in the two groups, disclose that 5,942 independent deals have been made for

(Continued on page 6)

Says Sinatra's MOT Would Damage RKO

The appearance of Frank Sinatra in a scheduled March of Time release depicting "Music at War" would place thousands of exhibitors in the position of taking unfair advantage of the film-going public and would result in untold damage to RKO Radio, according to Ned Depinet, president of that company.

Depinet testified for the second day in the Federal Court trial of an RKO Radio suit to enjoin the release of the

(Continued on page 6)

L. A. Chest Drive Yields $1,154,126

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 7.—Climaxing the Los Angeles War Chest campaign at a luncheon at the Biltmore Bowl, Y. Frank Freeman, chairman of the Hollywood industry drive, today reported collections of $1,154,126, representing 22,382 subscriptions out of an estimated possible 23,500.

Although the industry had no fixed quota, the amount collected equals about double the mathematical expectancy predicated on quotas assigned to other groups. Total chest collections were $7,327,947 with a quota of $6,805,000.

Slash in Printed Matter Threatens Film Exploitation

Elaborate and over-size film press books or any considerable increase in the use of printed matter in connection with exploitation are both war casualties. The present promotional printing situation is described by major publicity-ad heads as "difficult," and they predict it will become even more acute in view of the inability of printers to secure necessary paper and, more important, in securing necessary manpower for printing.

Difficulties in securing binds for printing jobs are also mounting and home office advertising heads point out that in view of a tight situation on printing inks it is becoming increasingly difficult to secure a satisfactory printing job where a sizeable use of colors is involved.

Further paper production cuts by

(Continued on page 6)

Lefkowitz Will Conduct U.A. Meet

A district sales meeting for United Artists New York, Philadelphia and Washington exchanges will be held in New York at the Warwick Hotel on Friday and Saturday, with Sam Lefkowitz, district manager, presiding.

Present from New York will be Jack Ellis, Dave Burkan, George Jef-

(Continued on page 4)

RKO Radio Names Kingsberg, Clark

Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-president-treasurer of RKO, and vice-president of Keith-Albee - Orpheum has been named a vice-president and member of the board of RKO Radio. Kingsberg is principal financial officer of the parent company and of its subsidiaries.

Other new appointments made by the RKO Radio board include the promotion of William Clark from assistant secretary to treasurer, and the promotion of Kenneth B. Umbreit to assistant secretary.

Murder, Inc., at Browne's 'Election'

Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, convicted head of New York's notorious Murder, Inc., now awaiting imposition of the death sentence for a Brooklyn murder was hired as a bodyguard by Harry Sherman, former president of Local 306 of the IATSE to attend the 1934 Louisville convention of the IATSE, Sherman testified yesterday at the $1,000,000 film extortion trial of seven Chicago defendants in Federal Court here.

Testifying as a defense witness Sherman admitted that he paid Buchalter $2,000 to guard him against harm

(Continued on page 4)

Broadway Pays Tribute to 78,808 From Entertainment Now in Service

In dedicating a National Entertainment Industry Council service flag here yesterday, representing 78,943 men and women from all branches of the entertainment field, Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia gave high praise to films and the show business and stated that New York is proud of its entertainment industry and its contribution to the war effort. The flag was raised in Times Square, opposite the Paramount Building. It contains 78,808 blue and 135 gold stars.

James Sauter, coordinator of the Council, opened the ceremonies with a brief address concerning the contribution of the entertainment industry to the war effort and the purpose of the flag. He stated that "the service flag is the most democratic of all symbols just as show business is the most democratic of all businesses, recognizing no racial or religious prejudices." Sauter introduced Bert Lytell, president of Actors' Equity Association, who presented the chorus from "Winged Victory."

Harry Brandt represented the film industry and Solly Pernick spoke in behalf of union labor. Other speakers included Lawrence Tibbett, president of the American Federation of Radio Artists and head of the American Guild of Musical Artists.

The flag was blessed by Lt. Perry H. Smith, chaplain from Fort Jay and the program closed with the singing of the national anthem by the "Winged Victory" chorus, accompanied by a military band from Fort Jay.

'We Don't Use The Big Stick,' Says Rodgers

'M-G-M's Door Always Open', Tells Exhibitors

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—"We don't use the big stick and we don't want it used against us," William F. Rodgers, M-G-M general sales manager, stated in a talk to 150 exhibitors at a luncheon at the Blackstone Hotel here today, in discussing M-G-M's relations with its exhibitor customers and their relations with it.

William F. Rodgers

Rodgers stated that M-G-M has tried to be fair with all its customers and the company expects its customers to be fair with M-G-M, saying "We

(Continued on page 6)

36 in Classics' First Production Program

First production to be engaged in by Film Classics will get under way next month when George A. Hirliman, company president, arrives in Hollywood to rent studio space and sign technicians, talent and writers for the beginning of a contemplated program of 36 features.

Film Classics, which up to now

(Continued on page 6)

Wm. Scully Calls N. Y. Sales Meeting

William A. Scully, Universal vice-president and general sales manager, has called a meeting of all Universal division and district managers in New York for Dec. 11-12.

The meeting will be attended by E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager; F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern and Canadian division manager; Fred Meyers, Eastern division manager; A. J. O'Keefe, Western division manager, and the following district managers: Barney Ross, Dave Miller, H. D. Graham, C. J. Feldman, M. M. Gottlieb, J. E. Garrison, P. F. Rosian, Samuel Applegate and David Levy.

Personal Mention

MURRAY SILVERSTONE, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, returned here yesterday from three months in London.

•

LOU SMITH, M-G-M Eastern publicity head, has left Doctors' Hospital following a siege of pneumonia and will return to his desk about Jan. 1 after a vacation.

•

MILT HOFFMAN, of the Paramount exploitation department, who enters the Army tomorrow, was given a luncheon yesterday at the Kitchen Restaurant here by 30 associates.

•

ROBERT KAUFMAN, of the 20th Century-Fox exploitation department, is spending a vacation with his parents in Boston.

•

KENNETH A. GRIMES, former Warner theatre manager in the Pittsburgh area, has been promoted to major at Fort McClellan, Ala.

•

DAVID CHERMAN, operator of the Lawrence, New Haven, and MRS. CHERMAN will celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary Dec. 13.

•

WOLFE COHEN, Warner Canadian sales manager, and IKE COVAL, Montreal branch manager, are New York visitors.

•

SIDNEY J. ALBRIGHT, United Artists general manager in Australia and New Zealand will arrive here tomorrow.

•

IRVING MAAS, 20th Century-Fox assistant director of foreign distribution, returned here yesterday from Mexico City.

•

JULES FIELD, of the 20th Century-Fox exploitation department, returned yesterday from Des Moines.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern division sales manager, will be in Philadelphia today.

•

ROBERT C. BRUCE, Hollywood short subjects producer, is here from the Coast.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram general sales manager, left yesterday for the Coast.

•

CHARLES BOASBERG, RKO Eastern Central district manager, is here from Cleveland.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal Western division manager, left yesterday for Detroit and will return Friday.

•

E. M. MOREY, of Monogram's New York exchange, is a Boston visitor and will return here Saturday.

•

JEFFREY BERNERD, Monogram producer, left yesterday for Hollywood.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Dec. 7

THE recent "conspiracy" charge hurtled at the American industry by Michael Balcon, letting off in London, is not the sort of straight trade news which excites much beyond an isolated ripple in the land of production. If Balcon had turned loose an attack on a Hollywood personality, the town would have been springy in its toes, fighting mad and courage high in defense of one of its own.

But humdrum and yawn-like is the reaction to the bold and bald assertion that the reason why British films fail to cut any ice in the American market traces to a conspiratorial agreement among the leaders to keep English attractions out of the domestic theatres they control.

■

Sherwin Kane already has hammered out a fitting reply to Balcon in his "Tradewise" column occupying this space every Monday. From the other end of the line in Hollywood, however, comes the urge to add one more observation.

By the time United Artists rounds out the life of "In Which We Serve" in the domestic field which, of course, includes Canada, the gross on the distributor's side will close out in the neighborhood of $1,800,000. This is proof sufficient that it is the attraction which counts, not country of origin; that the public here will take what it wants to take whether from Hollywood or Denham with no predetermined convictions about geography.

■

As producer throwing it back at producer, it was Sir Alexander Korda who really told off Balcon. In the *Times* of London and subsequently through the *Times* in New York, Korda gave very sound advice indeed when he observed, "The future of the British film industry depends very much on whether its leaders avoid trying to evolve grievances against America or to create excuses for themselves. . . . The ultimate judge of any entertainment is, let's remember, the unaccountable, illogical, inexplicable taste of the public."

This is such basic advice that it defies successful rebuttal. Balcon knows this because it is inconceivable that he does not. Whether the pawns he is trying to manipulate allow him to admit it is an entirely different story.

■ ■

PRC, the industry's baby company, intends making more noise from here out. The decision to do so was reached in New York about ten days ago after a continuing series of huddles. On the side of higher budget pictures was Leon Fromkess, vice-president in charge of production. On the other was O. Henry Briggs, president. The moderator was George Young, PRC financial mentor.

For some time, Fromkess has been moving in the direction of more expensive pictures. His idea is the current ball game will end one of these days and that, when it does, mileage won't retain anything like its present values in theatres. He is convinced better attractions beget better playing time, which certainly is true enough, and that now is the period in which to prepare for the post-war market by solidifying position in this one.

■

Briggs stuck to an opposing viewpoint. For its size, in the light of resources and extremely modest budgets, PRC is doing well as who isn't these days? Reputedly, Briggs argued the status quo ought not be disturbed because it's a pretty good status quo. Fromkess, however, stood by his declared position, carried it across the country and came back with victory in his brief case.

It is unorthodox for any company to increase budgets on its announced schedule in the middle of a season. PRC intends doing this, however, by jumping from five figures to six on each picture yet to come. It will be a broad jump, this decision to step some films up to $100,000 or $125,000-$150,000. It is a broader jump, calling for deeper breath, to go to as much as $250,000 as per new blueprints, on some occasions. If that ceiling is reached, the increase will range from eight to ten times in excess of the average budget set up when the company first started.

■ ■

If Gary Cooper is to play top role in "Rickenbacker," odds are the film will have to go in after "Casanova Brown." Cooper is on a camp-show tour in Australia, won't return until Dec. 20 or thereabouts, starts his first for International a few weeks after the holidays. This will engage him for several months make his first succeeding availability date along about April 1.

■ ■

International opened its small-scale executive dining room a few days ago. Just to show Mike Romanoff, who runs a restaurant, too, Bill Goetz invited the Prince as his first outside guest. Mike voted "Yes."

In the new surroundings Goetz told this yarn:

"I walked into Nunnally Johnson's office this morning said I was setting a Mexican film for an afternoon showing and asked him if he wanted to see it.

"'No, I think I'll work,' replied Johnson.

"Fine stuff. I was just testing you, Nunnally, just testing you."

RKO Authorizes Christmas Bonus

The board of directors of Radio Keith-Orpheum has authorized application to the WLB salary stabilization unit for permission to pay Christmas bonus of one week's salary to home office employees earning $6 or less and to field employees of the atres and branch exchanges earning $30 per week or less.

Other distributors which have declared employee salary bonuses include Loew's, Universal, Columbia and United Artists.

Gelber and Kindler On Witness Stand

Herman Gelber, IATSE Local 30 president, and Abraham Kindler former president of Empire State Operators Union, were on the witness stand yesterday in the Kings County Supreme Court trial of the action brought by several members of Empire to prevent officers of 306 and Empire from continuing to carry out the provisions of Empire's merger with 306. Both testified for a continuation of the merger.

The trial is expected to wind up the end of this week.

March 7 Trial Date For Pickwick Case

Upon application made by Judge William A. Kelly of Cummings and Lockwood, Stamford, Conn., Judge Carroll C. Hincks has made a special assignment of the case of Perfect Theatres, (Pickwick Theatre Greenwich) vs. 20th Century-Fox Film, et al., for trial on March 7 the U. S. District Court in New Haven.

Attorneys for the plaintiff are Raymond E. Hackett, Judge Kelly, Sam E. Rogers and Willard S. McKay.

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The Message
of the
Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer
Convention in Chicago
this week:

"THANKS TO OUR FRIENDLY CUSTOMERS"

"Not for just a day, not for just a season, but ALWAYS!"

Murder, Inc., at Browne's 'Election'

(*Continued from page* 1)

at the convention, "because my life had been threatened." Buchalter acted as Sherman's bodyguard at the convention which saw George E. Browne, convicted labor racketeer, elevated to the presidency of the IATSE. Government witnesses have testified that Browne's election was mapped out by members of the Capone gang, six of whom are on trial. Under Browne, said Government witnesses, including Browne and William Bioff, also a convicted labor racketeer, the Chicago gang then gained nationwide control of the IATSE and extorted more than $1,000,000 from the industry under threats to call theatre strikes.

Denies Seeing Buchalter

Sherman denied that he had seen Buchalter in the company of Louis Kaufman, business agent of Local 244 of the IATSE of Newark, N. J., one of the defendants now on trial, during the 1934 Louisville convention. The denial came after Bertram Wegman, Kaufman's attorney, read excerpts from Bioff's testimony in which Bioff stated that he was introduced to Kaufman at Louisville by Buchalter.

Other allegations in Bioff's testimony were denied by Frank N. Phelps, labor relations director for Warner Brothers. Kaufman, according to Bioff, had demanded money from Phelps under threat of calling a strike of projectionists in Warner theatres in North Jersey. Phelps denied that Kaufman had made such demands.

"Kaufman did try to fix a contract for wages paid in Warner theatres but he never demanded money for himself of me or Warner Brothers," Phelps testified.

Trial Adjourned

Judge Bright, after Phelps testified, adjourned the trial until this morning because of the illness of two of the Chicago defendants.

James D. C. Murray, chief defense counsel, stated yesterday that he expected to complete the defense testimony this week, indicating that the case will be in the hands of the jury next Monday or Tuesday.

Bolger and Little Back from Overseas

Ray Bolger, screen player and Little Jack Little, orchestra leader, have returned from a four-and-a-half months' USO-Camp show tour entertaining American troops in the South, Southwest Pacific and Central Pacific areas.

While overseas they played in isolated spots where Camp show entertainers had never been before. Their shows, which ran from 105 minutes to three hours each, were performed before audiences ranging from 50 to 14,000.

Gross Named by Rivoli

Sydney Gross, feature writer and assistant film and drama critic at the *Bronx Home News*, has been named publicity director of the Rivoli Theatre, it was announced yesterday by Montague Salmon, managing director of the Rivoli. Gross succeeds Phil Laufer, who has moved over to the United Artists publicity department in New York.

Review

"Tarzan's Desert Mystery"

(*Sol Lesser-RKO*)

TARZAN tangles with civilization and the desert in making his contribution to the war effort in "Tarzan's Desert Mystery," Sol Lesser's second Tarzan picture for RKO release. It is satisfactory action melodrama fare for the kids and is bound to appeal to many adults. Johnny Weissmuller is again in the title role and with usual gusto, and young Johnny Sheffield again pitches as his son. Nancy Kelly holds up the feminine interest as the proprietress of a traveling magic show. Otto Kruger and Joe Sawyer are villains who are trying to stir up the desert tribes in the interest of the Nazis.

A letter from Mrs. Tarzan, who is nursing wounded soldiers in a London hospital, sends Tarzan out of his own jungle to another jungle on the other side of the Sahara in search of a curative herb to treat soldiers under Mrs. Tarzan's care. Cheta, the Chimpanzee, and Tarzan's son, accompany him on the mission. On the desert, Tarzan interferes with the capture of a wild stallion by Kruger's henchmen. He also encounters Miss Kelly, abandoned by her camel drivers. It develops that Kruger is trying to stir up trouble and Tarzan gets clamped into jail for interfering. Miss Kelly has a murder rap pinned on her for her efforts in trying to warn Robert Lowery, the son of the local sheik, of what is going on. Kruger and Sawyer murder Lowery. Tarzan rescues Miss Kelly from the noose and with Kruger and his henchmen in hot pursuit they reach the jungle on the other side of the desert. Fantastic-looking jungle inhabitants endanger everyone, but they finally get Kruger and Sawyer. The sheik is thoroughly appreciative when he learns the truth from Tarzan and Miss Kelly.

Kurt Neumann acted as associate producer for this one based on the characters created by Edgar Rice Burroughs. William Thiele's direction minimizes the usual Tarzan antics, favoring the timely aspects of the screenplay which Edward T. Lowe has derived from a story by Carroll Young. Others in the cast are Lloyd Corrigan, Frank Puglia and Phil Van Zandt.

Running time, 70 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

"G" denotes general classification.

Lefkowitz Will Conduct U.A. Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

frey, William Schutzer, Sam Rifkin, William Moses and Abe Dickstein; from Philadelphia: Harry Bodkin, B. Krugman, H. Tyson, Horace Wright and Elizabeth McCaffrey; from Washington: Mark Silver, J. Price, H. Hayman, M. Siegel, S. Pike and E. McKinley.

Home office executives will also attend the meeting, which will be conducted jointly by Lefkowitz and Harry Gold, Eastern division manager, at the Friday sessions. New U.A. product will be discussed.

Lohrenz Presides At U.A. Meeting

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—United Artists branch managers, salesmen and bookers from Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis comprising the Midwest district, attended a district sales meeting at the Blackstone Hotel here this week. Edward Schnitzer, Western and Southern sales manager, spoke on forthcoming releases, titles of which were announced at the district managers' meeting held in New York last week. Rud Lohrenz, district manager, presided.

In addition to a discussion of new product, Lohrenz announced winners for his district in the recent Carl Leserman salesmen's contest. Indianapolis Exchange was first in the United States with the "Power's Girl" contest, was second on "Lady of Burlesque" and fourth on "Hangmen Also Die." Minneapolis was first in the country on "World in Action" short subjects. Chicago finished fourth on "Lady of Burlesque" and Milwaukee was fifth on the Edward Small product. In the district manager's contest Lohrenz was awarded second prize on "Lady of Burlesque" and second on "Power's Girl." All prizes are being issued in war bonds.

Branch managers in attendance were: Sid Rose, Chicago; Dick Frank, Indianapolis; Nat Nathanson, Milwaukee and Ralph Cramblett, Minneapolis.

Cartel Bill Would Affect Industry

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Legislation introduced in the House yesterday by Rep. Voorhis, of California, requiring registration with the Department of Justice of all cartel agreements between American and foreign interests, is the same measure that has been pressed in the Senate by Sen. O'Mahoney for several years, and is seen as applying to film companies only if they enter into agreements restricting production, use or lease of pictures, provide for artificial fixing of prices or call for restriction of marketing territory.

The legislation is aimed chiefly at patent-owning manufacturing companies which enter into cartel agreements dividing world markets, restricting the use of patents.

Warners Names Levinson

Sidney Levinson has been made field supervisor for Warner Bros.' picture checking service in the New York and New Haven territories. He succeeds David Kaufman who has assumed other duties with the company.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 7

THE Screen Actors Guild's board last night appointed a committee to meet next week with a committee representing the Class B membership, to hear a protest against the issuance of temporary work permits to non-members when the supply of permanent members is inadequate.

•

Studio managers and purchasing agents will be addressed by Warren Doane, newly appointed chief of the War Production Board's Hollywood office under Harold Hopper, WPB motion picture section head, and Merwin Travis, his predecessor, at a luncheon here on Friday.

•

Association of Motion Picture Producers today named Benjamin B. Kahane, Columbia vice-president, and Jason S. Joy, 20th-Fox publicist, as members of the writers and conciliation committee, succeeding William Goetz and W. H. Goldstein, respectively.

•

James K. McGuinness, screen writer and producer, has been given a long term contract by M-G-M as a member of the executive board headed by Louis B. Mayer and E. J. Mannix.

•

Ned E. Depinet, S. Barret McCormick and Terry Turner, RKO executives, and their wives, are due here Jan. 6 from New York.

McNamee Is Head of Phila. Variety Club

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 7.—Frank L. McNamee, regional War Labor Board director here, and one-time RKO branch manager, was elected chief barker of the Philadelphia Variety Club at a meeting of the board of governors last night. Clint Wier was elected first assistant chief barker, and Jack Greenburg, second assistant.

Others elected include Al Davis, property master; William MacAvoy, dough guy, and Edgar Moss, national canvassman. MacAvoy and Ted Schlanger were elected delegates to the national convention with Mike Felt and Irving Charlop as alternates.

War Department in Preview of Own Film

The War Department yesterday previewed "War Department Report," a film which will be shown to 10,000,000 war workers, at its projection room at 729 7th Ave. It is designed to show war workers the need for greater production and to temper the optimism generated by news from the war fronts.

The film, which runs 43 minutes, will be shown in war plants beginning Dec. 15 and a national theatre release is being considered.

Executives Still in Huddle on War Drive

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 7.— Si Fabian, Francis Harmon, Charles Skouras, Rick Ricketson, B. V. Sturdivant and Ed Schreiber are still conferring here tonight after two solid days' sessions on plans for industry participation in the Fourth War Loan Drive. Skouras will leave for New York soon to assume leadership of the campaign.

SCREEN NEWS HERE AND IN HOLLYWOOD

Dennis O'Keefe Signed for 2 Pictures by Edward Small—3 Films Open Today

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Nov. 24—Dennis O'Keefe has been signed to a two-picture contract by Edward Small, United Artists producer, and will play the male lead in "Up in Mabel's Room." In his second picture he will be co-starred with William Bendix in "Waltzing Mathilda," a comedy of American soldiers in Australia, to be based on an original yarn by Fred Chapman and Eddie Seabrook.

Fred MacMurray, whose contract with Paramount expires this summer after "Girls' Town," has signed a term deal with Twentieth Century-Fox calling for two pictures a year. The agreement gives the actor the privilege of doing one film a year for another studio.

Eddie Quillan will have the lead in Universal's "Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly" after his role in "Slightly Terrific" at the studio. Milburn Stone and Samuel Hinds also have been set for the former picture. Ricardo Cortez will return to Warners for a part in the Jack Carson-Jane Wyman comedy, "Make Your Own Bed."

Ava Gardner has been assigned to a dramatic role, her most important to date, in "Three Men in White" at Metro. On the same lot, "Maisie Goes to Reno" has been set for the next film in the Ann Sothern series. Fox has named Reginald Gardiner for a top role in the forthcoming mystery picture, "Laura."

Robert Benchley is slated for parts at Paramount in "National Barn Dance" and "The Road to Utopia," the Crosby-Hope-Lamour farce. . . . Russell Hayden has been signed for the second lead in the Pine and Thomas picture, "Gambler's Choice." . . . Jane Jones, night club singer here, will be seen in Paramount's "Incendiary Blonde."

Of Local Origin

Three midtown theatres will pr[...] [...]t new film attractions [...] morning. At the Strand, "Nort[...] Pursuit," a Warner Brothers' [...]cal melodrama, will be the [...] Errol Flynn is starred in th[...] with Helmut Dantine, Julie [...] John Ridgley and Gene [...] in supporting roles. . . . [...] State, "The Heat's On," [...]b's musical, will be the [...] The cast is headed [...] Moore, William Gax[...] West, who returns t[...] after an absence of [...] Among the featur[...] Hazel Scott, the [...] Cugat and his orch[...] Dinehart. [...] "Dancing Masters[...] Century-Fox com[...] Laurel and Oliv[...] the new attracti[...] Trudy Marshall, [...] Matt Briggs.

"The North [...] its fourth we[...] where it is bei[...] day, reserved [...] the Palace, when [...] tinuously. . . . "Clau[...] fourth week today at the [...] City Music Hall. "Sahara" enters a third and final week at the Capitol and "The Great Mr. Handel" continues for a twelfth week at the Fifty-fifth Street Playhouse. . . . "Holy Matrimony" starts a week's stand today at the Trans-Lux, Lexington Avenue at Fifty-second Street. . . . A revival of the French film "Three Waltzes," with Yvonne Printemps and Pierre Fresnay, will begin a five-day run today at the Fifth Avenue Playhouse. . . . "Jitterbugs" heads the all-comedy revival bill, to be shown today through Sunday, at the Laffmovie. . . . Revivals of "His Girl Friday" and "New Wine" are being presented at the Midtown Theatre.

Carmen Amaya, the flamenco dancer, and her troupe will appear in the screen version of "Knickerbocker Holiday," which Harry Joe Brown is producing and directing for United Artists release. The picturization of the Maxwell Anderson play stars Nelson Eddy, Charles Coburn and Constance Dowling. . . . Charles Halton has joined the cast of Columbia's "Address Unknown." . . . Paramount's "The Hitler Gang" has acquired Frank Reicher. . . . Arrivals from the Coast yesterday included Michael O'Shea, who has just completed his role in "The Eve of St. Mark" at Twentieth Century-Fox, and Franz Waxman, composer of the score for Warners' forthcoming film, "Destination Tokyo."

For Service Men

The New York City Defense Recreation Committee, 99 Park Avenue (at Fortieth Street), member agency of the National War Fund, through the generosity of the entertainment world offers a partial list of free amusements available today. Afternoon tickets from 11 A. M.; evening tickets, 4, 5:30 and 7:30 P. M. Apply 99 Park Avenue for tickets.

Officers apply to the Officers Service Committee at the Hotel Commodore for comparable services at reduced rates.

STAGE PLAYS

Tickets available for matinee and evening performances of many legitimate Broadway plays through the courtesy of the League of New York Theatres.

MOTION PICTURES

Astor	State
Music Hall	Paramount
Capitol	Roxy
Hollywood	Criterion
Palace	Rivoli

PARTIES AND MISCELLANEOUS

Free hotel Thanksgiving dinner invitations will be distributed from 10 A. M. to 9 P. M. at 99 Park Avenue. These are made possible through the cooperation of the Hotel Association of New York. Come and get your invitation. Happy Thanksgiving!

No Passes Required

Sloane House Y. M. C. A., 356 West Thirty-fourth Street, tea dance, 5:30 to 9 P. M.

First Come—First Served

Other amusement news on pages 38, 40

THE SCREEN

The Kay Kyser Show

AROUND THE WORLD, original story and screen play by Ralph Spence; special material by Carl Herzinger; produced and directed by Allan Dwan for RKO Radio Pictures; music and lyrics by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson. At the Globe.

Kay	Kay Kyser
Mischa	Mischa Auer
Joan	Joan Davis
Marcy	Marcy McGuire
Pilot-Copper	Wally Brown
Joe Gimpus	Alan Carney
Georgia	Georgia Carroll
Harry	Harry Babbitt
Ish	Ish Kabibble
Sully	Sully Mason
Julie	Julie Conway
Diane	Diane Pendleton

and Kay Kyser's band and Little Fred's Football Dogs

By BOSLEY CROWTHER

Music, gags and slapstick of a sort designed to entertain our troops at their overseas bases fill the hour-and-a-quarter of running-time consumed by the new Kay Kyser picture, "Around the World," which came to the Globe yesterday. And, as strictly camp entertainment by a group of screen and radio "names," it confronts the civilian reviewer with a problem in critical tact. How does one say that the humor dished up by Joan Davis and Mischa Auer is straight off the cob without offending those fellows who will probably think it swell? How does one put, diplomatically, the fact that Georgia Carroll and Marcy McGuire, though nice and attractive young ladies, are a shade on the artificial side? And how does one phrase a well-worn distaste for the jitterbug clowning of Mr. K. so that none of his soldier enthusiasts will take it as a personal affront?

Frankly, the problem sto[...] so we are reduced to th[...] report that "Around the [...] a muddling picture abo[...] show company's tour [...] Mr. Kyser and his b[...] out at least eight [...] of which are [...] "Roodle-ee-doo [...] lieve Everyt[...] Miss Davis [...] of an inc[...] somethin[...] And Mi[...] smiles-[...] look [...] hear[...] any[...]

[...]ne," to-[...] Saturday.

[...]ayhouse and [...] Your Lucky [...]

[...]ucanal Diary."* [...]ara."* [...] Street Playhouse: [...] Mr. Handel."* [...] Carnegie Playhouse: [...] "True to Life."* [...]n Picture House: "My Flicka," tomorrow. [...]xville: "Thank Your Lucky [...]" tomorrow, Saturday.

Double Features

Sutton Cinema: "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town"* and "When You're In Love,"* tomorrow, Saturday.

Loew's Lexington, Seventy-second Street, Ziegfeld, Eighty-third Street and Olympia: "So Proudly We Hail"* and "Henry Aldrich Swings It."*

Newsreels

*Grand Central.

*Translux: Broadway and Forty-ninth.

*Embassy: Forty-second Park; Forty-seventh and Seventh; 33 West Fiftieth; Broadway and Seventy-second and Newark (N. J.) Newsreel.

*—For age group above 12.

MUSIC NOTES

Tonight's events: "Lucia di Lammermoor," Metropolitan O[...] House, 8:30 o'clock; Philha[...] Symphony Orchestra, Ca[...] Hall, Artur Rodzinski con[...] and Vladimir Horowitz, pia[...]ist.

Yehudi Menuhin, violi[...] play for the men in the [...] Halloran Hospital, State[...] tonight as a prelude to [...] to Carnegie Hall on Sun[...] He will play whatever th[...] request, and the affair [...] formal.

The Choral Group of th[...] Education Committee [...] York will hold a rehearsal [...] and every Thursday night [...] Broadway, at Fifty-seventh [...]

● BE DISCRIMINATING
Drink America's UNEXCELLED WHISKEY
MELROSE
BLENDED STRAIGHT Rye WHISKIES
90 Proof
Pay a little more—Drink a little less—Treat yourself to the very best
Records & Goldsborough Inc.
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
ESTABLISHED 1885
THE STRAIGHT WHISKIES IN THIS PRODUCT ARE 4 YRS. OR MORE OLD

NOW A GREAT ADVENTURE IN [...] NOR[...]
[...] JOHN RIDGELY · GENE LOCKHART Directed by RAOUL WALSH
LATE STAGE SHOW TONIGHT

OUR Stage Show's A Holidaisy! IN PERSON
[...]ND 47th St.

To the Ladies
You'll cheer every-one of them in M-G-M's heart-stirring production.
Margaret Sullavan · Joan Blondell · Ann Sothern · Fay Bainter · Frances Gifford · Marsha Hunt · Heather Angel · Diana Lewis · Ella Raines · Dorothy Morris
GREAT PERFORMANCES BY A GREAT CAST!
'Cry Havoc' MGM
ASTOR B'WAY & 45TH ST.
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES · POPULAR PRICES
DOORS OPEN AT 10 A. M.
Directed by Richard Thorpe · Produced by Edwin Knopf · Screen Play by Paul Osborn, based upon the Play by Allan R. Kenward

TOGETHER AGAIN
GREER GARSON
AND
WALTER PIDGEON
IN METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER'S
MADAME CURIE.
COMING

Thanks, New [...]
for your sensational [...] age that ha[...] biggest [...]

Hi-Ho! MICKEY and JUDY
Let's go GIRL CRAZY
Mickey Rooney · Judy Garland · Tommy Dorsey · Gershwin Music
M-G-M's Rip-Roarious Musical Picture
CAPITOL DEC. 2ND plus BIG IN-PERSON SHOW

[...] Hopk[...] TANC[...] [...]G YOU[...]
BROADWAY 51ST · LATE FEATURE

ON PICTURE! SUPER[...]
On our Stage! RITZ BROTHERS THE GOLDEN GATE QUARTET And Other Big Acts!
ROXY

[...]E Goldwyn's [...]RTH [...]AR
RKO PALACE Broadway & 47th Street
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES POPULAR PRICES
LAST SHOWING "NORTH STAR" 12:15 A. M.
[...]WS AT BOTH THEATRES

"Long[...] [...]n the [...] Showing?"

MUSIC HA[...] [...]URTH WEEK! [...]DIA" [...]T YOUNG

"I DOOD IT"
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture with Red SKELTON · Eleanor POWELL
LENA HORNE · HAZEL SCOTT
Jimmy DORSEY and Band
PA[...]
IN PERSON WOODY HERMAN AND HIS ORCHESTRA
PAUL WINCHELL · MARION DANIELS
[...] MARION HUTTON

11th HIT WK.
"BEST [...]" "JE[...]"

[...]NTASY [...]

PAR[...]
OLIV[...] DeHAVI[...] "PRINC[...]
FOX
MAE WEST · VICTOR MOORE · WILLIAM GAXTON · XAVIER CUGAT
"THE HEAT'S ON"
"Find The Blackmailer"
BUY U. S. WAR BONDS & SAVINGS STAMPS

LAST [...]
[...]ARA
[...]H or [...]QUENCES
LAWRENCE WELK AND ORCHESTRA
YVETTE

TRANS[...]
NEWS
49th ST. on BROADWAY
GREAT PACIFIC [...] STARTE[...]
LEATHERNECKS STORM [...]VILLE
JAPS TAKEN BY SURPRISE [...]
REDS ON THE MAR[...]
AMAZING ACTION PICTURES
HOME FROM THE WARS—EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS
52d ST. on Lexington Avenue
ONE WEEK BEGINNING TODAY.
85th ST. on Madison Avenue
"One of the best movies we have ever seen."—Daily News Editorial
HOLY MATRIMONY
Monty Woolley, Gracie Fields, Laird Cregar

31% Increase In Paramount Deals: Agnew

(Continued from page 1)

the first block of five, consisting of "Let's Face It," "The Good Fellows," "Hostages," "Tornado" and "True to Life." This compares with 5,695 independent contracts signed in a similar period last year for the company's first 1942-43 block, which included "Wake Island," "Priorities on Parade," "The Major and the Minor," "Glass Key" and "Wildcat."

In three weeks of selling of the second block, 2,351 independent deals have been made, compared to 1,383 in a similar period of selling on the second block last year. The four pictures in the second block are "No Time for Love," "Minesweeper," "Henry Aldrich Haunts a House" and "Riding High." The second block last year consisted of "The Forest Rangers," "The Road to Morocco," "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," "Henry Aldrich—Editor" and "Street of Chance."

Up to last week-end, 9,293 independent sales had been made on the first two blocks, compared to 7,078 sales on the first two 1942-43 blocks. The overall increase of 2,215 sales represents a 31 per cent increase.

Sales of short subjects are placed at 6,108 independent contracts, compared to 4,592 for a similar period last year, Agnew revealed, representing an increase of 33 per cent over last year.

Agnew said "Lady in the Dark" will be sold independently as a special but advanced admission prices will not be asked. Decisions on Paramount's third block of features for 1943-44 are in the making, according to Agnew.

Ruling May Make 21 Stars Available

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 7.—While studio legal departments here awaited expanded clarification of yesterday's War Department ruling easing restrictions on furloughed servicemen to permit them to accept screen employment, Hollywood speculated today on the possible results with respect to top stars. Although the ruling specifies that the War Department must approve roles given to servicemen, this is considered no barrier to production, because a parallel approval is already required on all films dealing with the armed services. MOTION PICTURE DAILY canvass of studios revealed that 21 players now in the Army are potentially available to star in films during furloughs. M-G-M has Clark Gable, James Stewart, Van Heflin, Lew Ayres, John Carroll, Robert Sterling, Ray McDonald; Warners has Jeffrey Lynn, Wayne Morris, Ronald Reagan, Gig Young; 20th-Fox, John Payne, George Montgomery; Paramount, Robert Preston, Bruce Cabot, William Holden, McDonald Carey, George Reeves; RKO, Tim Holt and Republic, Gene Autry. Should the Navy and Marine Corps follow the Army's example, approximately as many more stars would become available, under the limitations prescribed.

'We Don't Use the Big Stick': William Rodgers

(Continued from page 1)

have never asked for tribute and not a bone that is not coming to us." An indication of this contention was reported exclusively in the trade press Nov. 12.

"We are entitled to preferential treatment because we have earned it," he said. "We are responsible for various innovations in the industry—otherwise you wouldn't be able to get the type of entertainment you are getting, for no producer can afford to gamble."

"We try and sincerely want to consider every theatre under individual conditions. We will not be influenced by a big group," he said.

District Managers Introduced

Rodgers said that members of the M-G-M organization are not judged by the size of their accounts but rather by their number. He introduced all of the district managers to the audience, Rudolph Berger, Jack Byrne, Durtus Bishop, Jr., George Hickey, M. N. Wolf, Charles E. Kesnick, Sam Shirley, Robert Lynch and Jack Bowen. "These men are responsible for sales policies. They have complete authority to represent M-G-M in any transaction. Any branch manager likewise has authority to adjudicate contracts without referring them to the home office," Rodgers reminded, and then averred that if an exhibitor can get no satisfaction "my door is always open."

Rodgers stated he has "met and broken bread with" 2,500 exhibitors throughout the country in the past 60 days at meetings of this kind.

Discussing the manpower situation and other factors which are responsible for increased cost in production today, Rodgers stated that M-G-M's production costs today are twice that of a year ago and pictures which under ordinary conditions would have taken seven or eight weeks to make now take from 14 to 15 weeks.

Rodgers also discussed a resolution by an exhibitor group which took exception to M-G-M sales policy. He said he never had been consulted on the differences which may have existed. However, he said he was fully compensated by letters sent to him from various exhibitor leaders and organizations in their expression of satisfaction over the years.

War activities and the support given by exhibitors in selling Government and WAC subjects also was discussed and it was stated that 16,000 theatres regularly are showing the subjects. Rodgers hoped the support would be continued, as the success of the program could not be accomplished otherwise. He also told of Washington officials' comment on the work the industry did on the recent War Bond drive.

The morning session of M-G-M district managers was devoted to the shortage of manpower in exchanges and ways and means of developing newcomers to the organization to fill open spots.

Fred C. Quimby discussed short subjects and received encouraging reports from field men about reception of shorts by exhibitors. Ben Melniker of the home office legal department discussed observance of contracts.

12 in 6th Group

It was announced also that M-G-M will have 12 pictures in its sixth group, six of which have already been tradeshown. With the exception of "Madame Curie," which is to be given special treatment, they will be released in the following order: "Thousands Cheer," "Cross of Lorraine," "Lost Angel," "A Guy Named Joe," "Cry 'Havoc'" "Rationing," "Broadway Rhythm," "See Here, Private Hargrove," "The Heavenly Body," "Song of Russia" and "Swing Fever."

Starting Monday, M-G-M district managers will hold additional sales conventions in 10 key centers, calling branch managers for two to three-day meetings to discuss new product. The district men will leave for home territories Thursday.

Canada Decision on Exchanges Dec. 13

TORONTO, Dec. 7.—A. S. Dickinson and Austin Titus, of the MPPDA office in New York, held a lengthy conference today with Fire Marshal W. J. Scott and Inspector L. C. Anderson at the Parliament building on details in connection with the recent Film Exchange Building fire, but it is understood no decisions were reached pending a study of the fire inquest evidence. Dickinson and Titus returned to New York tonight.

O. J. Silverthorne, director of the Ontario Government theatres and cinematographs branch, has called a general meeting for Dec. 13 of representatives of all film exchanges when it is expected a policy of the government will be outlined and decisions announced as a result of the blaze.

A coroner's jury has proposed that film exchanges be placed in buildings of not more than two stories above street level; that buildings must not contain other offices or projection rooms, and that the buildings should be located outside of the city.

SPG Will Nominate Candidates for Office

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 7. — The Screen Publicists Guild will discuss the length of probationary employment periods in the studios in a meeting here tonight, and will also form a committee to nominate candidates for office for 1944. Ted Taylor, SPG business representative, stated that studios in many cases are not complying with War Manpower Commission rulings requiring the filing of probationary hiring period practices with the WMC. He told MOTION PICTURE DAILY WMC notified the SPG that under no circumstances can the period be over 15 days and is now checking studio practices.

K-A-O Dividend

The board of directors of Keith-Albee-Orpheum declared a dividend out of operating surplus of $1.75 per share on the seven per cent cumulative convertible preferred stock for the quarter ended Dec. 31, payable Jan. 3, to holders of record at the close of business on Dec. 20.

Slash in Printed Matter Threatens Film Exploitatio

(Continued from page 1)

the War Production Board in t next few months are bound to crea further shortages in paper for pre books, company ad heads say. Th also report that their printers are longer able to provide former rap service on promotional material. A vertising departments are being forc to lay out campaigns further and fu ther in advance of release dat Paramount, 20th Century - Fo M-G-M and Warners report they a advancing dates of their press bo deadlines by two to three weeks have books ready four weeks bef national release dates.

In Canada the motion pictu branch of the Toronto Board of Tra has appointed a committee to negoti with the Wartime Prices and Tra Board relative to the new order lim ing the use of paper in outdoor f promotions. The committee inclu L. M. Devaney, Nat Taylor and S. Taube, secretary of the MPTA of C tario.

The ruling prohibits the use of a printed poster, billboard or card a vertising for any event for which admission is charged, except on premises where the event is to t place.

Says Sinatra's MOT Would Damage RK

(Continued from page 1)

March of Time film, scheduled late December, because, according RKO, the film contains unauthori shots of Sinatra plus recordings his voice, in violation of RKO Rad exclusive contract for Sinatra's se ices in films.

Depinet discounted promises of ficials of the March of Time that t would not publicize the fact that natra was appearing in the news f "Exhibitors will do that for them," said.

Newsreel runs are completed us ly in two to three weeks, accord to Depinet, but the March of T subject, being a dramatic story, mi run for two or three years, with hibitors featuring the fact that Si ra was appearing in the film, he s

36 in Classics' 1st Production Progra

(Continued from page 1)

has distributed re-issues, consisti principally of Selznick and Gaumo British-Fox features and Hal Ro shorts, is committted to 12 'exploi tion' features, 12 'high-budget' p ductions and 12 action programm

The company's marketing plans w rounded out at a series of conferen held here by Hirliman with franch holders Albert Swerdlove, Bost Sam Wheeler, Washington; J Jones, Chicago; Bob Snyder, Cle land; Albert Dezel, Detroit; Lo Krieger, Pittsburgh and J. Fra White, Charlotte. The conferen were held individually, but w Hirliman returns to New York, February, a national sales convent will be called.

NEW YORK'S MOST THRILLING NEW YEAR'S EVE!..

500,000 PEOPLE CELEBRATING GALA CITY-WIDE PREMIERE OF

THE SINATR

THE GREATEST AUDIENCE ON RECORD FOR NEW YORK'S BIGGEST THEATRE PARTY!...

FIFTY RKO houses throughout the Metropolitan area playing from dark to dawn of New Year's Eve only, at $1.10 minimum..as 1944's most sensational attraction is launched in the thrilling manner you've come to expect from "The Showmanship Company"!..Additional spectacular openings set in cities Coast to Coast! . .

HA

SHOW!

Michele
MORGAN

Jack
HALEY

Frank
SINATRA

Higher and Higher

with LEON ERROL • MARCY McGUIRE • Paul and Grace HARTMAN • BARBARA HALE • DOOLEY WILSON

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Produced and Directed by Tim Whelan

Screen Play by Jay Dratler and Ralph Spence

Additional Dialogue by William Bowers and Howard Harris

HOLIDAYS, SHOWMEN OF AMERICA!

55 Shooting, 48 Preparing, 72 Editing

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 7.—With ten new pictures starting and only two at the finish line, the production index jumped this week to 55 on the stage, 72 editing and 48 preparing. The previous week saw nine started, five finished, 45 shooting, 60 preparing, and 69 editing. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Jam Session," with Ann Miller, Jess Barker, Louis Armstrong, Ted Powell, Jan Garber, Alvino Rey, Glen Gray and Charlie Barnett and their orchestras. "At Night We Dream," with Merle Oberon, Paul Muni, Nina Foch, Cornel Wilde, George Coulouris, Howard Freeman, Maurice Tauzin, Fay Helm and others. "Sailor's Holiday," with Arthur Lake, Jane Lawrence, Shelley Winter, Lewis Wilson, Bob Haymes.

Shooting: "Address Unknown," "Yes, Sir, That's My Baby," "Nine Girls."

M-G-M

Started: "Seventh Cross," with Spencer Tracy, Signe Hasso, Hume Cronyn, Steve Geray, Herbert Rudley, Kurt Katch, Jessica Tandy.

Shooting: "Three Men in White," "Dragon Seed," "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed," "The Canterville Ghost."

Monogram

Started: "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore," with Simone Simon, James Ellison, William Terry, Grady Sutton, Gladys Blake, Clarence Straight, Lyntin Brent, Emmett Lynn, Duke York, Norman Rice, Alan Ward, Pat Gleason.

Shooting: "Golden Trails" (formerly "Outlaw Trails"), and "Hot Rhythm."

Paramount

Shooting: "National Barn Dance," "You Can't Ration Love," "Incendiary Blonde," "Till We Meet Again," formerly "Tomorrow's Harvest," "The Hitler Gang," "Rainbow Island," "I Love a Soldier."

Finished: "Take It Big," "Double Indemnity."

PRC

Started: "Men on Her Mind," with Mary Beth Hughes, Ted North, Edward Norris, Alan Edwards, Kay Linaker, Claire Rochelle, Claire McDowell, Luis Alberni, Lyle Latell, Lane Chandler, Terry O'Sullivan, Victoria Horne, Josephine Dillon.

RKO-Radio

Shooting: "Marine Raiders," "Seven Days Ashore," "Gildersleeve's Ghost," "Show Business," "International Zone."

Republic

Started: "Beneath Western Skies," with Bob Livingston, Smiley Burnette.

Shooting: "Rosie the Riveter," "Fighting Seabees."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Wilson," "Greenwich," "Four Jills in a Jeep," "The Purple Heart," "Home in Indiana."

United Artists

(Arnold)

Shooting: "It Happened Tomorrow."

(PCA)

Shooting: "Knickerbocker Holiday."

(Rogers)

Shooting: "Song of the Open Road."

(Small)

Shooting: "Up in Mabel's Room."

(Vanguard)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

Universal

Started: "Slightly Terrific," with Anne Rooney, Betty Kean, Leon Errol, Ray Malone, Eddie Quillan, Donold Novis, Richard Lane.

Shooting: "Christmas Holiday," "Three Cheers for the Boys," "Gypsy Wildcat."

Warners

Started: "The Horn Blows at Midnight," with Jack Benny, Alexis Smith, Dolores Moran, Reginald Gardiner, Guy Kibbee, Franklin Pangborn, Ethel Griffies, Allyn Joslyn, John Alexander, Isobel Elsom, Mike Mazurki. "Mask of Dimitrios," with Zachary Scott, Sydney Greenstreet, Peter Lorre, Helmut Dantine, Monte Blue, Victor Francen, George Tobias, Florence Bates, Kurt Katch, Roman Bohnen, John Abbott, David Hoffman.

Shooting: "Hollywoood Canteen," "Between Two Worlds," "Mr. Skeffington," "My Reputation."

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Dec. 7

RKO-RADIO will hit peak production during December with three new pictures going into work, to bring to nine the number on the stages. New ones starting are "Elizabeth Kenney," with Rosalind Russell; "Heavenly Days," with Fibber McGee and Molly, and "The Gibson Girl," Ginger Rogers' next vehicle.

•

Ann Sothern's next Maisie picture will be "Maisie Goes to Reno," story of a defense worker on vacation, which George Haight will produce at M-G-M. . . . Alan Dawn put Edward Small's "Up in Mabel's Room" before the cameras with Marjorie Reynolds, Dennis O'Keefe, Gail Patrick and Mischa Auer in top roles. . . . Julie Bishop replaces Faye Emerson in "Cinderella Jones" at Warners due to Miss Emerson's work in another production.

•

Director Curtis Bernhardt has Henry Blanke's "My Reputation" before the cameras at Warners with Barbara Stanwyck and George Brent co-starred. . . . Paramount's Technicolor picture, "Lady in the Dark" will have its world premiere at the Hollywood Paramount theatre Feb. 9. . . . Marguerite D'Alvarez, Metropolitan opera star, has been signed for a role in "Give Us This Day," formerly "Tomorrow's Harvest," which Frank Borzage is directing at Paramount.

Al Saville Passes

SOUTH BEND., Ind., Dec. 7.—Adam Louis Saville, 84, former vaudeville actor and stage manager, died here this week. Known as Al Saville on the stage, he toured the country in vaudeville until 1910, when he became manager of a theatre here.

Cincinnati Is Off, 'Down Under', Best

CINCINNATI, Dec. 7.—Unseasonably mild weather plus a holiday buying spree depressed the box-office curve over the weekend, although "The Man from Down Under," with Russ Morgan's orchestra and vaudeville at the RKO Albee, looks like a $23,500 take, and "Happy Land" should give the RKO Capitol around $10,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 8-11:

"The Man from Down Under" (M-G-M)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-75c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Russ Morgan's orchestra, Carter and Moreland, Patricia Morison. Gross: $23,500. (Average, $22,000)

"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (35c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $10,000)

"Here Comes Elmer" (Rep.)
"Smart Guy" (Mono.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-44c) 4 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average, $1,400)

"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.)
"The Black Hills Express" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average, $800)

"Old Acquaintance" (W.B.)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $9,500)

"The North Star" (RKO-Goldwyn)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover from 2 weeks at Capitol. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $5,000)

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average, $4,200)

"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-55c 65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $15,000)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
RKO SHUBERT—(2,150) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Palace. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $5,000)

Trammell Attacks FCC Radio Curb

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The radio industry will undergo a technical revolution following the war, with television doing for broadcasting what sound did for motion pictures, and Congress should act to keep the industry free from unnecessary control so as to encourage the tremendous investment which will be necessary, the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee was told today by Niles Trammell, president of National Broadcasting.

Testifying during hearings on the White-Wheeler Bill to revamp the Communications Act, Trammell charged that the FCC already has imposed a strait-jacket on the creation of television networks by prohibiting the ownership of more than three television stations by any one company.

After the war, he said, the broadcasting industry must scrap its entire structure and build a new one, providing work for engineers, architects and artisans, lumber, textile and other manufacturers and musicians, performers and writers, and if properly encouraged may be an important factor in averting unemployment.

Goldsmith Given Party

BUFFALO, Dec. 7.—Harry Goldsmith, Buffalo Schine booker, who leaves soon for the Army, was honored here at a going-away party at the local Variety Club. He has been succeeded by Gus Lynch.

'True to Life' Gets $21,700, Despite Slump

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 7.—Start of Christmas shopping brings the seasonal drop in business at downtown houses. Lack of major product opening also tended to hold down grosses, the one major opening, "True to Life," got off to a nice start at the Fox and points to $21,700 for the week in addition to the $3,000 already grossed at the Earle for its dual Sunday showing.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 8-10:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (75c-$1.10), 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $10,300).

"Hi Diddle Diddle" (UA)
ARCADIA—(600) (35c-46c-57c-68c) 6 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,500).

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $19,000).

"Is Everybody Happy" (Col.) (6 days)
"True to Life" (Para.) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (46c-57c-75c), 6 days of vaudeville including Lawrence Welk's orchestra, Eddie White, Diamond Brothers, Jayne Walton, Jack Nolan and Terry George. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $22,000).

"True to Life" (Para.)
FOX—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $21,700. (Average: $17,800).

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (35c-46c-57c-68c-75c), 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,600).

"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $5,000).

"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c), 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,200 (Average: $22,000).

"Sahara" (Col.)
STANLEY—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c), 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,300).

"Hostages" (Para.)
STANTON — (1,700) (35c-41c46c-57c-68c-75c), 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average $8,000).

Brereton to Ad Post Replaces Westergren

BUFFALO, Dec. 7.—William Brereton has been named director of advertising and publicity for Basil's Lafayette, and its chain of eight community houses, replacing Gerald M Westergren, who has left for the Army, according to announcement made here by George H. MacKenna general manager. Brereton was in a similar post with Shea Theatres for 16 years and prior to that was travelling representative for 20th-Fox.

Warner N. Y. Sales 'Round-Up' Meeting

Warner Bros. metropolitan New York exchange and home office sales personnel met yesterday at the Warner home office in connection with the company's 1944 "Round-Up" sales drive.

Ben Kalmenson, Norman H. Moray, Arthur Sachson, Jules Lapidus and Norman Ayers addressed the meeting.

'Army' in London

LONDON, Dec. 7.—British film premiere of Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army" has been set for New Year's Eve at the Warner Theatre, Max Milder, managing director for Warners in Great Britain, has announced here.

The Best Man Won...

The most natural wedding in the world. He, always a good provider. She, filled with those golden qualities that only his loving ministrations can bring out. The Groom, faithful, dependable, hard-working. The Bride, amiable, receptive, quick to respond to good treatment. When he brings a few friends home to dinner (a box office line reaching around the block) she will not be put out. She will be delighted. She loves to have people around her (with cash in their hands). A shotgun wedding? Perish the thought—although if the truth must be told—she married him strictly for money.

GIVE WAR BONDS for CHRISTMAS

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE

WHAT A WOMAN!

LOVE MAKING... was a business with her!

MATCH-MAKING ... was part of his game of love!

The most amazing woman who ever hit the screen...

Together again... More Howlarious than they were in "My Sister Eileen"

ROSALIND *Russell*

BRIAN *Aherne*

IRVING CUMMINGS'

WHAT a WOMAN!

WILLARD PARKER

What a "Find"! ... Sensation of the Year!

Screen Play by Therese Lewis and Barry Trivers

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

COLUMBIA PICTURES

GIVE WAR BONDS FOR CHRISTMAS

Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

TION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

OL. 54. NO. 110 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1943 TEN CENTS

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EA Approves onciliation in 3 to 14 Vote

roposal by Sam Eckman een Aiding Exhibition

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Dec. 8.—British exhibi- s today, through the executive nmittee of their Cinematograph hibitors Association, meeting in cial executive session, voted over- elmingly in favor of establishing chinery with distributors for con- ating trade disputes. The vote was to 14.

Proposal for the establishment of manent joint conciliation ma- nery between CEA and the Kine- tograph Renters' Society, with A appointing six members and S appointing a like amount to a nmittee was made two weeks ago Sam Eckman, managing director

(Continued on page 4)

isney Gets Ready For Hitler-Lands

Anticipating a further planting of lied flags on enemy-occupied coun- es, Walt Disney is now working on ssian, Spanish, Portuguese, Swed- , Italian and French versions of eral pictures, old and new, Dis- y spokesmen here revealed yester- y.

Prior to the war, Disney produced many as ten foreign-language ver- ns of his releases. "Snow White d the Seven Dwarfs," which RKO ll re-release after Jan. 1, had ten rsions. "Because there is no time nitation on its productions, the dis-

(Continued on page 4)

KO Spent $685,000 On Sinatra Filming

RKO Radio's film, "Higher and igher" with Frank Sinatra cost 85,000 to produce with RKO spend- g an additional $200,000 for promo- n and advertising, according to stimony by Ned Depinet before dge John C. Knox given yesterday the picture company's suit to enjoin scheduled release of a March of ime short which includes shots of inatra singing for the WAVES at unter College. ("Higher and High- " is reviewed in this issue on age 1.)

Judge Knox yesterday reserved de-

(Continued on page 4)

MGM Getting Stays From War Work for Key Field Workers

CHICAGO, Dec. 8. — Key point of the M-G-M district managers meeting here today was made by H. M. Richey, company exhibitor contact, who said it was not a wholesale policy of the company to ask draft exemptions but as far as key employes in selling, booking and exchange operations are concerned, "they are doing essential work at present and many branch managers have secured exemptions for them in order to prevent their transfer to other industries." Branch and district managers should keep in close touch with city and government officials, he said.

J. Gove, sales-development mana-

(Continued on page 4)

Mexicans Doubling Production: Maas

Mexican producers are setting up production schedules which will double the number of pictures produced heretofore, Irving A. Maas, 20th Century-Fox assistant director of foreign distribution revealed here yesterday, after returning to the home office following two weeks in Mexico City. The increase obviously will

(Continued on page 4)

Universal to Produce Featurette on 'Big 4'

Universal will start compilation of a featurette, to be titled "World Without Borders" which will feature newsreel footage depicting the recent meetings of the four leaders of the United Nations: President Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, Chiang Kai-shek and Josef Stalin. The subject will be 22 minutes long and will also incorporate incidents depicting the Four Freedoms, Atlantic Charter and clips from Wendell Willkie's trip around the world.

Rank Sending an Emissary to U.S.

LONDON, Dec. 8. — Barrington Gaines, executive representative of J. Arthur Rank, who controls a virtual motion picture empire in Great Britain, will leave here for New York immediately on a business mission of undisclosed nature.

Film circles here attach much potential significance to the Rank assignment in view of his known and oft-expressed intentions of attempting to extend his film empire throughout the world, especially in the United States, when peace comes.

Reports, all denied, have been heard

(Continued on page 4)

"Higher and Higher"

[RKO-Radio]

Hollywood, Dec. 8

NOT content to rest on the certainty that the first picture presenting Frank Sinatra to his public would roll up a handsome gross regardless of merit, RKO-Radio and producer-director Tim Whelan have turned out in "Higher and Higher" a musical-comedy of quality and distinction in all departments. It would be an excellent example of escapist entertainment without Sinatra. With Sinatra, it's a box office bonanza.

To dispose at once of any doubts about the swoon-crooner's ability as an actor, it is to be reported that he appears in the film as himself, the only character in the cast to do so, and he looks, acts, speaks and sings precisely as he does off screen. He isn't asked to act, and doesn't. He's asked to be Sinatra—he *is* Sinatra—and if Sinatra isn't the hottest new personality in show business at this point in the road, it's up to the competition to present a hotter one.

Michele Morgan, displaying a keen sense of comedy, and Jack Haley, given here the things to do he's expert in doing, are the leads in the story, a fleet and frothy tale about the house servants of a poverty-threatened millionaire who incorporate, with him, to palm off the scullery maid as his daughter and marry her to a man of wealth. As scripted by Jay Dratler and Ralph Spence, from the Broadway musical of like title, and with additional dialogue by William Bowers and Howard Harris, the story bristles with bright dialogue, some of which piles laugh upon

(Continued on page 4)

Capital Sees Possible 20% Tax Revision

Senate Members Weigh Exhibitor Protests

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Possibilities of a change in the House-approved 20 per cent admission tax increase were raised here today by the action of the Senate Finance Committee in passing over that section of the tax bill to dispose first of "non-controversial" items.

The committee's decision to defer consideration of the tax question indicated that it will be subject to discussion, at any rate, before any decision is reached to accept the double tax provided in the House bill or write in a substitute.

Members of the committee gave no evidence how they viewed the proposed theatre levy, but indicated they would

(Continued on page 4)

Singles to Stay at Many W.B. Houses

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8.—Scores of Warner Bros.' 465 theatres scattered from Coast to Coast, which have been operating on single bills will continue with that policy and with this in mind the studio here is pushing to quick completion a program of 46 short subjects, according to Jack L. Warner, executive Warner producer.

Under Gordon Hollingshead, short subjects producer, the major part of the program is already complete, in five series: Technicolor shorts, "Featurettes," "Melody Master

(Continued on page 4)

L. A. Film Workers Win 10% Increase

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 8.—The Screen Office Employes Guild and distributors reached an agreement last night providing for a 10 per cent increase for exchange office workers, a vacation with pay after six months, and preferential hiring. The contract is ready for signing when it is approved by the WLB, to whom also was submitted a disputed clause providing for reopening of wage provisions in the contract if revision of the wage stabilization program occurs.

Personal Mention

DAVID ROSE, Paramount managing director in Great Britain, and JOHN OJERHOLM, head of the company's laboratory in London, arrived here yesterday from England.

•

MAX MILLER, former publicity director for the William Goldman Circuit, Philadelphia, has been promoted to first lieutenant at a Florida army air base.

•

WILLIAM J. KUPPER, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, and CHARLES SCHLAIFER, advertising manager, returned here yesterday from Hollywood.

•

MATTHEW J. O'REILLY, theatre manager in Reading, Pa., was feted on the occasion of his 50th wedding anniversary.

•

MIKE POLLER, assistant to ROBERT MOCHRIE at RKO, is convalescing after an operation at Mt. Sinai Hospital here.

•

MOE VERBIN, film ad solicitor for the *Philadelphia Bulletin*, is recovering from an operation at Graduate Hospital in that city.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO general sales manager is expected to return here tomorrow from a tour of Southern exchanges.

•

S. BARRET McCORMICK, RKO advertising-publicity head, is expected back at his desk Monday following illness.

•

B. BERNARD KREISLER, Universal short subjects and newsreel manager, returned yesterday from a trip to Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

•

SAMUEL COOPERSTEIN, manager of the Hippodrome, Bridgeport, Conn., has been inducted into the Army.

•

WILLIAM HUMPHRIES, formerly of the Strand, New Britain, Conn., is now a second lieutenant in the Army.

•

MICHAEL SAMPSON of the Daly Theatre, Hartford, has resigned to join the Army.

•

ABE ROVNER, Philadelphia exhibitor is a grandfather, a son having been born to the ROBERT ABELS.

•

MAJOR HAL ROACH is here from Washington for a few days with MRS. ROACH.

•

JULIUS J. AND PHILIP G. EPSTEIN, Warner producer-writers, are expected here early next week from the Coast.

•

ANTOINETTE SPITZER, Walt Disney's Eastern publicity representative, left yesterday for Cincinnati and Chicago.

•

HAL B. WALLIS, Warner production executive, has arrived from the Coast.

•

TERRY TURNER, RKO exploitation head, is in Cleveland.

Set for 'Free Movie' Day in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 8.—John Friedl, chairman of the theatres division of the Northwest War Activities Committee, has asked every theatre in the territory to take part in the "free movie" day, Dec. 21, designed to spur war bond sales through the holiday season.

Plans to put over the plan will get into high gear next week, Friedl announced. Trailers are now being received by the National Screen Service exchange and being shipped to over 600 pledged theatres in this area. Subject is "A Present with a Future," Warner short with Bette Davis.

Minnesota Amusement Co.'s publicity department is sending out manuals with campaign suggestions to participating exhibitors. Pending receipt of these and the trailers, Friedl has urged theatre men to promote bond sales and "free movie" days with individually conceived exploitation.

Extort Trial May Proceed Minus Two

Federal Judge John Bright, presiding in the $1,000,000 film industry extortion trial of seven mobsters here, yesterday instructed defense counsel to ask two defendants, absent because of illness, to sign a waiver permitting the trial to proceed in their absence, a rare happening in Federal court. The two are John Roselli and Paul de Luccia.

Judge Bright adjourned the trial until today because of their absence. The trial was first adjourned Tuesday, after brief testimony, for the same reason. Roselli, an Army private, is undergoing treatment for influenza at an Army base hospital on Staten Island. He is alleged to have been West Coast collector for the Capone gang.

Goldenson, Dembow To Chicago Meet

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8. — Leonard Goldenson and Sam Dembow, Jr., Paramount theatre executives, will leave for Chicago on Friday after six days here conferring with executives of Fanchon and Marco, operators of the Paramount, Los Angeles, and Paramount, Hollywood, and with Paramount studio officials. They will hold a theatre meeting in Chicago and return to their New York headquarters on Dec. 15.

Quick Represents Army

OMAHA, Dec. 8.—Robert E. Quick is the new representative of the Army motion picture service in this area. Quick, who was transferred here from Seattle, was formerly M-G-M booker in Milwaukee.

SPG Nominates Tonight

Nominations of officers of Screen Publicists Guild for 1944 will be held here tonight at the regular members meeting at the Hotel Capitol.

Trailer to Teach Patrons Etiquette?

In an effort to assist exhibitors in overcoming vandalism and other annoyances, National Screen has inaugurated a campaign for the propagation of hints to patrons on theatre etiquette through a special trailer.

The trailer purports to be a "book of theatre etiquette," and on each of its "pages" calls attention to common annoyances prevalent in theatres and the means for rectifying them. The trailer is so prepared that exhibitors can order the copy that suits their needs for individual pages.

E. M. Loew Penalized For Salary Cuts

BOSTON, Dec. 8.—Allied Amusements, Inc., an E. M. Loew corporation which operates among other theatres the Majestic Theatre here, has been ordered by the local regional War Labor Board to pay penalties for the reduction of salaries of motion picture projectionists at the Majestic in the amount of $1,736.40.

Economic sanctions, the first in New England, were recommended by the New England WLB in the decision as the result of the cut in wages from $83 to $55 weekly. The decision, announced by Allan A. Tepher, regional attorney, found that the Majestic Theatre, owned by E. M. Loew, as head of Allied Amusements, had cut the pay of four motion picture operators from $83 to $55 during June and July in violation of the stabilization rules.

250 Holiday Dates Set for W.B. 'Tokyo'

Warner Bros. will launch "Destination Tokyo" nationally as a Christmas-New Year special with more than 250 day-and-date engagements, it was announced here yesterday by Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager. General release date is Jan. 1.

The pre-release dating will be accompanied by a heavy merchandising campaign. "Tokyo" will start breaking in some situations on Christmas Day, following its world premiere several days earlier at an Atlantic submarine base, with the majority of key city openings set for New Year's Eve.

Foreign Situation Before MPPDA Board

Regular quarterly meeting of the board of directors of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America was held yesterday at the association's offices here. Some routine matters were discussed and departmental reports presented.

The situation abroad was considered and the meeting was continued to next Tuesday.

More Film, Tele. Patents Are Seized

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The Ali Property Custodian today published list of several thousand patents owne by nationals of Roumania, Hungar Germany and Japan which have bee seized and will be made available f licensing to American concerns.

Included in the group, coveri patents issued up to our entry into t war, are a number relating to moti pictures and television, including Hungarian-owned patent for the pr duction of explanatory titles, a German patents covering an apparat for photographing quick motion, scanner for picture transmission, nat ral color photography, sound reco bands, picture assembling apparat for television receivers, a system taking cinematographic pictur switch for controlling lighting circu of cinematographic apparatus, a d vice for showing motion pictur color photography, a diaphragm f sound reproduction, sound reproduci apparatus and a combined cinemat graphic apparatus and box.

The only Japanese patent relati to motion pictures was a photograpl device for high speed pictures.

Italian, French Films, Copyrights Are Seized

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8. — The Ali Property Custodian reported yest day the seizure of all motion pictu film in the United States owned the Instituto Nazionale Luce of It and the copyright interests of t Bureau International de l'Editic Mechanique, as well as those of number of German music publish and a number of individuals and sociations in various parts of Eur including SACEM, the French thors, composers and publishers as ciation.

Allied to Meet on Juvenile Delinquen

Vandalism in theatres and juve delinquency in general will be cussed by Allied of New Jersey morrow morning at the Court Th tre, Newark. Harry Lowenst president of Jersey Allied, and h of the New Jersey War Activi Committee, will preside.

The Newark press and represe tives of civic and social organizati will attend. There will be a show of "Children of Mars," RKO on juvenile delinquency, and of "Yo in Crisis," a March of Time film.

Cooper Heads U. A. Midwest Publici

Robert Cooper has been named Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., United Art publicity-advertising head, to t charge of publicity and exploitatio the Midwest, with headquarters in Chicago office. Cooper has been the home office for the past year. viously he was press-book editor Monogram and was also in the U versal publicity department.

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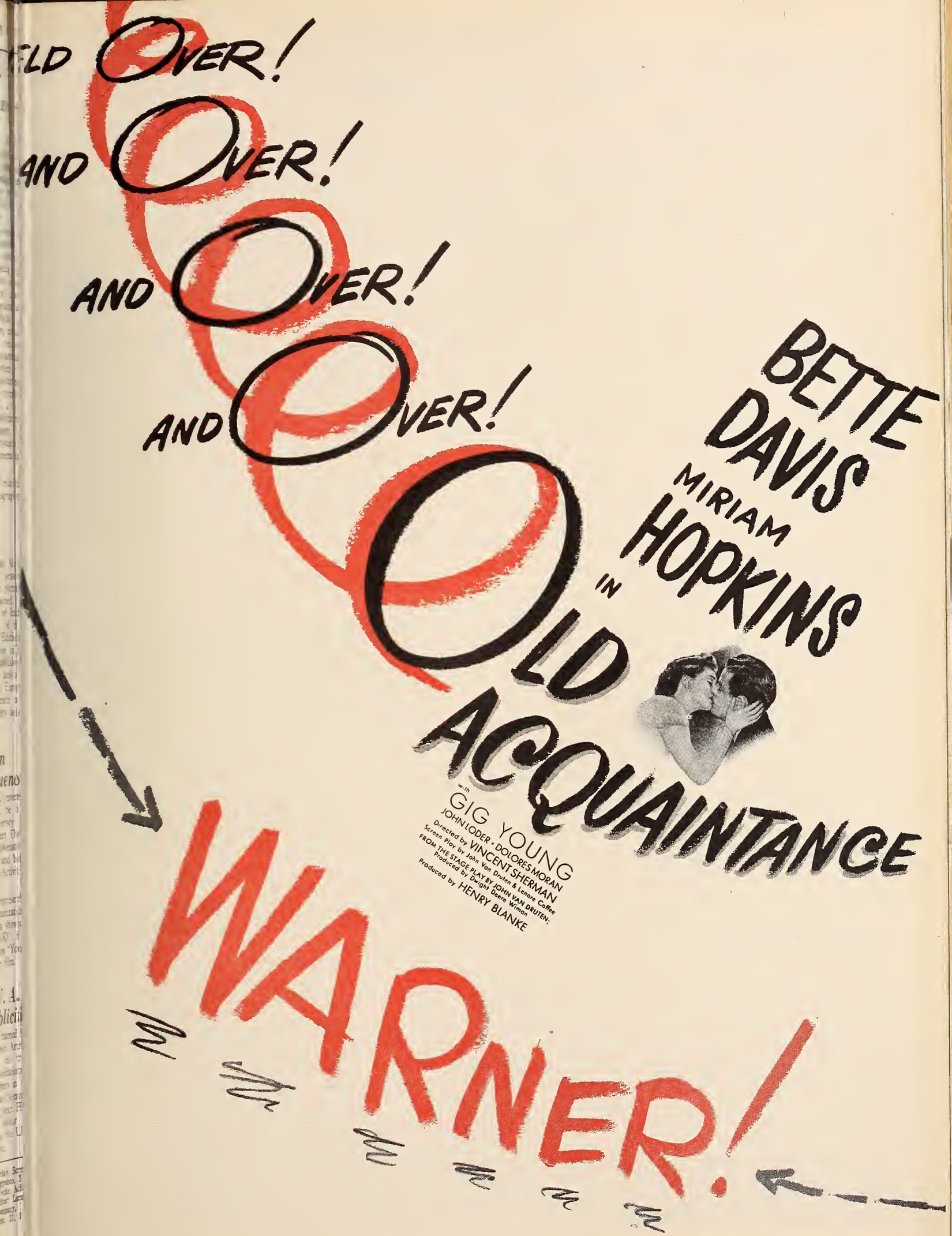
FLD OVER!
AND OVER!
AND OVER!
AND OVER!
BETTE DAVIS
MIRIAM HOPKINS
IN
OLD ACQUAINTANCE
with
GIG YOUNG
JOHN LODER • DOLORES MORAN
Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN
Screen Play by John Van Druten & Lenore Coffee
FROM THE STAGE PLAY BY JOHN VAN DRUTEN.
Produced by Dwight Deere Wiman
Produced by HENRY BLANKE
WARNER!

CEA Approves Conciliation in 33 to 14 Vote

(Continued from page 1)

for M-G-M in Great Britain. The basic purpose is to settle problems within the trade without embarrassing the industry with government interference.

The committee-of-12's decisions will be binding on both sides, thus virtually originating here the principle of a judicial trading agreement. Matters to be taken up at first include an alleged secret pact involving a list of exhibitors to whom first features are booked on percentage only, and the entire film rentals system.

It is expected that the new conciliation machinery will bring an end to the bitter discord that has been raging in the British trade for months over distributors' high grading of films and alleged high rentals, along with disputes over many other trade practices. While it is generally agreed that rental bargaining details are a matter for individual agreement, the KRS declaration that it is imperative to lay down principles during general discussions has been welcomed.

RKO Spent $685,000 On Sinatra Filming

(Continued from page 1)

cision on the case, after a three-day trial, the high-spot of which was the two-day appearance on the witness stand of Ned Depinet, president of RKO. It is RKO's contention that release of the MOT film will seriously interfere with its plan for Sinatra's stardom and jeopardize its investment in the singing star. The court is expected to decide the case before the scheduled release of the two films in late December.

MOT Announces "Music and the War"

March of Time yesterday sent notice to "all exhibitors and publicity directors" describing its next release, "U. S. Music and the War," which features classical, popular and jazz music. This is the short which is the subject of RKO Radio's suit against MOT, now pending decision by Judge Knox of Federal Court here.

Goldberg Changes Long Island Mgrs.

Lou Goldberg, zone manager for RKO theatres in the Metropolitan area, has transferred Fred Smith, manager of the Richmond Hill, to succeed the late Barney Feingold as manager of the Alden, Jamaica.

Joseph Tully, assistant of the Richmond Hill has been promoted to manage the house, with Sidney Weiner, assistant manager of the Midway, Forest Hills, moving over to a similar post at the Richmond Hill. Nicholas Sachs, relief assistant manager in the Goldberg unit has been named assistant manager at the Midway.

McGinley Chief Barker

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 8.—L. J. McGinley, head of Universal's office here, has been elected chief barker of the local Variety Club.

"Higher and Higher"

(Continued from page 1)

laugh for such stretches that audience laughter drowns out whole passages.

Leon Errol, performing here in the kind of material he made his fame in during his Broadway years, plays the improvident millionaire brilliantly. Marcy McGuire, getting in some important moments on the musical side; Dooley Wilson of "Casablanca," doing likewise; Victor Borge, Mary Wickes and Elizabeth Risdon head a thoroughly appropriate supporting cast, which includes Barbara Hale, Mel Torme, Paul Hartman, Ivy Scott, Rex Evans, Stanley Logan, Ola Lorraine, King Kennedy and Robert Anderson.

Seven song numbers, snugly placed in the run of the story and staged with production skill not often surpassed, give Sinatra—who sings six of them, some singly and some otherwise—and the others plenty of vocal opportunity. Six are by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson, the other a Richard Rodgers-Lorenz Hart number.

Everything in the book of precedent argues a lush box office for the attraction. Exploitation based on the Sinatra aspect of the enterprise practically writes itself. And there is plenty more in the package to make it a quick sale for showmen, if any there be, who may elect to minimize the Sinatra presence. The whole is solid merchandise tailored to the measure of both buyer and seller.

Running time, 90 minutes. "G."* WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

Disney Gets Ready For Hitler-Lands

(Continued from page 1)

tribution residue offers tremendous possibilities on Disney productions," it was said. More than half the Disney revenue formerly came from foreign markets.

As production progresses on "The Three Caballeros," musical feature now in work, Spanish and Portuguese scripts are being prepared, with Italian and French versions to follow.

A Russian-dubbed version of "Der Fuehrer's Face" has been completed. Similar attention is now being given to "Bambi," which has been scheduled next for release in the Soviet. "Saludos Amigos," which has been issued in all Latin-American Republics, is also to be dubbed in Swedish, Italian and French. The Swedish version of "Bambi" recently opened in Stockholm.

Two pictures in the "Goofy" series, "How to Play Football" and "Tiger Trouble," are being readied for Spanish and Portuguese; likewise "The Good Samaritan," a special featuring Pluto the Pup. Other productions will be added to the list as facilities permit.

Singles to Stay at Many W.B. Houses

(Continued from page 1)

Bands," "Sports Parades" and "Vitaphone Varieties."

The company's circuit now features singles at more of its theatres than any other circuit, with the entire Philadelphia area, representing 100 houses, booked solidly on singles, according to Warner officials. Most of Warners' Albany theatres show singles, likewise those in Memphis and a single is the policy for the company's first runs in Washington, Cleveland and elsewhere. There will be no change to singles in New England, however, that territory being one of the country's strongest dual strongholds.

Possible 20% Tax Revision Is Seen

(Continued from page 1)

take exhibitors' protests into account in framing the Senate version of the new measure.

The House tax was the subject last week of concentrated attack from exhibitor representatives attending its finance committee's hearings. They asserted it might react unfavorably upon audiences, particularly in the lower-income groups in those sections of the country which are not profiting from the war boom, and would definitely upset the long-established practice of computing admission and tax in totals ending in nickels or dimes.

Mexicans Doubling Production: Maas

(Continued from page 1)

present much stronger competition to Hollywood product.

General theatre business in Mexico has increased, with good American and Mexican features contributing to larger grosses. There has been no decline in the popularity of American films, Maas added.

Budget increases, better selection of story material, more preparation and better trained technicians in all departments of production have greatly improved the quality of Mexican films, said Maas. A number of color pictures for this season have been scheduled, he reported, with two in Cinecolor just completed.

There are many new theatres under construction, some of which, recently erected in Mexico City and elsewhere, equal many of our houses in modernity.

Two Pinch-Hit in Omaha

OMAHA, Dec. 8. — Howard Dunn and George Baumeister of the Des Moines M-G-M sales staff are temporarily in this territory substituting for Fred Thortsen, who is ill, and Charles Gerney, who has returned to Milwaukee to await an Army call.

MGM Getting Stay From War Work fo Key Field Worker

(Continued from page 1)

ger, talked on the distribution films in prison camps. Italian versior are now being shown and others ar in preparation.

The time and expense of arbitratio can often be saved, William F. Rodg ers, general sales manager, told th meeting, by salvaging tempers an making every reasonable proper effo to settle all disputes. Benefits in case can thus accrue to both side more easily and satisfactorily.

Seadler, O'Shea Heard

General promotional talks we also given by Si Seadler, advertisin manager, and E. K. O'Shea, Easte district sales manager.

William Ferguson, exploitatic head, stated: "One of the most di cussed subjects at meetings of motic picture executives and theatre circu heads during the past few months h been postwar planning. With the e ception of a small percentage of sma towns and cities which are located non-defense areas, theatre executiv agree that theatres are doing an e cellent business, but after the war t big question is how to keep the coming to the box office. There no question that the box office bo anza of today has caused many e hibitors to relax in their showma ship activities. This is all wron not only because it hurts an exhib tor's chances of getting addition revenue from extended runs but neglects the showmanship trainir which he will need so badly wh the highly competitive peace tin comes," he added.

Post-war Plans Made

"We are now preparing a postw film merchandising manual on ho to meet the emergency, and how make permanent patrons of the ma additional millions brought to t box office during the past two three years," Ferguson revealed.

"Madame Curie," which will be r leased as one of the sixth group 12 pictures, will be available for firs run showings in each exchange ar approximately January 15, it was a nounced.

Rank Sending an Emissary to U. S

(Continued from page 1)

here from New York that Rank h negotiations on for the purchase whole or part of one of at least ha a-dozen American film compani among them United Artists, Par mount, RKO, Universal, Alexand Korda's stock in United Artists a others.

Anti-Defamation Mee

A symposium on anti-defamati will be held by Cinema Lodge, B'r B'rith, at 8:30 this evening in t Hotel Piccadilly. Maurice Faga Secretary of the Anti-Defamati Council of Philadelphia will cover t situation in that city; Leonard Find Eastern executive head of the An Defamation League will talk abo New York and Ben Epstein of t Anti-Defamation League of Bost will discuss the subject there.

hort Subject eviews

etter to a Hero"

KO Pathe)

tremendous dramatic and emo-al impact, born of the very sim-ity of a story which is happening very small town in America to-characterizes "Letter to a Hero" 2 in the second "This Is Ameri-series.

Monroe, N. Y., is the community in ch the film is set, but it might well any town in the United States. A l high school teacher undertakes write to one of Monroe's favorite s, Sgt. Tom Dugan, a word picture life in the village. She tells him his family's reaction to his decora-for bravery, of his girl-friend's mplishments as the new music cher at the high schol, and of gs that typify Monroe. It will g a familiar note in every Ameri-'s heart.

arry O'Reilly has directed with dent feeling and familiarity with theme, from a script by Ardis ith. O'Reilly's photographic tech-ue achieves the desired effect oughout and Ann Dere's narration excellent. The musical score, by x Pilzer and Herman Fuchs, adds proper finishing touch. Running e, 18 mins. Release date, Dec. 17.

he Champ of hampions"

olumbia)

Highlighted by some exciting horse e sequences, "Champ of Champions" he story of Count Fleet, one of the test horses to come out of Ken-ky's Blue Grass country. Horse ers and sports fans especially will the release which takes the audi-e through the racing horse's rigid ining and shows him at the climax his career—pounding the turf and nning a race. Photography was dled very well by Jack Etra and arles Levine. Excellent direction Harry Foster, together with l Stern's interesting commentary ke "Champ of Champions" a fine rt. Running time, 10 mins. Re-se date, Oct. 20.

Caribbean Romance"

aramount)

Paramount's "Caribbean Romance" a lavish two-reel musical in Tech-olor. Established names such as Eric ore and Jimmy Lydon, plus a glamor-s newcomer, Olga San Juan and sev-al catchy songs swell its contents. It set aboard ship of which Blore is tain on a pleasure cruise. Lydon d Miss San Juan, singer of Latin merican songs and dancer of note, vide the romance while Jose Bar-so's orchestra and the Triana Dance oupe provide music. Production s in the hands of Walter Mac-ven and Louis Harris. Troy Sand-s was musical director and Lester aller was director. Grand entertain-ent. Running time, 20 mins.

Malco Books Monogram

Malco Theatres has booked Mono-am's 1943-44 product for 30 houses Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi d Tennessee, Steve Broidy, vice-esident and general sales manager, ports.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Dec. 8

DECISION of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences to hold its annual award exercises in the Chinese Theatre, instead of in a banquet hall as it has for the past 15 years, makes the ceremony available for the first time —to the extent of 700 seats—to the public. In all previous years, several times that many people have surrounded the place of celebration and stood for hours to catch a glimpse of notables arriving and departing. Many times 700 seats could be sold, at handsome prices, without a trace of trouble, and with considerable benefit to any of the war-born causes. So, don't be surprised if the exercises are finally switched to one of the larger auditoriums in the community, perhaps even to the Hollywood Bowl, before the Oscars fly.

•

David O. Selznick will star Joseph Cotten in "The House of Dr. Edwardes," which Alfred Hitchcock will produce next May. . . . Producer Robert Bassler, who recently completed "The Lodger" at 20th, has returned from a trip East to prepare "Son of Flicka." . . . Ann Gillis, child actress, gets her first glamour role at Warners in "Janie." She will play a celebrity-struck schoolgirl.

•

Grace McDonald leaves on a six weeks' personal appearance tour shortly, opening at Columbus, O. She will also make stage appearances in New York, Cleveland, Milwaukee and other Eastern and Midwestern cities. . . . When Binnie Barnes completes her role in Edward Small's "Up in Mabel's Room," for United Artists, she will go East for the lead in Richard Kolmar's musical comedy, "Out of This World." . . . "I Married a Soldier," with Billie Burke and Eugene Pallette, is before the cameras at 20th Century-Fox. Otto Preminger is producing.

Para. Sets Stars on Three Radio Shows

Paramount's radio promotion department, under Robert M. Gillham, advertising-publicity director, has set network exploitation for three forthcoming company pictures. Ginger Rogers, star of "Lady in the Dark," will be guest on the "Amos 'n' Andy" program tomorrow night over NBC.

Paulette Goddard, co-starred with Fred MacMurray in "Standing Room Only," will appear on the Chase and Sanborn program on Sunday, Dec. 12, over NBC. Robert Benchley, appearing in "National Barn Dance," will be starred on the "Amos 'n' Andy" show on Friday, Dec. 17.

'Col. Blimp' Screening

"Col. Blimp," described by sponsors as "the costliest as well as one of the most controversial of British films," will be tradeshown here Dec. 14. No distribution deal for the United States has yet been set. The film was produced by The Archers, London, and opened at the Odeon, London, last winter. It is still playing. British export restrictions prevented shipment here up to now.

Baltimore Vandalism An Expensive Item

BALTIMORE, Dec. 8.—Vandalism in theatres here has become a really serious financial factor, managers of several theatres reveal. Hoodlumism is not confined to children, managers say, but includes adults as well with almost no age limit. The usual types of vandalism are reported: slashing of seats, theft of bulbs, especially in washrooms, theft of plumbing fixtures and accessories which can be removed quickly, whittling of wooden parts of theatre seats, clogging of sanitary facilities, plugging washbasin drains and flooding floors and the upsetting of ash and air-raid sand containers.

So great has been the destruction in washrooms that several theatres have doubled porters on each shift and provided extra watchmen whose sole duty is to make regular rounds of lounges, corridors and washrooms. In each instance, managers agree, the motive seems to be destruction without any thought of selling articles which have been stolen.

Cleveland Variety Club Names Kranze

CLEVELAND, Dec. 8. — Bernard Kranze, RKO branch manager, has been elected chief barker of the Variety Club here, succeeeding Charles Rich, Warner district manager. Meyer Fine of Associated Circuit was elected first vice-barker, and M. B. Horwitz of Washington Circuit, second vice barker. I. J. Schmertz, 20th-Fox branch manager, and Edwin R. Bergman, 20th-Fox salesman, were reelected treasurer and secretary, respectively.

New board members are W. N. Skirball, Joe Lissauer, Morrison Orr, Jack Sogg, Max Lefkowich and Jerome Friedlander.

Warners Winds Up 130 'Army' Premieres

Last of the special advanced-price premieres of Irving Berlin's "This is the Army" in Warner circuit houses takes places tonight at the DeWitt Theatre, Bayonne, N. J., making a total of 130 premieres for this circuit alone.

More than $7,500 will be taken in for Army Relief from tonight's single performance.

Music Hall in Pageant

Radio City Music Hall's production staff will stage a religious pageant at the annual dinner-meeting of the board of directors of Yeshiva College, Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Hotel Astor here. The pageant was written by Abraham Regelson, with a musical score by Alexander Olshonetzky. G. S. Eyssell, managing director of Music Hall, made the arrangements.

Mrs. Harry Ross Passes

Mrs. Harry A. Ross, wife of the president of Ross Federal Service Inc., passed away last night after a long illness, in Los Angeles, where she had been spending the past few months.

Fire Destroys Theatre

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 8. — A fire early yesterday morning entirely destroyed the Frolic Theatre, an Affilated house in West Philadelphia.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 8

THE Screen Actors Guild has issued a statement here clarifying the status of temporary Class B members. It explained that temporary status was granted to alleviate the present manpower shortage and reduce the necessity of granting waivers to maintain a closed-shop status with the studios and to protect postwar employment of 1,400 Guild members now in the armed services. The guild stressed that temporary memberships are cancellable at the end of any given quarter.

•

Lieut.-Col. Marvin Young, War Department liaison with the Hollywood Victory Committee and USO Camp Shows arrived here today to attend a Ninth Service Command special services conference.

•

A special premiere of M-G-M's "Madame Curie" will be given for the benefit of the volunteer Army Canteen service at Grauman's Chinese here on Dec. 15.

•

Herman Wobber, West Coast sales head of 20th-Fox and George M. Ballentine, Pacific district manager for 20th, left here last night for New York.

•

The United Artists meeting, scheduled for today has been postponed. A statement will be issued tomorrow. Gradwell Sears and Arthur Kelly will leave here for the East Friday.

•

Paramount today announced "Out of This World," an original musical comedy starring Betty Hutton. Sam Coslow will produce.

•

George Schaefer will leave here Friday for New York with a print of "Burma Bound."

•

Nate J. Blumberg, Universal president, will return here from an extended Eastern stay on Saturday.

•

Bill McCune, Monogram casting director, has been inducted into the Navy.

•

Jack Cohn, executive vice-president at Columbia, will arrive here Monday from the East.

•

Warners today announced "Christmas in Connecticut," an original comedy starring Bette Davis.

•

Paramount today renewed Betty Hutton's and Susan Hayward's contracts.

•

Twentieth-Fox has signed Michael Audley as director, writer and dialogue director.

Cummings Joins RKO

CINCINNATI, Dec. 8.—Marc Cummings has disposed of his interest in Lobby Displays, Inc., here, to his associate, Reuben Shore. He will join RKO as Columbus salesman, where he will replace Al Sugarman, who has taken a similar post with Columbia.

Stanwyck in China Film

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8. — Barbara Stanwyck will appear in one of a series of international goodwill pictures being planned by the Chinese government for post-war showing.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Nov. 13	RETURN OF THE VAMPIRE Nina Foch Bela Lugosi D	(First Block) ABOVE SUSPICION D—90 mins. (402)	NEARLY EIGHTEEN Gale Storm Bill Henry D—61 mins. (226)	(First Block) LET'S FACE IT Bob Hope Betty Hutton M—76 mins. (4301)		HERE COMES ELMER Al Pearce Dale Evans C—(303)	(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C—(405)			THE MAD GHOUL Evelyn Ankers David Bruce—D (8038)	NORTHERN PURSUIT Errol Flynn Julie Bishop D—(307)
Nov. 20		BEST FOOT FORWARD Lucille Ball M—94 mins. (405) (Technicolor)	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43) M—(210)	TRUE TO LIFE Mary Martin Franchot Tone Dick Powell C—94 mins. (4303)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN BOSS OF RAWHIDE O—(452) HARVEST MELODY M—(402)	MYSTERY BROADCAST D—(304) OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY O—(376) DEERSLAYER Bruce Kellogg O—67 mins. (306)	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D—(401)	DANCING MASTERS Laurel and Hardy C—63 mins. (413)		NEVER A DULL MOMENT The Ritz Brotherss Frances Langford Mary Beth Hughes (8030)	
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal D—(5017)	DR. GILLESPIE'S CRIMINAL CASE Lionel Barrymore D—89 mins. (407)	TEXAS KID Johnny Mack Brown O—(351)	HOSTAGES Luise Rainer Arturo de Cordova Paul Lukas D—88 mins. (4305)		DRUMS OF FU MANCHU (Adapted from Serial) Henry Brandon D—(305)	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C—(402)	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)		HIS BUTLER'S SISTER Deanna Durbin Pat O'Brien Franchot Tone D—(8004)	OLD ACQUAINTANCE Bette Davis Miriam Hopkins D—110 mins. (308)
Dec. 4	THE HEATS ON Victor Moore William Gaxton Mae West Hazel Scott	GIRL CRAZY Mickey Rooney Judy Garland C—99 mins. (409)	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer) O—56 mins. (361)	THE GOOD FELLOWS Cecil Kellaway Helen Walker James Brown C—70 mins. (4302)		CANYON CITY Don "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O TUMBLING TUMBLEWEEDS Gene Autry (Re-Issue) O—(2308)	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D—(403)	HAPPY LAND Don Ameche Frances Dee Ann Rutherford 75 mins. (415)		SO'S YOUR UNCLE Billie Burke Elyse Knox Donald Woods C—(8042)	(Re-Issues) CRIME SCHOOL Humphrey Bogart Dead End Kids 86 mins. (327)
Dec. 11	THE CRIME DOCTOR'S STRANGEST CASE Warner Baxter Rose Hobart Lynn Merrick	LASSIE COME HOME (410) Roddy MacDowall D (Technicolor)	MR. MUGGS STEPS OUT East Side Kids D—64 mins. (301)	TORNADO Chester Morris Nancy Kelly D—83 mins. (4304)		IN OLD OKLAHOMA John Wayne Martha Scott O—102 mins.	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C—(404)			SHE'S FOR ME David Bruce Grace McDonald George Dolenz D—(8041)	GIRLS ON PROBATION Jane Bryan Ronald Reagan 63 mins. (328)
Dec. 18	KLONDIKE KATE Tom Neal Ann Savage	SALUTE TO THE MARINES Wallace Beery Fay Bainter D—(401) (Technicolor)	SMART GUY Rick Vallin D—63 mins. (227)	(Special Release) THE CITY THAT STOPPED HITLER—HEROIC STALINGRAD 58 mins. (4331)	THE DRIFTER Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John (461) JIVE JUNCTION Dickie Moore Tina Thayer M—65 mins. (407)	PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA Ruth Terry Robert Livingston C Wally Vernon RAIDERS OF SUNSET PASS O—56 mins.	(Second Block) THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)			CALLING DR. DEATH Lon Chaney Patricia Morrison Ramsey Ames D	
Dec. 25	SWING OUT THE BLUES Bob Haymes Lynn Merrick COWBOY IN THE CLOUDS Charles Starrett Walter "Dub" Taylor	SWING SHIFT MAISIE (404) Ann Sothern C—86 mins.		(Second Block) RIDING HIGH (Technicolor) Dorothy Lamour Dick Powell Victor Moore M—89 mins. (4307)		WHISPERING FOOTSTEPS John Hubbard D—56 mins. OH, MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Frank Albertson C—69c mins.	GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)	THE GANG'S ALL HERE Carmen Miranda Alice Faye James Ellison 103 mins. (416) (Technicolor)	JACK LONDON D Michael O'Shea Susan Hayward 94 mins.	MOONLIGHT IN VERMONT Gloria Jean Fay Helm Sidney Miller Ray Malone D	
Jan. 1	WHAT A WOMAN Rosalind Russell Brian Aherne Willard Parker D	ADVENTURES OF TARTU (406) Robert Donat Valerie Hobson D—103 mins.		NO TIME FOR LOVE Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Ilka Chase C—83 mins. (4309)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN GUNSMOKE MESA James Newill (453)	CALIFORNIA JOE Don "Red' Barry Helen Talbot Wally Vernon O	GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)		THE WOMAN OF THE TOWN Albert Dekker Claire Trevor D—88 mins.	GUNG HO Randolph Scott Alan Curtis David Bruce Noah Beery, Jr. D	DESTINATION TOKYO Cary Grant John Garfield D—135 mins. (309)
Jan. 8	HEY ROOKIE Ann Miller Joe Besser Larry Parks Joe Sawyer C	YOUNG IDEAS Susan Peters (408) Mary Astor D—77 mins.	RAIDERS OF THE BORDER Johnny Mack Brown O—(352) WOMEN IN BONDAGE Gail Patrick D—71 mins. (303)	HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith John Litel C—73 mins. (4306)	CAREER GIRL Frances Langford M	PRIDE OF THE PLAINS Bob Livingston Smiley Burnette O	GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)			SING A JINGLE Allan Jones June Vincent Samuel S. Hinds 62 mins. M	
Jan. 15		THE MAN FROM DOWN UNDER D—103 mins. (411) I DOOD IT D—102 mins. (403)	WHERE ARE YOUR CHILDREN Jackie Cooper D—72 mins. (302)	MINESWEEPER Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—67 mins. (4308)	NABONGA Buster Crabbe Fifi D'Orsay Barton MacLane D	HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER Roy Rogers O—74 mins. (341) CASANOVA IN BURLESQUE Joe E. Brown June Havoc C	THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D—(410)		THREE RUSSIAN GIRLS Anna Sten Kent Smith D	ALI BABA AND THE 40 THIEVES (in Technicolor) Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey	
Jan. 22	THE RACKET MAN Tom Neal Jeanne Bates	WHISTLING IN BROOKLYN Red Skelton Ann Rutherford C—87 mins. (412)	SULTAN'S DAUGHTER Ann Corio C—64 mins. WESTWARD BOUND Hoot Gibson				NORTH STAR Anne Baxter Walter Huston Dana Andrews			SPIDER WOMAN Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Gale Sondergaard	

ig $24,000 for 'rincess O'Rourke'

LEVELAND, Dec. 8.—"In Old Oklaa" and "Princess O'Rourke" are orites here with "Oklahoma" head- for $19,000 at Loew's State and rincess O'Rourke" shooting at an isually high $24,000 at Warners' ppodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ded Dec. 8:

he Iron Major" (RKO)
LLEN—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd k. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $8,500).
rincess O'Rourke" (WB)
ARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) -60c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: 500).
weet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
ARNERS' Lake—(714) (40c-50c-60c) 7 s. 3d week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: 00).
talingrad—City That Stopped Hitler" Para.)
OEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (40c-60c) 7 days. ss: $4,000. (No average as yet).
appy Land" (20th-Fox)
KO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c-85c ndays and holidays), 7 days. Stage: razy Show of 1944" with Bert Wheeler, erry Macs and Milton Britton and orestra. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $22,000).
n Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
OEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 ys. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $17,500).
irl Crazy" (M-G-M)
OEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c), 7 ys, 2nd week Gross: $10,000. (Average: 500).

Lassie' at Loew's Leads with $14,000

TORONTO, Dec. 8.—"Lassie Come ome" at Loew's headed for a $14,800 oss although there was a prevalence influenza, coupled with some rain d Christmas shopping diversion.

Estimated receipts for the week endg Dec. 9:

Ay Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
Angerous Blondes" (Col.)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 ys. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $3,900).
A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) days. Gross: $12,600. (Average: $12,-0).
Assie Come Home" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 ys. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $10,800).
Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 ys. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $12,300).
Ay Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
Angerous Blondes" (Col.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. ross: $5,100. (Average: $4,600).
Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 ays, 2nd week. Gross: $7,200. (Average: ,700).

Acquaintance' and 'Yanks' Get $18,900

BUFFALO, Dec. 8.—"Old Acquaintnce" and "Yanks Ahoy" probably will e tops here at the Buffalo with an nticipated $18,900.

Yanks Ahoy" (UA)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (35c-40c-55c-65c), 7 ays. Gross: $18,900. (Average: $16,500).
Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c), days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,400. (Averge: $16,400).
Let's Face It" (Para.)
Submarine Alert" (Para.)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c), days, 2nd week, moveover. Gross: $10,-00. (Average: $9,500).
The North Star" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-0c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: 8,000. (Average: $10,600).
The Heat's On" (Col.)
One Dangerous Night" (Col.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c), 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,500).

Republic Names Reisman

Bert Reisman, who formerly was onnected with RKO's foreign department, has joined Republic as that ompany's representative in Brazil.

Off the Antenna

NEW system of program supervision centering increased responsibility and authority with directors of the program department's major divisions is being inaugurated by Columbia Broadcasting in New York. Douglas Coulter, CBS vice-president in charge of programs, reveals that the purpose is to bring programs in various categories within the review of principal CBS program executives.

Neville Miller, National Association of Broadcasters' president, has been appointed chairman of the 1944 "March of Dimes" national radio division. . . . Board of directors of Philco have declared a year-end dividend of 25 cents per share on common stock payable Dec. 27 to stockholders on record Dec. 17. . . . Radio programs dealing with juvenile delinquency will be the chief concern of the Women's National Radio Committee for the winter season.

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Purely Personal: *Clarence G. Cosby has been appointed general manager of WINS in New York. J. Trevor Adams, Jr., is the new sales manager of the station in a reorganization that brings W. H. Losee into the sales department as well as Adams. . . . Pat Flanagan, veteran sports announcer of WBBM in Chicago, has announced his retirement. . . . Leon Barzin becomes the conductor of WQXR's orchestra Jan. 1, succeeding Eddy Brown. . . . Irene Beasley has organized the Radio Production Service to represent her as a performer and to make program-packages. . . . Jack Stapp, program manager of WSM, Nashville, leaves today to join the OWI overseas branch.*

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Program Notes—Guy Lombardo will inaugurate a new weekly program for Chelsea Cigarettes on the Blue Network, Jan. 23. . . . Gloria Swanson will be Shirley Eder's guest on WMCA's "63 Club" on Sunday. . . . Royal Arch Gunnison, Mutual correspondent, who recently returned on the Swedish Exchange liner Gripsholm, inaugurates a series of commentaries over WOR-Mutual starting Dec. 22. . . . Fred Allen returns to his regular CBS spot on Sunday. . . . Ginny Simms, star of the NBC Philip Morris program, "Johnny Presents," will appear on the CBS "Philip Morris Playhouse" program tomorrow night in a dramatization of 20th Century-Fox's "In Old Chicago," portraying the Alice Faye role in her first dramatic role on the air. . . . Kemtone's sponsorship of "Dunninger," Blue sustainer, starts Jan. 5. . . . Allis Chalmer's sponsorship of the Boston Symphony on the Blue starts Dec. 25. . . . Paramount's "Five Graves to Cairo" featuring Franchot Tone and Anne Baxter is the CBS "Lux Radio Theatre" selection for Monday. . . . 20th Century-Fox's "Holy Matrimony" is the CBS "Screen Guild Players" selection for Monday. . . . Judith Evelyn of the Broadway "Angel Street" play, has been selected to portray the title role in CBS's "Mrs. Miniver" weekly series.

'O'Rourke', 'Falcon' High with $8,600

OMAHA, Dec. 8. — "Princess O'Rourke" teamed with "The Falcon and the Co-eds" hit $8,600 at the $5,-500-average Brandeis Theatre. The Orpheum's return to a stage show, featuring Art Kassell's orchestra plus "Doughboys in Ireland" on the screen grossed $13,900. Weather was unusually good.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 8-9:

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
"The Falcon and the Co-eds" (RKO)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $8,600. (Average: $5,500)
"Johnny Come Lately" (UA)
"Murder on the Waterfront" (WB)
OMAHA—(2,000) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $6,900).
"Doughboys in Ireland" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Art Kassell's orchestra on stage. Gross: $13,-900. (Average: $14,900).
"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $9,800).

Sinatra Phila. Date

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 8.—Warners Earle here will change its policy for the week of Dec. 17, when Frank Sinatra will head the stage show. Admission prices will remain the same but no tickets will be sold while the show is in progress and there will be no admittance into the theatre during the program in order to allow for complete audience change-overs Tickets will be sold only between shows.

Sinatra will get a 50-50 split from the first dollar against a $15,000 guarantee. With sell-out perefomances for a six-day week and complete change-over for each show the house can gross $52,000.

'Girl Crazy' Holds, Grosses $13,000

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 8.—Business here with hold-overs predominating and Christmas shopping taking its toll, was generally dull for the first time in weeks. "Girl Crazy" was a good holdover with $13,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 9:

"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"Victory Through Airpower" (UA)
RKO-ALBEE—(2,239) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $12,900).
"True to Life" (Para.)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
STRAND—(2,200) (40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,100. (Average: $10,000).
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,232) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,500).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Sherlock Holmes Faces Death" (Univ.)
MAJESTIC—(2,250) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,000).
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
CARLTON—(1,526) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 4th week, second at Carlton after two at the Majestic. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $3,900).
"Girl From Monterey" (PRC)
FAY'S—(1,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. On stage: Nancy Healey, Eleanor Bowers, Pat Hill & Co., Benny Drohan & Martie Dunree, Burton Twins, Larry Collins. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500).
"It's Love Again" (G-B)
METROPOLITAN—(3,050) (40c-65c) 3 days. On stage: Four Ink-Spots, Bill Bardo & orchestra, Burton & Janet, Earl & Fortune. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,000).

300 Para. Gift Packages

Paramount home office girl volunteers, working under the auspices of a servicemen's committee have prepared 300 Christmas packages for former employes now in service.

$19,000 for 'Fallen Sparrow' in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 8.—With four holdovers at the first-runs this week, box office receipts dropped back to normal. "The Fallen Sparrow" at the Fox, one of the few new films in town, leads with an estimated $19,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 8:

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"There's Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,900).
"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"True to Life" (Para.)
FOX—(5,038) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $16,500).
"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
MISSOURI—(3,154) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 4th week in St. Louis. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,000).
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,500).
"Man From Down Under" (M-G-M)
"Calaboose"
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,900).
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Always a Bridesmaid" (Univ.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000).
"Find the Blackmailer" (WB)
"Murder on the Waterfront" (WB)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (35c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000).

$18,000 for 'Heat's On' in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Dec. 8.—Weekend and night audiences are ample, but matinees now are failing to keep box-offices busy. Managers attribute the afternoon slumps to pre-holiday shopping. Top figure for the week goes to "The Heat's On," which, with a stage show, is due to score $18,000 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 9:

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c-50c and 55c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,-500. (Average, $16,500)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (28c-40c-50c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average, $12,000)
"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (28c-35c-40c-55c) 4 days. Gross: $8,500. (Gross, $9,700)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (28c-40c-55c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Gross: $16,900)
"The Heat's On" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (28c-39c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days. Stage show: Elton Britt, Three Reddingtons, Hector & Pals, Gallagher & Shean, Roy Rogers. Gross: $18,-000. (Average, $16,800)
"In Old Chicago" (20th-Fox)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (20c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $5,900)

Indianapolis Gives $12,500 to 'Diary'

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 8.—"Guadalcanal Diary" at the Indiana is the best here this week and is expected to gross $12,500. In its second week, "Girl Crazy" will do $9,500 at Loew's

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 7-9:

"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000).
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
INDIANA—(3,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,500).
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, second week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000).
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
LYRIC—(2,000) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, moved from the Indiana. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

Its dramatic story has been PRE-SOLD in America's biggest circulation magazines

Read "Carlson of the Raiders" in Life, September 20th

Read "We Mopped Up Makin Island" in Saturday Evening Post, December 4th

Read "Carlson's Immortal Raiders" in Liberty, November 20th

Read "Colonel Carlson and His Gung Ho Raiders" in Reader's Digest, December 1943

Walter Wanger presents

GUNG HO!

A Universal Picture

A Great American Motion Picture!

Released Dec. 31st . . . while its story is hottest!

Motion Picture Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54, NO. 111 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1943 TEN CENTS

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Bob Hope Wins Radio Poll for 3d Year in Row

Chosen by 600 Editors In 8th Annual Vote

By MILT LIVINGSTON

For the third consecutive year, Bob Hope, Pepsodent's droll air salesman, has been voted "Champion of Champions on the Air" by more than 600 radio editors and columnists of the United States and Canada in MOTION PICTURE DAILY's eighth annual radio poll conducted on behalf of *Fame*. He thus ties the achievement of Edgar Bergen and his saucy Charlie McCarthy, only other air characters to gain the coveted distinction thrice. Hope has also been voted "Best Comedian on the Air" for the third straight year, and his Pepsodent show has been voted "Best Comedy Show on the Air."

Bob Hope

Haymes 'Most Promising'

Dick Haymes, popular vocalist of the Bourjois show, has been voted "Most Promising Radio Star of Tomorrow". He is also under contract to 20th Century-Fox to appear in motion pictures. Garry Moore, now teamed with Jimmy Durante ran second in this class and Jack Douglas, new comedian of RCA's "What's New" program was next runner-up.

Joan Davis was voted "Best Comedienne." Joan was not even in the running last year, but this year she was voted the favorite over Fanny Brice, winner for many years. Fanny was second in this year's voting. Gracie Allen was third.

Jack Benny made a strong comeback after a poor showing in the "Champion of Champions" balloting last year, to score second, next to

(*Continued on page 6*)

The complete tabulation of results in *Motion Picture Daily's* 8th annual Radio Champions Poll starts on Page 6.

44 Top Industry Leaders to Assist Skouras on Drive

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 9.—War Activities Committee executives, continuing their meeting here to discuss Fourth War Loan drive plans, today disclosed the names of 44 top industry executives who will aid Charles Skouras, national chairman, as an advisory committee.

Pacific Coast members of the committee are: Louis B. Mayer, Jack L. Warner, Nicholas Schenck, Joseph M. Schenck, Y. Frank Freeman, Henry Ginsberg, Nate Blumberg, James Cagney, Rodney Pantages, Robert H. Poole and Kenneth Thomson.

New York members include: A. Montague, William F. Rodgers, Barney Balaban, Joseph Bernhard, Thomas J. Connors, Ned E. Depinet, Leonard H. Goldenson, Gradwell L.

(*Continued on page 2*)

OWI Says Public Has 35 Billions to Spend

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—On the basis of figures reported here tonight by the Office of War Information, it is estimated that the public has some $35,000,000,000 after payment of taxes and purchases of available goods and services to spend for war bonds, sav-

(*Continued on page 2*)

20% TAX RETAINED BY SENATE GROUP

$7,187,098 Net for 20th Century-Fox In 39 Weeks of '43

Consolidated net profit of $7,187,098, after all charges, for 20th-Century Fox Film Corp. and its subsidiaries for the 39 weeks ended Sept. 25 was reported by the company here yesterday. The figure is slightly less than the $7,256,-003 for the first 39 weeks in 1942.

National Theatres became a wholly-owned subsidiary of 20th Century-Fox on July 9 and the earnings of National and theatre subsidiaries from that date to Sept. 25 are included in the parent's profit.

Gross income for the period from film sales and rentals and theatre receipts amounted to $116,872,388, while gross expenses amounted to $86,504,-942.

Net profit of National and subsidiaries from Dec. 26, 1942 to July 9, 1943, date of acquisition, which amounted to $1,820,016 is not included in the consolidated net profit reported. Twentieth's consolidated net profit for the first 39 weeks of 1943 equals $3.49 per share on 1,742,002 shares of common stock outstanding at Sept. 25,

(*Continued on page 2*)

Close Vote on 2-Cent Tax On Fractions to 1-Cent For Each 5 Cents

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Theatre owners are considered to have lost their fight against higher admission taxes, with the Senate Finance Committee today voting to retain the House-approved rate of two cents on each 10 cents.

Expected relief to thousands of small theatre owners in replacing the flat two-cent tax on any fractions of 10 cents by a one-cent tax for each five cents failed to materialize as the Senate Finance Committee voted this provision down 9-8.

The committee had passed over the admission tax yesterday while approving other parts of the revenue bill, leading to hopes that the ticket tax clause might come up for further consideration.

Legislative observers for the industry here are riled over what they term "a kicking around" given to theatres by the Senate Committee, citing tax reductions granted by the

(*Continued on page 2*)

Radio's War Job A Great One, 600 Editors Report

The radio industry is doing a grand job in its war efforts and it has reached the greatest stage of its development. These are the basic conclusions of more than 600 newspaper radio editors and columnists responding to requests for observations on radio for MOTION PICTURE DAILY's eighth annual radio poll conducted on behalf of *Fame*.

Criticism leveled against the industry pertained to aspects of programming such as inane spot announcements, injudicious appearances of guest stars and the lack of originality in some types of programs. A sampling of comments follows:

"One of the few beneficial factors brought about by the war, was the improvement of the radio industry: never before in its history has radio

(*Continued on page 6*)

Albright Notes 'Boom' In Post-War Australia

Business men in Australia believe that a "boom" will follow the war in both building and agriculture, resulting in continued big film grosses now being enjoyed. This was reported here by Sydney Albright, United Artists general manager in Australia and New Zealand, during a press conference yesterday.

Albright believes that Australian film production will take on importance in post-war plans and that Australian producers are planning now to enter world-wide distribution.

Rose Sees British Product Competing

American distributors may expect the toughest competition for not only the foreign markets but the market in this country as well after the war, David Rose, Paramount's managing director in Great Britain, declared yesterday in an interview at the home office here on his arrival from London.

"British producers will have their own distribution set-ups in the United States after the war, or they will buy into American companies and their product will definitely be more attractive to the American public than here-

(*Continued on page 2*)

Connors Calls 20th Mid-Winter Meeting

A three-day Midwinter sales convention of division and district managers, starting Saturday, has been called by Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution of 20th-Fox. It will be held at the Hotel Astor.

Spyros Skouras, president, and Connors will address the opening session.

Personal Mention

JACK L. WARNER, vice-president in charge of production, has arrived in New York.

•

EDMUND GRAINGER, president of Feiber and Shea circuit, left New York yesterday for a tour of Ohio, Pennsylvania and upper New York State.

•

FRANK SINATRA will be 27 on Sunday. He was rejected by the Army at Newark induction center yesterday.

•

MIKHAIL KALATAZOV, special representative of the Soviet Cinema Committee, is in town from Hollywood for one week.

•

JACOB WILK, Warner's Eastern production and story chief, has returned from Hot Springs, Ark.

•

ARTHUR BRILANT, RKO trade press publicist, will return to his desk Monday from a vacation.

•

DAVID ROSE, Paramount managing director in Great Britain, will leave here for the Coast Dec. 17.

•

BUDD ROGERS is expected to return to New York today after three days in Boston.

•

ARTHUR JEFFREY, United Artists publicity manager, is in Washington.

Rose Sees British Product Competing

(Continued from page 1)

tofore," Rose said. In production in London are several pictures which will cost from $1,000,000 to $1,500,000 which call for U. S. distribution to meet costs.

Rose related how an American film company representative, not Paramount's, in London sold the rights of a picture to Russia for £5,000 (approximately $20,000) and the picture grossed 22,000,000 rubles in Russia (approximately $1,000,000).

He revealed that Paramount has a two-picture production deal in partnership with J. Arthur Rank, the first to get under way shortly when Paul Soskin, who will produce, will arrive in this country to cast the film and to shoot some scenes in Hollywood.

John Ojerholm, Paramount film laboratory head in London, arrived here with Rose.

Rites for Mrs. Flynn

CLEVELAND, Dec. 9.—Funeral services of Mrs. Margaret J. Flynn, 84, who died at her home here Wednesday, will be conducted at St. Thomas Aquinas Church Saturday morning. Her son, John E. Flynn, M-G-M Western sales manager, is leaving New York today for Cleveland.

She also leaves another son, Thomas, and two daughters, Mrs. Rose Walsh and Mrs. Mary McCafferty.

44 Industry Leaders To Assist Skouras

(Continued from page 1)

Sears, J. R. Vogel, Richard Walsh and Harry Katz.

Chicago will be represented by John Balaban, James E. Coston and Edward Silverman; in Detroit are Earl J. Hudson and Dave Idzal, with Sidney B. Lust and John Payette in Washington, D. C.

Other exhibitor territorial bond leaders are Earl Hoblitzelle, Dallas; I. J. Hoffman, New Haven; Edward I. Kuykendall, Columbus, Miss; M. A. Lightman, Memphis; Martin J. Mullin, Boston; John H. Harris and N. A. Rosenberg, Pittsburgh; Eddie Rubin, Minneapolis; Louis Ansell, St. Louis; S. Tracy Barham, Salt Lake City; Joe Blumenfeld, San Francisco; Albert J. Finke, Portland; L. C. Griffith, Oklahoma City; Martin G. Smith, Toledo, and Abe Lastfogel, Beverly Hills.

Lee is Industry-U. S. War Bond Liaison

Claude Lee, director of exhibitor relations for Paramount here will serve as liaison between the film industry and the Treasury Department during the Fourth War Loan drive, Jan. 18-Feb. 15, the War Activities Committee announced here yesterday. Lee will have headquarters in Washington.

The appointment was made by Charles Skouras at WAC bond conferences now being held in Los Angeles. He will serve with Skouras, as general industry chairman. Rick Ricketson, president of Fox Intermountain Theatres, as vice-chairman; B. V. Sturdivant, division manager of Fox West Coast Theatres in Northern California, as campaign director; Andy Krappman and Fred Stein as assistant campaign directors, and Seymour Peiser as publicity director.

Two Ill, But Extort Trial Continues

Waivers were signed by two defendants, absent because of illness, and one of the defense counsel, permitting the $1,000,000 extortion trial in Federal Court here before Judge John Bright to continue yesterday.

Records were produced by the defense showing that the late Frank Nitti, Chicago gang leader, was not in Chicago at the time that Andrew J. Roach, a Newark projectionist, testifying as a Government witness, stated that he delivered an envelope to him in 1939, which supposedly contained extortion money.

Earlier Stanley Stubner, Chicag beer distributor, related that Browne and Bioff, former heads of the IATSE, who were later convicted on a similar charge, had refused his appeal on behalf of the operators of the State-Congress Theatre in Chicago to continue operation.

MPA Meeting Here

Motion Picture Associates will nominate officers at the Hotel Astor Dec. 15.

$7,187,098 Net for 20th Century-Fox

(Continued from page 1)

1943, after deducting dividends on prior preferred and preferred stocks.

The corresponding 39 weeks of 1942 showed a 20th-Fox profit of $7,256,003, but without any earnings or dividends from National Theatres, although it included income from England of $2,900,000 frozen in the previous year under sterling exchange regulations but released in the third quarter of 1942. This profit, after preferred dividends, amounted to $3.57 per share on the common stock. For the third quarter ended Sept. 25, 1943, the consolidated net profit, after all charges, was $3,343,849.

Federal income taxes have been estimated at the present rates before arriving at the above earnings for the 39 weeks of 1943 in a total amount of $18,545,426, which includes excess profits tax of $16,194,749 after deducting the post-war refund.

Senate Group Votes 20% Admission Tax

(Continued from page 1)

committee for cabarets, bowling alleys and pari-mutuels. They point out that there is little probability of any further consideration being given the 20 per cent theatre levy either by the committee or the Senate on the floor, where the bill now goes. The Senate is pictured as being desirous of pushing the measure through without much argument in order to remove it from page one press attention, remembering election campaigning next year.

From the floor the bill goes to House-Senate conference. The conferees are powerless to change the bill, merely adjusting differences.

Steffes Silent on New Northwestern Unit

W. A. Steffes, interviewed here yesterday during a New York visit, stated that he will seek no publicity for his newly-formed exhibitor organization, the MPTO Union of the Northwest, "until there is something definite to report as accomplished fact." The group will be affiliated with National Allied "as a militant unit" and will embrace independent exhibitors in Minnesota, North and South Dakota and part of Wisconsin, he said.

OWI Says Public Has 35 Billions to Spend

(Continued from page 1)

ings and theatres and other amusements and luxuries.

Money in circulation in the pockets of the people has reached a new all-time high of $19,250,000,000, an increase of $5,000,000,000 over last year. These figures, as of Oct. 31, were included in an economic survey which estimated that 1943 income payments to individuals would reach $142,000,000,000, against $116,000,000,000 in 1942.

Services Tomorrow For Mrs. Harry Ros

Los ANGELES, Dec. 9.—Funer services for Mrs. Harry Ross, wi of the president of Ross Federal Serv ice, will be held tomorrow mornin at 9:30 at the Wee Church of t Heather, Glendale, California. Bur al will be in Forest Lawn Cemeter there.

Besides her husband, Mrs. Ro leaves three sons, Densmore, Cliffor and Richard; a brother in Detroit, brother and a sister here, and fi grandchildren.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
ROSALIND RUSSELL IN BRIAN AHERNE
"WHAT A WOMAN"
with WILLARD PARKER
A Columbia Picture
Gala Stage Show—Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600
Held Over 2nd Weel

LATEST
MARCH OF TIME
Released by 20th Century-Fox
RADIO CITY MUSIC HAL

MacKinlay KANTOR'S
HAPPY LAND
Don AMECHE · Frances DEE
Harry CAREY · Ann RUTHERFORD
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW
ROXY
7th Ave. and 50th St.

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily. 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—Cl 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Screen TECHNICOLOR 'PHANTOM OF THE OPERA' Starring NELSON EDDY
In Person DUNNINGER
Extra JOEY ADAMS

Claudette COLBERT Fred MACMURRAY
"NO TIME FOR LOVE"
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
Woody HERMAN and band
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
BUY MORE AND MORE WAR BONDS

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Walter Wanger presents

GUNG HO!

Gung Ho!... The Story of Carlson's Makin Island Raiders!

Gung Ho!... the motion picture that keeps pace with the news!

Gung Ho!... America's newspapers are full of its story! Featured in America's biggest circulation magazines!

Gung Ho!... pre-sold as no story has ever been sold before!

Gung Ho!... the whole world is watching and cheering the thrilling, hair-raising glory story of the Marine Raiders!

a Universal Picture

Released

while its story is hottest!

HE PRESENT WITH A FUTURE. WAR BONDS FOR CHRISTMAS.

AMERICA ALWAYS

According to
Gault MacGowan in a special cable
to the NEW YORK SUN of December 2

President **ROOSEVELT**
Generalissimo **CHIANG KAI-SHEK**
Prime Minister **CHURCHILL**
Mme. **CHIANG KAI-SHEK**

and other celebrated members of
the

DISTINGUIS

THE SUN
New York • Dec. 2, 1943

The President's ditty, in the key of E flat, was unfortunately unrecorded, both words and music. The Prime Minister's impromptu dance steps were to the oft-recorded "Sidewalks of New York" and Mr. Hopkins's threat to take the orchestra to New York to learn some new music came when the conductor could not meet a request for "Pistol Packin' Mama," apologizing: "We don't know the latest ones; we've been overseas too long."

With
RUTH TERRY
ROBERT LIVINGSTON
WALLY VERNON • JACK LARUE
HELEN TALBOT
and THE KING COLE TRIO
FRANK WOODRUFF — DIRECTOR
Original Story by
Arthur Caesar — Edward Dein
Screenplay by
Edward Dein — Fred Schiller
Associate Producer
EDDY WHITE

GETS THE BEST

CAIRO CONFERENCE *Couldn't Hear*

PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA

But

EVERYBODY IN AMERICA WILL WANT TO SEE . . . *THE GREATEST NOVELTY PICTURE OF THE DECADE!* *Based on the song by Al Dexter*

A REPUBLIC MUSICAL COMEDY

Bob Hope Wins Radio Poll for 3d Year in Row

(Continued from page 1)

Bob Hope. Bing Crosby regained third position after yielding to Fibber McGee and Molly last year.

Dinah Shore was chosen "Best Popular Female Vocalist for the third consecutive year, with Kate Smith scoring second and Ginny Simms gaining third post.

Bing Crosby was designated the "Best Popular Male Vocalist" for the seventh consecutive year, setting a record for length of retention of position in the poll. Crosby again polled the most votes as "Best Master of Ceremonies," winning this designation for the third consecutive year. His "Kraft Music Hall" program was selected as the "Best Variety Program," which it also achieved last year. Surprising in this classification was the second place post won by RCA's "What's New" program which has only been on the air for a matter of weeks.

Fibber McGee and Molly again scored as "Best Comedy Team," with George Burns and Gracie Allen placing second and Bud Abbott and Lou Costello scoring third despite their prolonged absence from the airlanes.

Ameche 'Most Effective'

"Most Effective Film Player" on the air is Don Ameche. In addition to his many appearances as a guest star, Ameche acts as master of ceremonies of the "What's New" program and was chosen second in the "M. C." classification, with Bing Crosby first and Milton J. Cross scoring third. Lionel Barrymore emerged second as most effective film player and Crosby, third.

Don Wilson was selected "Best Studio Announcer," with Ken Carpenter, last year's winner earning a third place tie with Harry von Zell, winner in the 1941 poll. Milton J. Cross was second.

The editors again chose "One Man's Family" as the "Best Dramatic Series" program (Same Cast and Characters), "Lux Radio Theatre", as the "Best Dramatic Program" (Different Plays) and "Information Please" the "Best Quiz Show", repeating the selections of the previous two years.

Swing, 'Best Commentator'

Raymond Gram Swing again took first place in the race for "Best News Commentator" with H. V. Kaltenborn scoring second and Mutual commentator Fulton Lewis Jr. receiving third position. Lowell Thomas was voted "Best Newscaster," a new designation in the poll. Walter Winchell and George Putnam scored second and third, respectively, in this group.

Final results in the tabulation for "Best Woman Commentator" found the line-up unchanged from last year. Dorothy Thompson was first; Kate Smith, second, and Sheelah Carter, third.

Guy Lombardo and his orchestra scored first for the fifth consecutive year, and for the sixth time in seven years as "Best Dance Band" (Sweet), setting another record in the poll. Fred Waring was second and Sammy Kaye, third.

Harry James and his band held the first place they gained last year as "Best Dance Band" (Swing) with Tommy Dorsey scoring second, exchanging spots with Benny Goodman, who scored third this year.

For the fourth straight year Bill Stern was designated "Best Sports Announcer." Red Barber ran second and Ted Husing, third, in a shift of second and third place positions from last year.

Thomas, 1st, Crooks, 2nd

John Charles Thomas, who scored third last year as "Best Male Vocalist" (Classical) outdistanced his rivals to score first this year. Richard Crooks, winner in previous years, was second, and James Melton, third. Gladys Swarthout was again selected as "Best Female Vocalist" (Classical).

Arturo Toscanini was again selected "Best Symphonic Conductor." Dr. Frank Black was second with Leopold Stokowski, last year's second place winner, emerging third. All three are identified with the NBC Symphony Orchestra, with Black also handling the conductor chore of Cities Service Orchestra.

"Best Symphonic Orchestra" designation again went to the New York Philharmonic, which stayed on the air through the Summer at Carnegie Hall through the efforts of the United States Rubber Co., its sponsor. NBC Symphony sponsored by General Motors was a close second in the choice of the radio editors.

"Vic and Sade" was again chosen as "Best Daytime Serial." "The Goldbergs," which failed to place last year, ran second this year. "Life Can Be Beautiful" gained third post. All three are sponsored by Procter & Gamble.

Don McNeil a Winner

"Best Morning Program" designation went to Don McNeil's "Breakfast Club", again, "Breakfast at Sardi's" scored second in this classification with

Radio's War Job A Great One, 600 Editors Report

(Continued from page 1)

played such an important role in the life of Americans and Canadians," wrote a Canadian radio editor, adding: "Now more than ever, it is essential that radio be not only kept at its present high level, but improved. Intensive researches should be made regularly into the type of program *really* enjoyed by the average citizen."

An editor in Indiana wrote: "The quality of radio entertainment is probably the highest in the world, whether the world be at peace or at war, and probably always was and will be. This I misgivingly attribute to the commercial sponsorship of our programs, much as it grieves me to admit it. However, certain aspects of radio advertising are particularly ugly. 'Spot announcements' — inane and made to seem more so by repetition of the same inanities — are the worst offenders." He called particular attention to Lucky Strike's copy on the air.

Radio Lifts 'Taboos'

From Ohio came the observation that "radio has progressed greatly in the lifting of a number of silly taboos. The use of forceful language where it is an integral part of reporting news or dramatization is more noticeable now than before and adds to radio's appeal to the public." Criticized was the type of comedy show where the audience laughs and the radio listeners must guess what's going on in the studio. Also the use of "flash" buildups for news items by newscasters when the same items have already appeared in the public press hours before.

From Iowa, came the following comment on originality of radio programs and many imitations of guest stars: "Too many imitations of good shows. We need some new ideas. There are probably half-a-dozen good shows of one kind and two-dozen poor imitations. Also there are too many guest stars who go from one program to another and who lose their appeal to the public while there are lots of fine performers on programs who never get a break."

One Texas editor is hopeful about the future of the radio industry, observing: "If it can survive the soap operas it can survive anything — perhaps even the "singing commercials" and the incessant, monotonous repetition of Lucky Strike commercials."

On the same subject an editor in Kentucky wrote, "Radio is undermining, at least testing, the confidence of listeners by allowing ridiculous advertising — such as those obnoxious between-programs singing plugs."

'Have Outlived Soap Operas'

From Washington an editor said: "Along with a large majority I believe that we have outlived the daytime soap operas". From Illinois came this: "Much too much of those spot announcements, especially unattractive and repulsive announcements on soaps and cosmetics."

Another Illinois editor sounded a note of alarm about complacency saying, "There is just a suspicion that radio may be losing its freedom not through any government interference but because it is becoming a mite too cautious. Don't let this happen."

An upstate New York editor calls for improvement in programming saying, "For years now programs have been dormant. There is a definite lack of new blood and that which is being developed is below par. Programs should not depend on guest artists to carry a show. Most of the guest-artist shows are abominable."

Lucky Strike Cited

In the same vein, a Texas editor wrote, "There is too much advertising and too much mixing of advertising with programs. Lucky Strike is one of the worst offenders."

A New York editor wrote, "Maybe there's a chance for a big improvement in the industry by deleting those over-tiresome spot announcements and 90 percent (so it seems) of commercial five-minute shows.

Benny, Allen In 2nd and 3rd Comedy Spot

third place going to "Hollywo Theatre of the Air."

"Let's Pretend" was again select as "Best Program for Childre "Lone Ranger" was second and "Co to Coast on a Bus" ran third.

"Best Musical Show," according the editors is again "Pause Th Refreshes on the Air" (Andre Kost anetz, conductor). "American Alb of Familiar Music" was second a Phil Spitalny's "Hour of Charm" r third.

"University of Chicago Round T ble" was voted "Best Educational Pr gram." "Town Meeting of the Ai rose from third to second. CBS "American School of the Air," l year's winner, was third. "Best Co mercial War Program" designati went to "The Man Behind the Gu "The Army Hour" was again vot "Best Government War Progran "Stage Door Canteen" was voted s ond best "Commercial War Progran

Best War Coverage by CBS

CBS' all around war coverage, pecially of the Italian surrend was voted "Best News Job by Ra in 1943." Paul White is departm director. NBC's over-all war cov age was voted a close second.

Jack Benny and Fred Allen to second and third places, respective behind Bob Hope as "Best Con dians." Frank Sinatra took seco place behind Bing Crosby as "B Male Vocalist" (Popular). Den Day and Dick Haymes were tied third.

Jack Benny's "Grapenuts" sh was voted second in the "Best Com Shows" classification with Fibber M Gee and Molly's "Johnson's Wax Sh receiving third designation. "Truth Consequences" scored second in "Quiz Shows" grouping, with "Q Kids" emerging third, an exchange positions from last year.

"The Aldrich Family" was sec in "Best Dramatic Series" (Same C and Characters) with "Mr. Distr Attorney," third. "Screen Guild Pl ers" scored second as Best Dram ic Program (Different Plays) w "Cavalcade of America" third.

The Winners

Results in all classifications follo together with names of sponsors, ag cies and networks and progr (EWT) time:

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

Bob Hope (Pepsodent Co.—Lord Thomas—NBC, Tuesdays, 10-10 p.m.)

Jack Benny (General Foods—Yo & Rubicam—NBC, Sundays, 7-7 p.m.)

Bing Crosby (Kraft Cheese—J. W ter Thompson—NBC, Thursdays, 9:30 p.m.)

MOST PROMISING STAR OF TOMORROW

Dick Haymes (Bourjois, Inc.—Fo Cone & Belding (previously Blue).—CBS, Thursdays, 10:30 p.m.(.

Garry Moore (R. J. Reynolds

(Continued on page 7)

Davis, Brice, Gracie Allen Are Winners

(Continued from page 6)

co—William Esty and Co.—CBS. days, 10-10:30 p.m.)
k Douglas (RCA—J. Walter Thompson—Blue, Saturdays, 7-8 p.m.)

BEST COMEDIANS

b Hope (Pepsodent—Lord & Thomas—NBC, Tuesdays, 10-10:30 p.m.)
k Benny (General Foods—Young & Rubicam—NBC, Sundays, 7-7:30 p.m.)
ed Allen (Texas Co.—Buchanan & Co.—CBS, Sundays, 9:30-10 p.m.)

COMEDIENNES

an Davis (Sealtest—McKee & Albright—NBC, Thursdays, 9:30-10 p.m.)
nny Brice (General Foods—Benton & Bowles—NBC, Thursdays, 8-8:30 p.m.)
acie Allen (Lever Bros.—Young & Rubicam—CBS, Tuesdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)

COMEDY TEAMS

bber McGee and Molly (Johnson & Son—Needham, Louis and Brorby—NBC, Tuesdays, 9:30-10 p.m.)
rns and Allen (Lever Bros.—Young & Rubicam—CBS, Tuesdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)
bbott and Costello (R. J. Reynolds Tobacco—William Esty & Co.—NBC, Thursdays, 10-10:30 p.m.)

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

ng Crosby (Kraft Cheese—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Thursdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)
on Ameche (RCA—J. Walter Thompson—Blue, Saturdays, 7-8 p.m.)
ilton J. Cross (Andrew Jergens—Lennen & Mitchell—Blue, Sundays, 9:15-9:45 p.m.)

FILM PLAYERS ON AIR

on Ameche (RCA—J. Walter Thompson—Blue, Saturdays, 7-8 p.m.)
onel Barrymore (Lever Bros.—Ruthrauff & Ryan—CBS, Wednesdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)
ing Crosby (Kraft Cheese—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Thursdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)

MALE VOCALIST (Popular)

ing Crosby (Kraft Cheese—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Thursdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)
rank Sinatra (American Tobacco—Foote, Cone & Belding—CBS, Saturdays, 9-9:45 p.m.)
ennis Day (Tie) (General Foods—Young & Rubicam—NBC, Sundays, 7-7:30 p.m.)
ick Haymes (Tie) (Bourjois, Inc.—Foote, Cone & Belding—CBS, Thursdays, 10-10:30 p.m.)

MALE VOCALIST (Classical)

ohn Charles Thomas (Westinghouse Manufacturing—Young & Rubicam—NBC, Sundays, 2:30-3 p.m.
ichard Crooks (Firestone—Sweeney & James Co.—NBC, Mondays, 8:30-9 p.m.)
ames Melton (Texas Co.—Buchanan & Co.—CBS, Sundays, 9:30-10 p.m.)

The Radio Champions for 1943

Dick Haymes

Joan Davis

Bing Crosby

Don Ameche

John C. Thomas

Dinah Shore

Gladys Swarthout

Don Wilson

Raymond Gram Swing

Lowell Thomas

Bill Stern

Dorothy Thompson

Arturo Toscanini

Guy Lombardo

Harry James

FEMALE VOCALIST (Popular)

Dinah Shore (General Foods—Young & Rubicam—CBS, Thursdays, 9:30-10 p.m.)
Kate Smith (General Foods—Young & Rubicam—CBS, Fridays, 8-8.55 p.m.)
Ginny Simms (Philip Morris—Biow Co.—NBC, Tuesdays, 8-8:30 p.m.)

FEMALE VOCALIST (Classical)

Gladys Swarthout (Prudential Insurance—Benton & Bowles—(CBS, Sundays, 5-5:45 p.m.)
Lily Pons (Various Guest Appearances).
Marian Anderson (Various Guest Appearances).

STUDIO ANNOUNCERS

Don Wilson (General Foods—Young & Rubicam—NBC, Sundays, 7-7:30 p.m.)
Milton J. Cross (Texas Co.—Buchanan & Company—Blue, Saturdays, 2-5 p.m.)
Ken Carpenter (Tie) (Kraft Cheese—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Thursdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)
Harry von Zell (Tie) (Bristol-Myers—Young and Rubicam—NBC, Wednesdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)

COMMENTATORS

Raymond Gram Swing (Socony Oil—Compton Advertising Co.—Blue, Mondays through Thursdays, 10-10:15 p.m.)
H. V. Kaltenborn (Pure Oil—Leo Burnett—NBC, Mondays through Fridays, 7:45-8 p.m.)
Fulton Lewis Jr. (Locally Sponsored—Mutual, Mondays through Fridays, 7-7:15 p.m.)

NEWSCASTERS

Lowell Thomas (Sun Oil—Roche, Williams & Cunnygham — Blue, Mondays through Fridays, 6:45-7 p.m.)
Walter Winchell (Andrew Jergens—Lennen & Mitchell—Blue, Sundays, 9-9:15 p.m.)
George Putnam (Various Sponsors—NBC, Mondays through Saturdays, 6-6:15 p.m.—Daily, 11-11:15 p.m.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCERS

Bill Stern (Colgate-Palmolive-Peet—Sherman & Marquette—NBC, Fridays, 10:30-10:45 p.m.—also daily sportcasts).
Red Barber (P. Lorillard—J. Walter Thompson — WHN baseball and football Broadcasts—also Mutual).
Ted Husing (CBS Sports events).

WOMEN COMMENTATORS

Dorothy Thompson (Trimount Clothing—Emil Mogul—Blue, Sundays, 7:15-7:30 p.m.)
Kate Smith (General Foods—Young & Rubicam—CBS, Mondays through Fridays, 12-12:15 p.m.)
Sheelah Carter (Mutual, Mondays through Fridays, 3-3:15 p.m.)

SYMPHONIC CONDUCTORS

Arturo Toscanini (General Motors—Arthur Kudner—NBC, Sundays, 5-6 p.m.)
Dr. Frank Black (Cities Service—Foote, Cone & Belding—NBC, Fridays, 8-8:30 p.m.)
Leopold Stokowski (General Motors—Arthur Kudner—NBC, Sundays, 5-6 p.m.)

SYMPHONIC ORCHESTRAS

New York Philharmonic (United States Rubber — Campbell-Ewald, Eastern Division—CBS, Sundays, 3-4:30 p.m.)
NBC Symphony (General Motors—Arthur Kudner—NBC, Sundays, 5-6 p.m.)
Boston Symphony (Allis-Chalmers

(Continued on page 8)

Champions Selected in Annual Radio Pol

Best Bands Are Lombardo's, Harry James'

(Continued from page 7)

—Compton Advertising—Blue, Saturdays, 8:30-9:30 p.m.)

DANCE BANDS (Sweet)

Guy Lombardo (P. Ballantine & Sons —J. Walter Thompson—CBS, Mondays, 10:30-11 p.m.)

Fred Waring (Liggett & Myers Tobacco — Newell-Emmett — NBC, Mondays through Fridays 7-7:15 p.m.)

Sammy Kaye (P. Lorillard—J. Walter Thompson—CBS, Wednesdays, 8-8:30 p.m.)

DANCE BANDS (Swing)

Harry James (Liggett & Myers Tobacco — Newell-Emmett — CBS, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 7:15-7:30 p.m.)

Tommy Dorsey (Coca-Cola—D'Arcy Advertising—Blue, Mondays through Saturdays, 9:30-9:55 p.m.)

Benny Goodman (CBS Remote Pick-ups).

MORNING PROGRAMS

Breakfast Club (Swift & Co.—J. Walter Thompson—Blue, Tuesdays through Saturdays, 9:30-9:45 a.m.) Also: (Kellogg Co.—Kenyon & Eckhardt—Blue, Mondays through Fridays, 9:45-10 a.m.)

Breakfast at Sardi's (Kellogg—Kenyon & Eckhardt—Blue, Mondays through Fridays, 11:15-11:30) Also: (Alaska Pacific Salmon Co.—Compton Advertising—Blue, Mondays through Fridays, 11-11:15 a.m.)

Hollywood Theatre of the Air Procter & Gamble—Blackett-Sample-Hummert — NBC, Mondays through Fridays, 10:45-11 a.m.)

DAYTIME SERIALS

Vic and Sade (Procter & Gamble Co.—Compton Advertising—NBC, Mondays through Fridays, 11:15-11:30 a.m.)

The Goldbergs (Procter and Gamble Co.—Compton Advertising—CBS, Mondays through Fridays, 1:45-2 p.m.)

Life Can Be Beautiful (Procter & Gamble Co.—Compton Advertising CBS, Mondays through Fridays 1-1:15 p.m.)

DRAMATIC SERIES
(Same Cast and Characters)

One Man's Family (Standard Brands —Kenyon & Eckhardt—NBC, Sundays, 8:30-9 p.m.)

The Aldrich Family (General Foods —Young & Rubicam—NBC, Thursdays, 8:30-9 p.m.)

Mr. District Attorney (Bristol-Myers —Pedlar & Ryan—NBC, Wednesdays, 9:30-10 p.m.)

DRAMATIC PROGRAMS
(Different Plays)

Lux Radio Theatre (Lever Brothers —J. Walter Thompson—CBS Mondays, 9-10 p.m.)

Screen Guild Players (Lady Esther—Pedlar & Ryan—CBS, Mondays, 10-10:30 p.m.)

Cavalcade of America (E. I. DuPont De Nemours—B. B. D. & O., Inc.—NBC, Mondays, 8-8:30 p.m.)

VARIETY PROGRAMS

Kraft Music Hall (Kraft Cheese Co. —J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Thursdays, 9-9:30 p.m.)

What's New (Radio Corp. of America—J. Walter Thompson—Blue, Saturdays, 7-8 p.m.)

Kate Smith Hour (General Foods Corp.—Young & Rubicam—CBS, Fridays, 8-8:55 p.m.)

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Let's Pretend (Cream of Wheat—B. B. D. & O.—(CBS, Saturdays, 11:05-11:30 a.m.)

Lone Ranger (General Mills—Blackett-Sample-Hummert — Blue, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 7:30-8 p.m.)

Coast to Coast on a Bus (Blue, Sundays, 9:15-10 a.m.)

COMEDY SHOWS

Bob Hope (Pepsodent — Lord & Thomas—NBC, Tuesdays, 10-10:30 p.m.)

Jack Benny (General Foods—Young & Rubicam—NBC, Sundays, 7-7:30 p.m.)

Fibber McGee and Molly (Johnson & Son—Needham, Louis & Brorby—NBC, Tuesdays, 9:30-10 p.m.)

QUIZ SHOWS

Information Please (H. J. Heinz—Maxon—NBC, Mondays, 10:30-11 p.m.)

Truth or Consequences (Procter & Gamble — Compton Advertising—NBC, Saturdays, 8:30-9 p.m.)

Quiz Kids (Miles Laboratories—Wade Agency—Blue, Sundays, 7:30-8 p.m.)

MUSICAL SHOWS

Pause That Refreshes on the Air Coca-Cola—D'Arcy Advertising Co. —CBS, Sundays, 4:30-5 p.m.)

American Album of Familiar Music (Bayer Co.—Blackett-Sample-Hummert—NBC, Sundays, 9:30-10 p.m.)

Hour of Charm (General Electric Company—B. B. D. & O.—NBC, Sundays, 10-10:30 p.m.)

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

University of Chicago Round Table (NBC, Sundays, 2:30-3 p.m.)

Town Meeting of the Air (Blue, Thursdays, 8:30-9:30 p.m.)

American School of the Air (CBS, Monday through Friday, 9:15-9:45 a.m.)

NEWS JOB BY RADIO IN 1943

CBS—All Around War Coverage.
NBC—All Around War Coverage.

COMMERCIAL WAR PROGRAMS

The Man Behind the Gun (Elgin National Watch Co. — J. Walter Thompson—CBS, Saturdays, 7-7:30 p.m.)

Stage Door Canteen (Corn Products Refining Co.—C. L. Miller Co.—CBS, Fridays, 10:30-11 p.m.)

Cavalcade of America (E. I. DuPont De Nemours Co.—B. B. D. & O.—NBC, Mondays, 8-8:30 p.m.)

GOVERNMENT WAR PROGRAMS

The Army Hour (NBC, Sundays, 3:30-4:30 p.m.)

Treasury Star Parade (Locally Presented).

This Is Our Enemy.

McKay and Ferris Give Best Radio Press Service, Editors Say

RADIO EDITORS of newspapers of the United States and Canada, voting in the eighth annual MOTION PICTURE DAILY-FAME radio poll, selected the Earle Ferris, Tom Fizdale and J. Walter Thompson offices as giving the best individual radio publicity service to the press, in the order named. The publicity department here of National Broadcasting, headed by John McKay, was voted tops in this connection as the best network.

John McKay

Earle Ferris

Polling of radio editors to select the best individual publicity services was done in the DAILY-FAME poll this year for the first time. Full results of the balloting by the more than 600 newspaper radio editors follows:

NETWORK PUBLICITY DEPARTMENTS

FIRST PLACE:
National Broadcasting Company,
John McKay, director of press department.

SECOND PLACE:
Columbia Broadcasting System,
George Crandall, director of publicity.

THIRD PLACE:
Blue Network,
Earl Mullin, manager of publicity department.

INDIVIDUAL PUBLICITY OFFICES

FIRST PLACE:
Earle Ferris.

SECOND PLACE:
Tom Fizdale, Inc.

THIRD PLACE:
J. Walter Thompson, Inc.

Poll Awards t Be Broadcas This Weeken

Announcements of awards and pr entations of scrolls to winners in MOTION PICTURE DAILY-*Fame* eig annual radio poll, will be made on network shows at the weekend.

Bill Stern, designated as Best Sp Announcer, will be presented his sc on his NBC "Colgate Sports News of the Air" tonight at 10:30 p.m. morrow morning at 11:05, on the C network, Nila Mack will be presen with her scroll in connection with "Let's Pretend" show being voted Best Program for Children. "M Behind the Gun," voted the Best Co mercial War Program, will featur scroll presentation on the CBS n work at 7 p.m. tomorrow.

Announcements Sunday

The Prudential Family Hour CBS Sunday between 5 and 5:45 p will feature an announcement conce ing Gladys Swarthout being vo Best Female Classical Vocalist. "T Pause That Refreshes on the A conducted by Andre Kostelanetz, vo the "Best Musical Show," will feat a similar announcement over C Sunday between 4:30 and 5 p.m. D othy Thompson will be presented w her scroll as Radio's Best Won Commentator on her Blue Netw program at 7:15 p.m. Sunday.

Other scroll presentations have b arranged for Wednesday, Dec. 15 Lowell Thomas as Best Newscast Friday, Dec. 17 to Paul White, C director of news broadcasts on "Dateline" program in connection w CBS being voted as performing Best News Job in Radio in 1943 their overall war coverage, and S day, Dec. 26, to the New York P harmonic Orchestra as the Best Sy phonic Orchestra.

M-G-M Field Men t Resume N. Y. Studi

CHICAGO, Dec. 9.—M-G-M continue its plan of having two bra managers visit the home office wee to study internal operations, it announced at the close of a four-sales meeting at the Blackstone H here.

Exchange heads will again be visiting home office departments a Jan. 1 and also participate in d sales meetings conducted by Will F. Rodgers, general sales mana

Plan Promotions o 'Lady in the Da

Plans for national exploitat budgeted at over $400,000, for P mount's "Lady in the Dark" will discussed at a meeting of comp and partner advertising-publicity ecutives with Robert M. Gill Paramount advertising-publicity di tor, at the Blackstone Hotel, Chic Dec. 12. The film will be scree prior to the meeting.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 112 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1943 | TEN CENTS

Exhibitors In Final Plea vs. Doubled Tax

. Myers Warns Against Absorbing Increase

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Exhibitor leaders were in Washington over the weekend, conferring with members of the Senate in an effort to make one last fight against the doubling of the admission tax.

Failing reconsideration of the matter by the Finance Committee where, it was reported, the House tax proposal was adopted by a margin of one vote, the last chance to defeat the levy lies in the Senate itself during consideration of the tax bill, in the form of an amendment offered from the floor to reject or reduce the House rate.

If such an amendment is not offered or is rejected, the increased rate is a certainty and will become effective

(*Continued on page* 11)

N.E. Circuits Form Buying Combine

BOSTON, Dec. 12.—A number of leading New England independent circuits have joined a buying combine headed by Sol Edwards, who resigned from Warners recently after many years with that company. Edwards will serve as head film buyer for the new organization.

Among the independent circuits reportedly aligned with the new combine are: E. M. Loew, Levenson Brothers and the Herman Rifkin Theatres. The Weiberman Circuit is among others

(*Continued on page* 11)

Decree Talks Will Resume This Week

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Department of Justice officials at the weekend saw no chance of the revised consent decree being in readiness for submission to Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard before the middle of next month.

They disclosed that so far the proposals submitted by the distributors have been confined largely to what the companies would like to have embodied in the new decree, and the department's suggestions have been

(*Continued on page* 11)

Depinet Notes 46% Rise in RKO Sales as New Drive Is Set

Domestic sales of RKO Radio product for the first 43 weeks of 1943 have increased more than 46 per cent over the similar period of last year, Ned E. Depinet, president of the company, stated in keynoting the 1944 Ned Depinet Drive, which was announced at the weekend. He revealed that the company was servicing 25 per cent more customers at present than it did during 1942.

Ned E. Depinet

Depinet attributed the increase in RKO's business to improved product and to the overall strength of business generally. He cited RKO's sixth and seventh blocks for 1942-43, which were tradeshown in May and July of this year, and the first and second blocks of the current season, which were tradeshown in August and November, in quoting the percentage of business upswing.

The sales drive will extend for 15 weeks from Feb. 4 to May 18, and will be directed by Charles Boasberg, Eastern Central district manager, Robert Mochrie, general sales manager, revealed at the weekend. Boasberg is mapping plans for the drive at the home office. He will be assisted by Harry Gittleson, assistant to Walter Branson, Western division sales manager.

3,004 from Warners Are Now in Service

Induction of 400 Warner Bros. employes into the armed forces in the past two months brings the total now serving to 3,004, representing 20 per cent of their pre-war personnel, Ralph W. Budd, personnel director and supervisor of the home office service men's bureau, has announced.

The total killed or missing in action is now 17 as compared with 14 in October, when the last tabulation was made.

Pegler to Leave F. C. & B. Jan. 1

Jack A. Pegler, long associated with Lord & Thomas here, and a vice-president of its successor, Foote, Cone & Belding, will leave that agency as of Jan. 1, it was announced at the weekend. During his 16 years with Lord & Thomas and Foote, Cone & Belding, Pegler handled the advertising accounts of Radio Pictures, RKO Theatres and Walt Disney Productions.

Jack A. Pegler

Also, during that period he was account executive

(*Continued on page* 11)

Editorialize News on the Air, Say Radio Writers

By MILT LIVINGSTON

Newspaper radio editors and columnists were asked whether they feel that radio news analysts and commentators should refrain from editorial comment as part of MOTION PICTURE DAILY's eighth annual radio poll for *Fame*, the winners of which appeared here on Friday. The majority were quite emphatic in stating that they felt that radio news analysts and commentators should not refrain from editorial comment, citing the similarity between editorializing in newspapers and on the air, and many in-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Cowdin Urges Post War Plans at NAM

American business and industry must begin planning to provide 30,000,000 new jobs for the postwar era, J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal, said in an address before the National Association of Manufacturers here at the weekend.

Cowdin described the problem of providing jobs and that of taxation as the most important, apart from the war, confronting the nation today. If American businessmen fail to take the

(*Continued on page* 11)

March of Time Enjoined on Sinatra Film

Court Would Protect Patriotic Talent

A temporary injunction restraining March of Time from distributing a Frank Sinatra film which it made when the singer entertained WAVES in training at Hunter College here recently, was issued to RKO Radio by Federal Judge John C. Knox in U. S. District court on Saturday.

In an opinion accompanying the decision Judge Knox held that proper protection of the rights of artists who voluntarily and gratuitously entertain service groups in wartime is necessary, if for no other reason than to

(*Continued on page* 11)

'U' Meeting Hears Scully on Product

Universal's continuing adherence to a policy of presenting diversified product and its attention to the development of new personalities was stressed by W. A. Scully, Universal vice-president and general sales manager, in addressing a two-day meeting of the company's division and district managers here over the weekend.

W. A. Scully

Among those who attended the meeting, in addition to Scully and

(*Continued on page* 11)

4,200 Houses Pledge For 'Dimes' Drive

More than 4,200 theatres have fallen in line for the March of Dimes drive of Jan. 24-30, according to tentative tabulation announced by Nicholas M. Schenck, national chairman.

Indications are that at least 14,000 theatres will make audience collections. This would set an all-time record for an industry drive.

Among the theatre circuits to par-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Personal Mention

RED KANN, vice-president of Quigley Publications, and MRS. KANN will arrive from Hollywood today for a visit of about a month in New York.

•

LOTHAR WOLFF, chief film editor of the March of Time, has been sworn in as a Lieutenant (j.g.) in the U. S. Coast Guard Reserve, and will go on active duty this week.

•

RUBY COHEN, manager of Cinema Circuit's Anco Theatre here, was honored at a luncheon at the weekend at the Hotel Astor by associates before leaving for the Navy.

•

EUGENE NEWMAN, in the field auditing division of Paramount's theatre department for the past 14 years, left at the weekend for Fort Dix to begin active duty in the Signal Corps.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant general sales manager, will leave for Washington today and return tomorrow.

•

GRAD SEARS and ARTHUR KELLY are scheduled to arrive from the Coast today. EDWARD C. RAFTERY will remain for several days more.

•

WILLIAM F. RODGERS and HENDERSON M. RICHEY returned to New York over the weekend from Chicago.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern division sales manager, returned over the weekend from a trip to Philadelphia and Scranton.

•

ROBERT M. WEITMAN, managing director of the New York Paramount, returned from Hollywood yesterday.

•

CHARLES SCHWARTZ, of Schwartz & Frohlich, is expected to return from the Coast tomorrow.

•

HAL B. WALLIS left for the Coast over the weekend following a brief New York visit.

•

JERRY WALD, Warner producer, will leave for the Coast today after a three-week visit in New York.

•

C. J. SCOLLARD, Paramount executive, is expected to return to New York today.

•

PHIL SHERMAN, assistant to EDWARD PESKAY, has been inducted into the Army.

•

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK returned to New York last week after several weeks at the M-G-M studios.

•

JAMES E. COSTON, Warner Theatres zone manager for Milwaukee and Chicago, is expected in town today.

•

GEORGE BROWN, Paramount studio advertising director, left over the weekend for the Coast.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

A DECISION of interest to the industry involving Ascap license fees and state laws affecting copyright, was handed down in the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago last week. Louis D. Frohlich, New York attorney, was counsel for plaintiff in the case. The Federal District court at Milwaukee prevously had held that a "music broker" could not bring an action in Wisconsin for infringement of copyright unless the copyright owner first complied with provisions of the state's "anti-Ascap law." Plaintiff appealed and the Circuit Court reversed the lower court, holding that a copyright is a Federal grant and cannot be impinged or restricted by state laws.

• •

An agreement has been reached concerning the future status of Charles F. (Socker) Coe in MPPDA, authoritative sources report. Coe told MOTION PICTURE DAILY before leaving for his Palm Beach home last month that he had not resigned and would not. That is correct. Coe will remain as MPPDA counsel but not as vice-president and general counsel. He will be more or less free to handle legal work for his own firm and to take other outside work to his liking from time to time. He will fulfill speaking engagements on behalf of the industry before public groups, as he has been doing heretofore, and will be available to the MPPDA for other special assignments. In short, his full time hereafter will not be claimed by the industry. An adjustment of his contract, which has until March, 1945, to run, has been made in accordance with the new arrangement.

• •

Home office foreign department officials are predicting a reopening of production by American companies in England between the first of the year and early next Spring. Many of the companies have had productions ready to go for more than a year but have been unable to obtain either studio space or the necessary technical and other manpower.

The home office officials now believe that studio space will be released in the near future by both military and civilian sources in England. Manpower, of course, will remain a problem but, they say, with studio space available, productions can and will be started.

• •

The increasing shortage of cigars will hit more industry executives, proclaims one of them, than any other wartime shortage that has developed thus far. Already there is to be observed a significant switchover to pipes by executives who have spurned them in the past. A sign of the times is the recent lifting of the pipe smoking ban in Loew's home office projection room. The repeal was carried with votes from the very clique which sponsored and enacted the pipe prohibition originally.

• •

Jim Mason, well known letter writer and occasional operator of the De Luxe, Cherry Valley, O., intrudes himself again just at a time when we were about to give credence to reports that he had been lynched by the decent citizenry of the Valley. Jim explains his too-brief disappearance with a cock-and-bull tale of having become an air raid warden. During a test blackout in Cherry Valley last month, he lies, he went into the Big Schooner Sandwich Shoppe & Grille to see about some unextinguished lights. Claims that's the last he remembers until he woke up in Cleveland. Jim says it was all the fault of his brother-in-law, who never did sound the all-clear.

Anyhow, Jim writes that business is so good at the De Luxe now that he can shave and change into his Sunday suit before going to town to make his film deals. There was a time when he wouldn't think of letting a film salesman see him in anything but those rags he wears on fishing trips. "Why, even the ad-film people are trying to get me on percentage," Jim claims.

• •

A production company executive currently involved in litigation here took elaborate, but futile, pains to cover his tracks during a recent visit from the Coast. To dodge process servers he not only registered under an assumed name at any out of the way hotel on his arrival here but changed hotels daily, employing a different name at each, for the first week of his stay. Result: at the end of the week his attorneys were obliged to accept service for him.

Coming Events

Dec. 11-13—20th-Fox district managers' meeting, New York.
Dec. 17—Quarterly meeting of the council of Actors' Equity, Hotel Astor, New York.
Dec. 21—"Free movie day," War Activities Committee, Minneapolis.
Dec. 27—Philadelphia Tent No. 13, Variety Club, to receive plaque for outstanding charity work, Bellevue-Stratton Hotel, Philadelphia.
Jan. 12—Max Reinhardt memorial program, Hollywood.
Jan. 18-Feb. 15—Fourth War Loan Drive.
Jan. 24-30—"March of Dimes" campaign.
Feb. 5—Annual dance, Press Photographers' Association of New York, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

M-G-M District Mgrs. Start Meetings Today

Meetings start today between M-G-M district managers and their branch managers, at which reports will be given on the recent Chicago mid-seasonal meetings.

The meeting for the Washington and Charlotte district will be held at Washington; for Boston, New Haven and Albany, at Boston; for Atlanta, Memphis and New Orleans, at Atlanta; for Detroit, Buffalo, Cleveland and Pittsburgh, at Detroit; for Denver, Portland, Seattle, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles and San Francisco, at San Francisco.

For Chicago, Des Moines, Milwaukee, Minneapolis and Omaha, at Chicago; for Kansas City, Oklahoma City and Dallas, at Dallas; for New York and New Jersey, at the Hotel Astor here; for Philadelphia, at the company's exchange there. For Cincinnati, St. Louis and Indianapolis, there will be a special session with John J. Maloney, central division sales manager.

Chadwick Reelected President of IMPPA

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—The Independent Motion Picture Producers Association late last week reelected I. E. Chadwick, president; W. Ray Johnston and Leon Fromkes, vice-presidents, and Edward Finney, secretary-treasurer.

Fromkess, Ray Young, Sig Neufeld, A. W. Hackel, Sam Katzman, George Weeks and Lindsley Parsons were named to the executive council. Tentative plans for reopening negotiations with the Screen Actors Guild and cameramen were discussed.

MOT Presented Plaque

A plaque commending March of Time for its film, "Youth in Crisis," was presented to Richard de Rochemont, producer, by E. L. Johnstone on behalf of the National Conference of Juvenile Agencies at their recent annual meeting here.

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LOOK
what you get for
CHRISTMAS
from
santa claus
20th
FOX

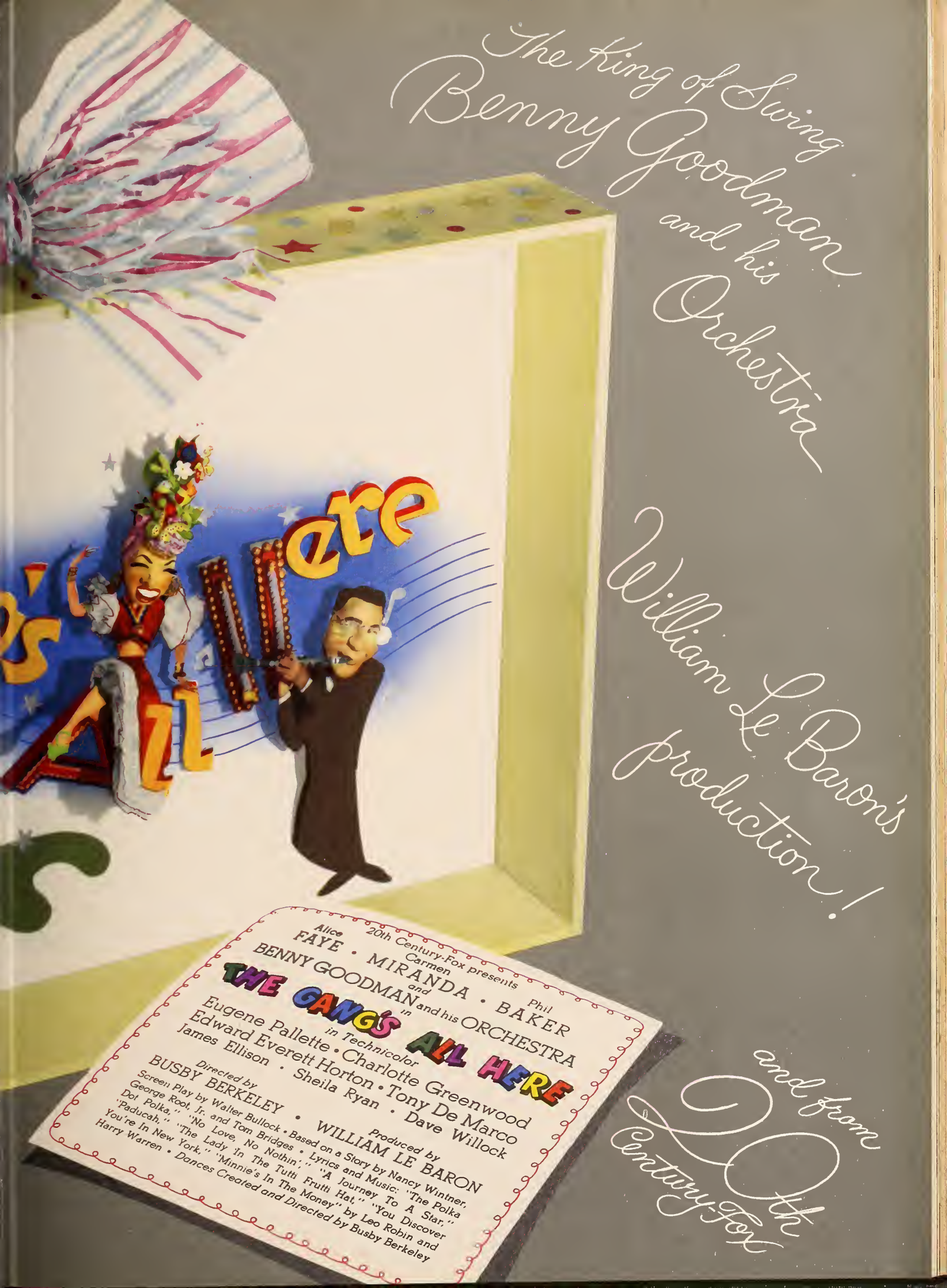
Alice Faye and Love Songs

Carmen Miranda and Rhumba Rhythm

Phil Baker and $64 Laughs

Busby Berkeley's direction!

Girlfully Glorious and in Technicolor


The King of Swing
Benny Goodman
and his Orchestra
William Le Baron's production!
and from 20th Century-Fox
20th Century-Fox presents
Alice FAYE • Carmen MIRANDA • Phil BAKER
BENNY GOODMAN and his ORCHESTRA
in Technicolor
THE GANG'S ALL HERE
Eugene Pallette • Charlotte Greenwood
Edward Everett Horton • Tony De Marco
James Ellison • Sheila Ryan • Dave Willock
Directed by BUSBY BERKELEY • Produced by WILLIAM LE BARON
Screen Play by Walter Bullock • Based on a Story by Nancy Wintner, George Root, Jr. and Tom Bridges • Lyrics and Music: "The Polka Dot Polka," "No Love, No Nothin'," "A Journey To A Star," "Paducah," "The Lady In The Tutti Frutti Hat," "You Discover You're In New York," "Minnie's In The Money" by Leo Robin and Harry Warren • Dances Created and Directed by Busby Berkeley

and a

happy new year

with

HAPPY LAND

LIFEBOAT

THE LODGER

JANE EYRE

THE PURPLE HEART

BUFFALO BILL

FOUR JILLS in a JEEP

from the happy hit makers

20th CENTURY-FOX

J. M. Schenck Due As Trial Witness?

Delays which last week halted the trial of seven Chicago gangsters accused of extorting more than $1,000,000 from the industry prevented the defense from completing its case in Federal court here on Friday as had been expected. The trial will be resumed today with indications that the defense may rest before the end of the week. The trial delays last week were caused by illness of several of the defendants and a defense attorney.

It was disclosed at the trial on Friday that Joseph M. Schenck, 20th Century-Fox production head, is en route here to testify despite the fact that a subpoena for his appearance obtained by the defense was not served on Schenck. A subpoena for the appearance of Nathaniel (Jack) Barger, operator of the Rialto Theatre, Chicago, also was returned unexecuted.

Harry Buckley Testifies

Harry Buckley of United Artists testified Friday that he attended a negotiations meeting on the studio basic agreement in Pat Casey's office here in April, 1936, but that no demand that U. A. pay $25,000 to William Bioff and George E. Browne, under threats of a strike, was made. Previous witnesses testified that such demands had been made of them or their companies at the time of the meeting.

Mrs. Lillian Rilander, bookkeeper for Casey since 1940, called as a defense witness, identified checks showing that John Rosselli was employed by the labor representative. Harry Sherman, former head of Local 306, recalled to the stand on Friday, said that when he attended the 1934 IATSE convention at Louisville he had been in fear of Tommy Maloy, former head of Local 110, Chicago. Sherman had testified previously that he had hired Louis Lepke Buchalter of Murder, Inc., to act as his bodyguard at the Louisville meeting because of threats of bodily harm.

W.B. Seeks to Increase Bonuses

Warner Bros. is understood to have filed with the Regional War Labor Board here for permission to give employees more than the company's customary Christmas bonus which is said to be one week's salary to employees earning up to and including $50 a week, and $50 for employees earning over this amount.

The company paid a similar bonus in July and would not ordinarily require WLB permission to pay the same amounts for Christmas.

Queens House Files Clearance Complaint

B. K. R. Holding Corp., operating the Trylon, Rego Park, Queens, L. I., has filed an appeal from a dismissal of its clearance complaint against the five consenting companies at the New York arbitration tribunal.

In dismissing the complaint last month, John K. Watson, arbitrator, held that real and substantial competition existed between the Trylon and the Drake, which is booked by the Brandt circuit, and that the seven days' clearance was not unreasonable.

Reviews

"The Woman of the Town"

(U.A.-Harry A. Sherman)

Hollywood, Dec. 12

IN "The Woman of the Town" Producer Harry Sherman has achieved more than just another good Western. It is a strong dramatic piece as well—based on a solid bit of writing, given tip-top direction, expertly cast, with the characters so ably portrayed that it measures well up among the best pictures of its kind of recent years.

Claire Trevor as dance hall beauty Dora Hand, Albert Dekker as Marshall "Bat" Masterson, Barry Sullivan as gun-slinger King Kennedy, are tops in their lead roles, with Henry Hull, Porter Hall, Percy Kilbride, Clem Bevans and Herbert Rawlinson closely behind them in supporting parts that aid materially in the film's dramatic realism and well timed comedy.

The story deals with the life of the famous Dodge City Marshal, and his love for Dora, a dancehall girl with beauty of mind and heart as well as face. He first meets her in church and helps her to win over the bigotted element of the town with a piece of writing in the town's weekly paper. She returns his love but fears for his life at the hands of reckless gunmen and persuades Kennedy to follow Bat's orders to hang up his guns while in town. Kennedy's jealous love for her, stirred by another dancehall girl, results in a shooting in which "Bat" arrests the young gunman.

Kennedy returns, with his gun-slinging cowboys, after plotting with an unscrupulous townsman, only to be met by "Bat" and the gunfire of a group of hastily deputized townsmen. He finds his way to the rear of the dancehall, and mistakenly kills Dora. As "Bat" holds the dying girl in his arms she exacts a promise to hang up his guns. He goes out unarmed, brings in Kennedy, and buries his gun with Dora.

George Archainbaud directed from a screenplay by Aeneas MacKenzie based on an original by Norman Houston with Dick Dickson in charge of production, and Lewis J. Rachmil as associate producer.

Running time, 88 minutes. "G" JACK CARTWRIGHT

"Calling Dr. Death"

(Universal)

"CALLING DR. DEATH" is not gruesome, as the title would imply, but is a rousing good picture for the devotees of the heavy mystery drama. It is the first in Universal's new "Inner Sanctum" series and is, indeed, a good start. Delving into the misty recesses of the subconscious mind for the murder, the motive and the eventual unraveling of the crime, "Calling Dr. Death" lacks no excitement and packs plenty of suspense. The production in general is good, direction being adequte, with the lead roles being in the hands of competent people.

The story concerns Lon Chaney, as Dr. Mark Steele, neurologist; Patricia Morison, his assistant; and Ramsay Ames, his unfaithful wife, who is murdered early in the film. David Bruce is accused of the slaying. Chaney, certain that Bruce is not guilty, and suffering from a temporary lapse of memory, fears that he, himself, has unknowingly committed the crime. Miss Morison, in love with her employer, persuades him not to surrender to the authorities. J. Carrol Naish, police inspector, is apparently convinced of the doctor's guilt, and persists in shadowing him. The night before the accused is to be electrocuted Miss Morison unwittingly succumbs to Chaney's hypnotic powers and confesses to the crime. Her confession comes as something of a surprise and is a fitting climax to a good mystery.

Much credit goes to Chaney, Miss Morison and Naish for their fine portrayals in the lead parts. David Bruce, Ramsay Ames and Fay Helm, in supporting roles, also contribute good performances. Reginald Leborg directed, and very capably, from an original screenplay by Edward Dein. Virgil Miller handled the photography in excellent fashion. Ben Pivar produced.

Running time, 63 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

"G" denotes general classification.

Henry Larner Cited

Henry Larner, formerly with Paramount's publicity department, is prominently mentioned in a dispatch to the New York *Sun* by Gault MacGowan, "with the Eighth Army somewhere in Italy."

Charles Gaskell Passes

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—Charles L. Gaskell, 74, pioneer director associated with the old Vitagraph company, died late last week of a heart attack here.

M-G-M Press Book on 'Brothers in Blood'

M-G-M has prepared a press book on "Brothers in Blood," War Information Film 83, for the War Activities Committee, and exhibitors will receive copies soon.

The film, which traces the history of blood transfusions up to the present time, was produced and will be distributed by M-G-M. Dec. 16 is the release date.

Networks for Television in Postwar Era

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Regional television networks will be in operation within two years after the end of the war, and within 10 years coast-to-coast service can be built up and at least 1,000 stations and 25,000,000 receivers in use, provided there is no interference with present frequency allocations, the Senate Interstate Commerce Commission was told Friday by O. B. Hanson, vice-president and chief engineer of the National Broadcasting Co.

Declaring that FCC Chairman James L. Fly had indicated that television wavelengths might be changed, Hanson urged that the committee write protective provisions into legislation amending the communications act which it has under consideration.

Hanson predicted that eventually FM will supersede the present standard broadcasting, but that television will be the "dominant" service, doing for radio what sound did for motion pictures. It will be close to 10 years, however, before all-electronic color television comes out of the laboratory, he said.

Interstate Earns $107,000 for AER

DALLAS, Dec. 12.—Checks for $107,841 were presented late last week to Army Emergency Relief by Karl Hoblitzelle, president of Interstate Circuit and R. J. O'Donnell, general manager, on behalf of the circuit and Warners following the showing of "This Is the Army" in Interstate theatres.

The amount represented admissions and contributions by patrons totaling $93,735.10, which was contributed by Interstate and 10 per cent rental refund totaling $14,106.68 contributed by Warners from the special premieres and regular engagements of "Army."

Wolf Will Preside at Hub Rotary Luncheon

BOSTON, Dec. 12.—Maurice Wolf, M-G-M district manager, will act as master of ceremonies at the Rotary luncheon here this week, at which $3,000 is expected to be raised to provide 16mm. films for military camps and hospitals in this area, under Rotary's sponsorship.

Kenneth Douglass, head of Capitol Theatre Supply Co., is chairman of the committee for the affair and guests of honor will be members of the cast of "The Army Play by Play," currently at the Wilbur here.

WAC Selects Goodman

Mort Goodman, publicity-advertising director for Warners in Los Angeles, will act as public relations chairman for Southern California for the War Activities Committee in the Fourth War Loan, substituting for Seymour Peiser who goes to New York as national publicity head.

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CRIME AND

Columbia's 50th PICTURE Anniversary

GIVE WAR BONDS
FOR CHRISTMAS

THE HOWARDS OF VIRGINIA LADY

COLUMBIA'S

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY PICTURE AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

Rosalind RUSSELL · *Brian* AHERNE

in IRVING CUMMINGS'

What a Woman!

with WILLARD PARKER

What a "find"! The sensation of the Year!

Screen Play by Therese Lewis and Barry Trivers • A COLUMBIA PICTURE

'Oklahoma' Takes $41,500 In Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 12. — Sunday blew up an "un-California rain" to dampen weekend grosses, but it did not wet down "In Old Oklahoma," running singly at the Hollywood Paramount, with "Good Fellows" at the Downtown, which hit $41,500 against a $30,676 average. "Top Man" and "Hi Ya, Sailor," gets about $27,300 in a nine-day stretch at FWC's Egyptian-Los Angeles-Ritz combination, when averages around $24,500 for an even week, while "Whistling in Brooklyn," coupled with "The Man from Down Under," sold off sharply in the circuit's Carthay Circle-Chinese-Loew's State-Uptown setup, dipping to an estimated $44,200 against $53,211 average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 8:

"Whistling in Brooklyn" (M-G-M)
"The Man from Down Under" (M-G-M)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $6,700. (Average, $8,407)
"Whistling in Brooklyn" (M-G-M)
"The Man from Down Under" (M-G-M)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average, $14,052)
"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 9 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $12,000)
"The Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $5,266)
"First Comes Courage" (Col.)
"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $15,-244)
"Whistling in Brooklyn" (M-G-M)
"The Man from Down Under" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $20,752)
"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 9 days. Gross: $18,600. (Average, $13,000)
"First Comes Courage" (Col.)
"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average, $12,810)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(1,407) (45c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross, $14,000. (Average, $10,808)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
"The Good Fellows" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (3,595) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,500. (Average, $19,768)
"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
RITZ—(1,376) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 9 days. Gross: $8,200. (Average, $9,416)
"Whistling in Brooklyn" (M-G-M)
"The Man from Down Under" (M-G-M)
UPTOWN—(1,715) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average, $10,000)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
WARNER HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,-115. (Average, $13,651)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
WARNER DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17-496. (Average, $16,094)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
WARNER WILTERN—(2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,359. Average, $12,794)

SPG Nominations

The Screen Publicists Guild, meeting last week at the Hotel Capitol, nominated the following members for office: Jonas Rosenfield, Jr., president; Jack Shawn, Harry Hochfeld, Carl Rigrod, Bob Ferguson, 1st vice-president; Jesse Hanish, Carl Rigrod, 2nd vice-president; Gertrude Gelbin, Bob Ferguson, secretary, and Charles Wright, treasurer.

Reviews

"Rookies In Burma"

(RKO)

"ROOKIES IN BURMA" is fairly mild war comedy which has apparently sought to adopt some of the Abbott and Costello style with Wally Brown, double-talk man, and Alan Carney, as the two rookie comedians.

The story concerns Brown and Carney, two privates in the American Army in Burma, who start out peeling their way through a pyramid of G. I. potatoes. Brown, anxious to distinguish himself as a hero, enlists Carney to help him capture a Jap machine gun nest. They wind up in a prison camp, along with Erford Gage, their tough top-sergeant, who is not in sympathy with the two would-be heroes. Brown's double-talk and Gage's brains get them out of the prison with some important Jap military documents. The rest of the tale concerns the trip back to the American lines. On the way the boys pick up Joan Barclay and Claire Carleton, two American chorines trying to get to India. They do get back, of course, by way of an elephant jaunt and a ride in a Jap tank, and are decorated for bravery. The final sequence finds them, resplendent in their medals—peeling potatoes.

Chief fault of the film lies in a poor dialogue pattern and weak script. Leslie Goodwins directed and members of the cast did as well with the parts as could be expected. Edward James wrote the original screenplay and Bert Gilroy produced. "Rookies in Burma" emerges as fairly satisfactory; the kids, especially, will like it.

Running time, 62 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

"G" denotes general classification.

"Pistol Packin' Mama"

(Republic)

BASED on the top-played novelty ditty entitled "Pistol Packin' Mama," Republic is releasing this feature to take advantage of the tune's popular value.

Robert Livingston, big-town gambler, wins $100,000 at a dice table in a Western town saloon owned by Ruth Terry. He does this by palming a third cube in his hand and throwing numerous "passes." Although her cohorts claim that Livingston was using legitimate dice, Miss Terry, who still is doubtful, vows to get even with him and so uses an assumed name to get a job as singer in a nightclub which Livingston bought with his gambling winnings. She finally challenges him to cut a deck of cards, the wager being ownership of the club against her money. Miss Terry palms an ace and wins the wager. From then on, Livingston falls in love with Miss Terry, who becomes engaged to another man, only to realize suddenly that she really is in love with the gambler. Theme of the picture is based on the condoning of gambling, gambling deceit and lawlessness. It is definitely adult classification.

Performances by Miss Terry, Livingston and a supporting cast including Wally Vernon, Jack LaRue and Helen Talbot are substantial but not always convincing. The tune "Pistol Packin' Mama" is sung and played six times; three other songs in the picture are just fair. The King Cole trio is impressive in a brief sequence in which they are featured. Eddy White was associate producer and Frank Woodruff directed from a screenplay by Edward Dein and Fred Schiller based on an original by Dein and Arthur Caesar.

Running time, 64 mins. "A"* FRED STENGEL.

"A" denotes adult classification.

100 Filmites to Bring Army Holiday Cheer

Over 100 screen personalities, supplied by the Hollywood Victory Committee will participate in a holiday entertainment planned for every possible U. S. Army hospital and camp by the War Department and USO-Camp Shows, it is announced here by the Public Information Committee of the industry.

They will cover 28 routes throughout the West Coast area by train and through the Southwest, Middle-west and Northwest by plane. Additional routes out of New York for stage and radio entertainers have been set.

British Reel to M-G-M

"Danger Area," second single-reel subject produced for and sponsored by the British Information Service, will be released nation-wide by M-G-M.

Studio Unions Vote To Admit the SPG

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—The conference of studio unions voted last week to admit the Screen Publicists Guild to membership in this AFL group. This is considered the first step in the possible formulation of an industry-wide union of professional independent guilds under a single AFL charter, Teete Carl, president of the SPG, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Sackett Buys 'Sheik'

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—M. D. Sackett of Guaranteed Pictures has been appointed Metropolitan New York representative for "Son of the Sheik," according to an announcement here by Herb Elisburg.

Big $62,000 for Sinatra in Bosto

BOSTON, Dec. 12.—The big news the week in Boston was the $62, appearance of Frank Sinatra, w "The Falcon and the Co-Eds" on screen. There were seven shows day. Other downtown theatres pro ed because of the Sinatra appearai since many who could not get into Boston went instead to nearby th tres. The week was one of the l in many months.

Estimated receipts for the w ending Dec. 9:

"The Falcon and the Co-Eds" (RKO)
RKO BOSTON—(3,800) (44c-55c-65c 95c). On stage: Frank Sinatra in pe with Jan Savitt and his band. Gross: $62 (Average, $26,800)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (44c-55c- Gross: $28,400. (Average, $28,300)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(3,000) (44c 65c). Gross: $23,800. (Average, $24,80
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,400) (44c-55c- Gross: $17,600. (Average, $17,400)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT — (1,400) (44c-55c- Gross: $8,900. (Average, $8,500)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
FENWAY—(1,200) (44c-55c-65c) 7 Gross: $6,500. (Average, $6,000)

'Top Man' Really I Tops with $24,0

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 12.—"Top M coupled with a stage show appe headed for $24,000 at the Orph to lead here. "Princess O'Rou was pointing for a healthy $14,50 the State. Business held up well after Thanksgiving, when a lapse dinarily is experienced.

Estimated receipts for the ending Dec. 11:

"Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
GOPHER—(998) (35c) 7 days. $3,200. (Average, $3,400)
"True to Life" (Para.)
LYRIC—(1,250) (40c-55c) 7 days, week. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $4,5
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
CENTURY—(1,600) (40c-55c) 7 days week. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $7,0
"Top Man" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (45c-60c) 7 days stage: Tommy Dorsey and his orch Peg-Leg Bates. Gross: $24,000. (Av $11,600)
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
STATE—(2,300) (40c-55c) 7 days. $14,500. (Average, $12,000)
"The Iron Major" (RKO)
WORLD—(350) (40c-50c-55c-75c) 7 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average,
"Mystery of the 13th Guest" (Mono.)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
ASTER—(900) (20c-30c) 7 days, with week change. Gross: $2,500. (Av $2,300)

Ray Moon Drive Star

Ray Moon, branch manage 20th-Fox's New York exchange, a luncheon at the Piccadilly l late last week, launching the Ray Drive. Home office executives attended included A. W. Smith Eastern sales head; William Gel Western sales head; L. J. Schl Central sales head. Seymour F booking manager of the exchange toastmaster.

Mexican 'Nana' Comp

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 12.—A Me version of Emile Zola's "Nana," ring Lupe Velez, has been com here after being in work for weeks. It is scheduled for r early next year.

larch of Time Enjoined on inatra Film

(Continued from page 1)

vent such patriotic services from ng discouraged.

March of Time has announced that will file an appeal, asserting that believes the decision failed to set- basic points of law involved in action.

RKO Radio sought the injunction the grounds that distribution of March of Time film would result serious damage to its investment the Sinatra starring vehicle, "High- and Higher," which is about to be eased.

Judge Knox stated in his opinion: n carrying on the war effort, it is ghly desirable that the services of tstanding characters and entertain- s be at the beck and call of govern- ental agencies. Many artists, up to w, have responded to such calls and ave served the government patri- ically and well. But if, in serving e government, well known enter- iners and persons with whom they e under exclusive contracts, are to prejudiced and subjected to the mmercial competition of organiza- ons that, having neither toiled nor un, can clothe themselves in the aiment of Solomon, at the partial xpense of the artists and their em- oyers, we cannot, in the future, rea- onably expect much, if anything, in e way of patriotic generosity from e lilies that bloom in the field of ntertainment."

MOT's Cost Little

Pointing out that RKO Radio's inatra film represented a production vestment of $685,000 and an ex- loitation expenditure of $100,000 to 200,000, and has possibilities of rossing $2,000,000, the court said at March of Time's expenditure in lming Sinatra's patriotic appearance as virtually nothing, by contract. herefore, Judge Knox ruled, to en- oin March of Time from releasing s film would not burden the com- any with any serious financial loss, ut not to do so would result in erious loss to RKO. He pointed out, oo, that if an appellate court should ater hold March of Time to be en- itled to show its Sinatra film, the efendant could do so "early in 1944 vith comparatively little loss."

Cowdin Urges Post War Plans at NAM

(Continued from page 1)

ead in solving these postwar problems, e said, "then don't be surprised if we ave greater regimentation, a larger ole system, nationalization of indus- ry and a more serious depression than ve have dreamed of in the past. If hat does happen, business will get the lame for it."

Cowdin advocated simplification of he present tax system, elimination of ll emergency and special war taxes mmediately upon the cessation of hos- ilities; the organizing of the owners f business "into an effective political ntity"; the setting up of a business gency for the collection of adequate acts on economy and business for the rimary use of Congress; preparation or peacetime government costing ap- roximately 30 billions a year.

Editorialize News on the Air, Say Radio Writers

(Continued from page 1)

teresting comments were received distinguishing between the function of reporting news and editorializing. The very low minority supporting an anti-editorial stand were also quite outspoken in their reasons.

To the question: "Should radio news analysts and news commentators refrain from editorial comment on the air," some of the radio newspaper writers answered as follows:

New York: "They (newscasters) have as much right to express opinions over the air as newspaper editors and cartoonists exercise in the daily press." . . . "Not if they designate it as such, or as their own opinion." . . . "They should not, definitely, because radio listeners in time of war, more than at any time, desire straight news coverage. Editorializing of the news tends to becloud information."

'Great Force for Free Speech'

New Jersey: "Certainly not, no more than a newspaper editor should refrain from editorial comments. Radio is the greatest force for free speech in the world; to gag it is tantamount to gagging a free press." . . . "The average adult radio listener should be capable of making or forming his own opinion. Good constructive editorial comment by commentators can do much to make every adult be more aware of political and foreign policy trends."

Ohio: "Analysts should refrain from editorial comment unless they are specially qualified to elaborate on certain particular news developments. There are too many analysts who set themselves up as experts on war events and as a result go out on a limb and then saw it off after them." . . . "Analysts, yes! Commentators, no! But both should be under editorial network supervision."

Illinois: "No! This is still a free country and why should these writers or speakers be curtailed in their opinions? A free people should be able to discern that which is good from biased viewpoints or otherwise. It does not take the average person long to determine the right if given both sides of a given question in an intelligent manner."

'U' Meeting Hears Scully on Product

(Continued from page 1)

other home office officials, were: E. T. Gomersall, assistant general sales manager; F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern and Canadian division manager; Fred Meyers, Eastern division manager; A. J. O'Keefe, Western division manager; B. B. Kreisler, short subjects manager, and the following district managers: Barney Rose, Dave Miller, H. D. Graham, C. J. Feldman, M. M. Gottlieb, J. E. Garrison, P. F. Rosian, Salem Applegate and David Levy.

Samuels WHN Ad Head

Hartley L. Samuels, formerly of the CBS promotion department and WOV, has been appointed director of advertising and sales promotion for WHN, according to an announcement from Herbert L. Pettey, WHN director.

Exhibitors in Final Plea vs. Tax Rise

(Continued from page 1)

Jan. 1, if the measure is passed by Congress and signed by President Roosevelt more than 10 days before the end of the year. If not enacted until late this month, the new taxes will not be imposed until Feb. 1.

Warning members of Allied that there is imminent danger the bill will be passed in its present form, Abram F. Myers, general counsel, exhorted them not to absorb any of the increase.

"We are facing a long war and a longer period of rehabilitation," Myers said in a bulletin. "Before the emergency is over there will be more tax bills and still more tax bills. The Treasury Department as at present constituted is out to get more money from the theatres. It was the stubborn, unyielding demand of the Treasury that turned what seemed like an easy win into a narrow defeat in the Finance Committee."

Exhibitors, Myers said, should adjust their admissions upward to the nearest nickel after admission and tax, rather than to sacrifice revenue so as to maintain present totals.

Pointing out that the prospect of inflation and higher prices daily becomes more ominous, he said flatly that "the exhibitor who absorbs any part of this tax increase, in view of conditions in the country today, is a suicidal maniac."

"Each exhibitor will have to figure out his own combinations of admission and tax," he said, "but he had better confine himself to addition and forget how to subtract."

4,200 Houses Pledge For 'Dimes' Drive

(Continued from page 1)

ticipate in the drive are: Loew's, RKO, Warners, Griffith Circuit, Fox West Coast, Century Circuit, Randforce Circuit, Brandt Circuit, Fabian, Mullen and Pinanski, Schine, Balaban & Katz, Great States, Radio City Music Hall, and all Broadway houses; Interstate Circuit, Texas, Crescent Amusement, Cinema Circuit, Mann's Theatres, San Francisco; Fourth Ave. Amusement, Kentucky; Wilmer and Vincent, Evergreen Amusement, Florida State, Butterfield, Central States Theatres and Blackhills Amusement.

Pegler to Leave F. C. & B. Jan. 1

(Continued from page 1)

for Paramount Pictures, United Artists Corp., Radio City Music Hall, and other major film and theatre companies. Pegler will take a vacation on his ranch in Arizona before announcing his future plans.

N.E. Circuits Form Buying Combine

(Continued from page 1)

expected to join the group in the near future. Initial strength of the combine is estimated at more than 100 theatres.

Decree Talks Will Resume This Week

(Continued from page 1)

limited to the phrasing of those provisions.

Returning to his desk Friday after a week's illness, Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark said he expected to meet with Joseph Hazen of Warners some time this week to go over the proposals. Once the companies' views are in formal order, the Department will tender its suggestions as to what else should be incorporated and the two sides will seek to reach an agreement during the holidays. After the turn of the year, Clark said, meetings will be held at which the last details will be ironed out and the decree tailored for submission to the court.

Wright Conferred With Clark

Clark revealed that Loyd Wright, counsel for the Independent Producers' Association, Hollywood, was in Washington a few days ago and visited him at his home, and also talked at more length with Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General in charge of the film unit. Loyd Wright, who was accompanied by members of his organization, filed a complaint that the independent producers found difficulty in securing distribution and urged that the new decree contain corrective provisions for that situation. The matter is under discussion in the Department, but Clark said he has not yet reached a decision as to what will be necessary to serve the independents' interests.

Situation Will Be Reviewed

The whole situation is expected to be reviewed at the next meeting, which may find proposals so far advanced that Clark will lay down any additional concessions required of the distributors which may not be covered in their own proposals. Thereafter, the negotiations will enter upon their most critical stage, that of the Department and the companies getting together on matters which the latter are reluctant to concede.

Even after the companies and Clark reach an accord the decree will not be ready for immediate submission to the court, since the exhibitors and other interests in the industry are to be given an opportunity to study the document and suggest changes, and any suggestions adopted by the Department must then be taken up with the distributors for acceptance, it was pointed out.

Two Reissues Set Paramount Record

"Union Pacific" and "Souls at Sea," Paramount reissues, have reached a total combined sale of over 12,000 independent contracts, a record for Paramount reissues, Neil Agnew, general sales manager, reports.

Fifty per cent of all possibilities have been sold on these subjects to date. They are playing return engagements at a large percentage of theatres and are doing exceptionally well at the box office.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Dec. 12

TWENTIETH-FOX has bought Louella Parsons' "The Gay Illiterate," no producer has been set. . . . Columbia has bought "U-Boat Prisoner," an original by Archie Gibbs, the story of a seaman who escaped from a German submarine after his ship was torpedoed; Wallace MacDonald will produce. . . . RKO has purchased the novel "Board Walk," by Libbie Block. . . . Monogram announces a series of four comedies co-starring Billy Gilbert, Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom and Shemp Howard.

•

Merle Oberon will be starred with Paul Muni in "At Night We Dream" in Technicolor, with Lou Edelman producing and Charles Vidor directing at Columbia. . . . C. B. DeMille has signed Carol Thurston, of the "Story of Dr. Wassell" cast, to a personal contract and will give her a top feminine role in "Rurales." . . . Pine and Thomas have purchased "Double Exposure" to star Chester Morris for Paramount. . . . S. E. Sakall and Edward Everett Horton have comedy roles in "Cinderella Jones" and Guy Kibbee has been signed for "The Horn Blows at Midnight," Jack Benny starrer at Warners.

•

Producer Oliver Drake has been upped from westerns to mysteries at Universal and will direct Lon Chaney in "Weird Woman," formerly "Conjure Wife," as his first assignment. . . . RKO has signed Ruth Warrick to a seven year pact calling for two pictures a year and the right to do outside films. She'll probably go into "China Sky," the Pearl Buck novel, very soon. . . . Deanna Durbin and Gene Kelly, together with 1,000 extras, are at work in the first scene for "Christmas Holiday" at the Philharmonic Auditorium.

Chicago Variety Club Re-elects John Jones

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Johnny Jones was re-elected as chief barker at the first annual meeting of Variety Club, Tent 26, last week.

Bob O'Donnell, national chief barker, congratulated local members on the report that they had collected $5,400 on their pledge for La Rabida Sanitarium and told of charitable work being done by Variety Clubs throughout the country.

Other officers who were re-elected were: Jack Kirsch, first assistant chief barker; W. E. Banford, second assistant chief barker; Irving Mack, property master, and John Balaban, dough guy.

Directors elected were: Kirsch, Balaban, Mack, Halperin, Banford, Edward Brunell, Jack Rose, Tom Flannery, Jones, Bill Baker and Ben Eisenberg.

Baker and Brunell were elected canvassmen and John Semidales and Henry Markbreit, alternates.

Altec Names Alvis Ward

At a meeting of Altec Lansing board of directors, Dec. 3, Alvis A. Ward was elected vice-president. Ward will have headquarters in Hollywood.

Discuss U.A. Pictures At Sales Meetings

A round table discussion of United Artists product for the 1943-1944 season headed the agenda at the sales session of New York, Philadelphia and Washington exchanges, held at the Warwick Hotel in New York over the weekend.

In attendance from New York were Jack Ellis, branch manager; his assistant, Ed Mullen, Dave Burkan, George Jeffrey, William Schutzer, Sam Rifkin, William Moses, Abe Dickstein and Ben Levine. From Philadelphia: Harry Bodkin, branch manager; B. Krugman, H. Tyson, Horace Wright and Miss Elizabeth McCaffrey. The Washington group was headed by Mark Silver, branch manager, and includes J. Price, H. Haman, M. Siegel, S. Pike and E. McKinley.

Home office executives present were Carl Leserman, general sales manager; Harry Buckley, Charles Steele, Paul N. Lazarus, Sr., and Paul N. Lazarus, Jr. Sam Lefkowitz, New York district manager, conducted the meetings. Harry Gold, Eastern division manager, and Phil Dow, joined Lefkowitz at the Friday sessions.

U.A. District Meeting Held in New Orleans

Edward Schnitzer, United Artists Western division manager, held a district meeting at the weekend in New Orleans. Forthcoming U.A. product was discussed. Present were: Fred Jack, district manager; C. W. Allen, Atlanta branch manager; T. L. Davis, New Orleans branch manager; Byron Adams, Dallas branch manager, and Carl Burton, Charlotte branch manager.

Another meeting has been called for Dec. 17-18 in San Francisco which will be attended by W. E. Callaway, district manager, and branch managers including Earl Collins, Los Angeles; Clarence Olson, Denver; Carroll Trowbridge, Salt Lake City; John J. O'Loughlin, San Francisco, and A. J. Sullivan, Seattle.

Edgar A. Woolf, 54, Film Writer, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—Edgar Allen Woolf, 54, film writer who wrote and adapted many screen plays for M-G-M, died here late last week from injuries sustained in a fall. He was the author of more than 1,100 published one-act plays.

Among screen plays adapted for M-G-M were "Mask of Fu Manchu," "The Night Is Young," "This Side of Heaven." He wrote "Everybody Sing," "Ice Follies of 1939," and collaborated on "The Wizard of Oz," all for M-G-M.

He is survived by a brother, Sam, of the New York *Times* staff.

Empire Trial Resumes

Trial in Kings County Supreme Court in the action brought by several members of Empire State Operators Union to upset the union's merger with Local 306, IATSE, resumes today after being in recess since last Thursday.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 12

HARRY EDINGTON, inactive since resigning his executive-producership at RKO, has joined A. & S. Lyons as executive vice-president.

•

Twentieth-Fox has announced "Women in Washington," an original, for immediate release, William Girard producing.

•

Pat Dowling, recently with Douglas Aircraft, has returned to production work on the staff of Trade Films.

•

M-G-M has announced "Jenny Was a Lady," an original, with Sam Marx producing.

•

Joseph Schenck, 20th's executive production head, left here for New York at the weekend.

•

Edwin Loeb, of Loeb & Loeb, has entrained for the East.

•

George Schaefer has left here for New York.

Costello Won't Direct Monogram Picture

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—Following weekend conferences between studio officials, producer Sam Katzman and Lou Costello, Monogram announced here that the company had been notified by Katzman that Costello had notified him he would not be able to direct Katzman's "Block Busters," which he was scheduled to direct under the name of "Lucas Tello," and that Wallace Fox had been substituted to direct the film which starts production tomorrow.

The conferences followed a statement by Universal quoting Costello as saying, "Any rumors that I am going to direct a picture are not true." Asked this afternoon whether payment had been made to obtain Costello's release from his commitment, Katzman told MOTION PICTURE DAILY, "No; there's nothing like that in the arrangement. Costello will direct a picture for me at some other time, but not this picture."

Reward Spurs Hunt For Manager's Slayer

DETROIT, Dec. 12. — Rewards amounting to $3,500 have been offered for the capture of the man who last week shot and killed Floyd Ackerman, 45, veteran Bay City manager for the Butterfield Circuit here, and then fled with $1,500 in theatre receipts. The People's Commercial and Savings Bank offers $2,500 and the City Commission $1,000. The man hunt, under this spur, has spread to neighboring states.

Bay City theatres were closed Thursday afternoon to mark burial services for Ackerman, who had been with Butterfield for 20 years. He is survived by his widow and one daughter.

Donnelly Joins M-G-M

Jack Donnelly, former director of publicity and promotion for the Spencer-Taylor hotels, has joined M-G-M's home office publicity department, the company announced at the weekend.

Rosyl Corp. Asks For Trial by Jur

Rosyl Amusement Corp., opera of the Cameo, Jersey City, N. J., fi a request for a jury trial in th anti-trust suit brought against 23 fi companies and circuits, in Fede court on Friday.

Seven theatre circuits, defenda named in the complaint, are W ners, Skouras, Loew's, Stanley Metropolitan Playhouses, RKO Roosevelt Realty Co., operators of theatres in the Jersey City area. Ot defendants are 20th Century-F Paramount, M-G-M, United Arti Columbia, Republic, Monogram, W ner Bros., Universal and MPPDA

The complaint charges that above named circuits were favored the defendant distributors and that dependent exhibitors in the territ must accept product of the accu distributors under terms arbitra dictated or else go out of busin

'Pursuit' $20,800 Gross in Denv

DENVER, Dec. 12.—"Northern P suit" on a dual at the Denver pointed for $20,800.

Estimated receipts for the week e ing Dec. 6-9:

"Top Man" (Univ.)
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
ALADDIN—(1,040) (30c-40c-50c-60c) m over. Gross: $4,500. (Average, $3,000)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
BROADWAY — (1,040) (30c-40c-50c-6 moveover. Gross: $3,250. (Average, $2,50
"True to Life" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (30c-40c-55c-65c), week. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $7,000)
"Northern Pursuit" (W. B.)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
DENVER—(2,600) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 d Gross: $20,800. (Average, $13,000)
"Northern Pursuit" (W. B.)
"Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 d Gross: $5,100. (Average, $3,000)
"In Old Chicago" (20th-Fox)
"Banjo on My Knee" (20th-Fox)
PARAMOUNT — (2,200) (30c-40c-60c days. (Reissue). Gross: $13,500. (Aver $9,000)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
RIALTO — (900) (30c-40c-60c), moveo Gross: $7,800. (Average, $4,600)

Industry Loan Hea On Conference To

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—Conclud a week's conferences on the indust War Loan drive plans, Chair Charles Skouras, Rick Ricketson, V. Sturdivant, Si Fabian, And Krappman and Seymour Peiser leave here Tuesday by plane for sions in Washington, Dec. 15; C cago, Dec. 20, and San Franci Dec. 23.

They will return here for final c ferences before going to New Yorl set up national headquarters.

$700,000 Duties on Nathanson's Esta

TORONTO, Dec. 12.—Succession ties collected from the estate of N Nathanson by Dominion and Ont governments total $700,000, it announced here last week, with amount divided equally between two treasury departments.

Nathanson's estate was rece probated at a gross value of $3,500,

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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ısk Canadian Music Fees Be Cut 30%

Theatre Ceilings Held Argument for Slash

Toronto, Dec. 13.—The Canan Musical Protective Associan has countered to proposals for increase in music fees through blication of the American Perform- Right Society to collect royalties Canada, in addition to the Canad- Performing Right Society, that mbined annual license fees for the- es should be cut to 70 per cent of 43 charges.

That is the argument to be pre- ted to a Federal Copyright Appeal ard hearing Jan. 6 on the ground t a Government ceiling has been ced on admission prices and in- ases are not permissible despite ris- operating cost generally.

Application of the American Per- ming Right Society before that ard for a Canadian permit will not opposed if the Canadian group will duce fees to meet combined 70 per t level of present schedules de- ed.

IcIntyre, Roosevelt ec'y, Ex-Pathe, Dies

Washington, Dec. 13.—Marvin H. cIntyre, secretary to President osevelt and former Washington presentative for Pathe News, died re today at the age of 65.

McIntyre's association with the resident dated from 1920 when osevelt was Democratic nominee r Vice-President and McIntyre was rving as representative for the news- el, an association which ended about 28. When Roosevelt received the mination in 1932 he called upon both cIntyre and Stephen Early, who ior to that was Washington repre- ntative for Paramount News, to as- st in the campaign. With Roose- lt's election both McIntyre and

(*Continued on page* 12)

No Duals for 'Curie'

M-G-M is requesting exhibitor accounts which will play "Madame Curie" not to exhibit the picture on a double feature program, it was learned yesterday. The picture's running time is 126 minutes.

OCR Seeks Direct Allocation of Vacuum Tubes to Industry

Washington, Dec. 13.—Direct allocation of vacuum tubes to the motion picture industry is being sought by George McMurphey and John Eberson of the Office of Civilian Requirements recreation division to head off a serious situation threatened by new WPB orders which go into effect Jan. 1, giving operators of dance hall juke boxes the same availability of tubes as exhibitors.

At present establishments supplying tubes for theatres and other essential services have a preference rating of AA-2 and those supplying juke boxes have no preference, but effective Jan. 1 both groups will have an

(*Continued on page* 12)

Propose Hours for Theatre Illumination

Washington, Dec. 13.—A standard burning period from dusk to 10 P.M. for all theatre and other promotional lighting has been recommended by a special task committee of the electrical industry, it was announced today by the War Production Board. The purpose of the recommendation is to provide for more equitable contribution to the power conservation program

(*Continued on page* 12)

Detroit Slump Hits 15% Below Average

Detroit, Dec. 13.—The seasonal slump in box office returns of first-run houses has resulted in a drop estimated to be 15 per cent below the year's averages. Although the statistics are severe, conditions are still good because of the unusually high averages which the year has established. Contributing factors to the drop are a slight touch of factory layoffs and the extended Christmas shopping period which started in August for soldiers overseas.

Flu, Weather Hit Broadway Grosses

Business in film houses along Broadway was generally dull last week, having to compete with the prevalence of influenza, Christmas shopping and the sudden surge of cold weather. The Radio City Music Hall again leads on the Rialto with "What a Woman" doing an anticipated $90,000 in its second and final week. "Madame Curie" will open Thursday, with the annual holiday stage show. "Happy Land" and Frank Fay on the stage at the Roxy is expected to hit an estimated $65,000 and will hold over.

"Girl Crazy" and a stage revue featuring Raymond Scott and his band

(*Continued on page* 12)

Identify Radio Editorials As Such, Writers Advise

Radio editors and columnists who expressed disapproval of editorial comment over the air by news analysts and commentators, in connection with Motion Picture Daily's annual Radio Poll for *Fame*, based their objections uniformly on two considerations:

First, that the editorialized viewpoints should be clearly identified as such, distinguishing them from straight news broadcasts, as the editorial columns of newspapers are separate and apart from the news columns, and, secondly, that the individual who does the editorializing over the air be a qualified expert thoroughly familiar with his subject.

A number of the editors who expressed their views on the subject added that, in all cases, those who do the editorializing by radio should be under the supervision of a net-

(*Continued on page* 12)

Industry Meet Today In L. A. on 4th Loan

The first of four regional meetings to perfect plans for the industry's participation in the Fourth War Loan drive, Jan. 18-Feb. 15, will be held in Los Angeles today. Ted Gamble heads a Treasury delegation and Charles P. Skouras, national chairman for the industry, a motion picture delegation, which together will conduct the meetings.

The second meeting will be held in Washington Dec. 16 and will be followed by one in Chicago, Dec. 20, and a final one in San Francisco, Dec. 23. The industry delegation will arrive in New York Dec. 28 to set campaign headquarters here. Skouras yesterday completed formation of a national organization for the drive with the naming of state exhibitor chairmen for the entire country.

Weigh Umpi Cancellation For Decree

See Rejections Linked To Rentals Paid

Attempts to employ th cancellation formula developed by the United Motion Picture Industry last year as a basis for cancellation under the revised consent decree are reported in authoritative quarters to be under way.

The Department of Justice, it is said, is desirous of seeing a cancellation right made available to all exhibitors, regardless of classification, and in pursuance of this view is disinclined to accept a rental ceiling above which no cancellation would be granted. The Department, however, is not averse to a formula akin to that sponsored by Umpi for exhibitors whose rentals are in the lower brackets, according to reports.

The consenting companies, it is said, are more or less in agreement on a cancellation schedule similar to the

(*Continued on page* 12)

Rank Emissary to Study U. S. Market

An extensive survey of playing time and gross possibilities for British pictures in the American market will be undertaken here for J. Arthur Rank, British film industry leader, by Barrington Gaines, associate of Rank's, who is now en route here from London, it was learned yesterday.

Gaines is a partner of Leslie Farrow, head of Rank's auditing firm. He has been commissioned by Rank to make a first hand study of American market conditions with respect to British productions and to report back to Rank. Both current and postwar market possibilities will be embraced in the Gaines' study, it was said.

Depinet Distributor Head for 4th Loan

Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO Radio, has accepted the chairmanship of the distributor division of the industry's Fourth War Loan campaign, it was reliably learned yesterday. Charles P. Skouras, national chairman, made the appointment. The drive will be held Jan. 18 to Feb. 15.

Personal Mention

E. K. O'SHEA, of M-G-M, has been stricken with pneumonia and is receiving hospital care.

•

NATE B. SPINGOLD, Columbia executive, yesterday returned from two weeks at the studio. His next trip West is tentatively pencilled in for the end of March.

•

NEIL F. AGNEW, general sales manager of Paramount, returns Friday from Chicago, where he is attending a meeting of the company's theatre partners.

•

GEORGE J. SCHAEFER, in Hollywood since August, arrived in New York yesterday. His picture, "Burma Bound," is finished and ready for the market.

•

LOU LIFTON, Monogram advertising and publicity director, and MRS. LIFTON left for the Coast yesterday after a month in New York.

•

JAMES E. PERKINS, Paramount general manager in the Far East, left New York yesterday for the Coast. MRS. PERKINS accompanied him.

•

EDWIN J. LOEB, senior partner of Loeb and Loeb, prominent Los Angeles law firm, arrived from the Coast yesterday.

•

MORT H. SINGER is in New York from Chicago. Later he goes to the Coast to spend the winter at his Beverly Hills home.

•

FRANK ROSENBERG, Columbia's director of publicity, is due in New York this morning from Hollywood. He stopped off in Chicago yesterday.

•

LEONARD H. GOLDENSON and SAM DEMBOW, Paramount theatre executives, reach New York late today or Wednesday from the Coast.

•

C. C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew's vice-president, is improving at home from a severe attack of the flu.

•

EDDIE DOWDEN, of Loew's publicity department, returned to work yesterday after a siege of the flu.

•

C. J. SCOLLARD, Paramount executive, returned here yesterday from Hollywood.

•

A. MONTAGUE, general sales manager of Columbia, will leave for the studio about Jan. 1.

•

JACK COHN, vice-president of Columbia, arrived in Hollywood from New York yesterday.

•

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, UA president, left Hollywood Sunday for New York due to his wife's illness.

•

CHARLES KURTZMAN, Loew's Boston district manager, is in town.

(More Personals on Page 7)

Skouras Speaks at 20th-Fox Session

Spyros Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, addressed and welcomed division and district managers at the opening session of a three-day sales convention held at the Hotel Astor yesterday.

The convention, which was scheduled to start last Saturday, was postponed, due to the inability of Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution, and William Kupper, general sales manager, to attend because of illness. The meeting was conducted by Connors.

Kupper, William C. Gehring, Western sales manager; L. J. Schlaifer, Central sales manager, and Andrew W. Smith, Jr., Eastern sales manager, will address the convention today.

Republic To Hold Quarterly Sales Meet

Republic Pictures will hold its regular quarterly sales meeting here Thursday and Friday at the New York Athletic Club, it was announced by James R. Grainger, president of Republic. Eastern district sales manager Maxwell Gillis and Central district sales manager Sam Seplowin will head the personnel present.

The Eastern district will be represented by branch managers Arthur Newman, Albany; Jack Davis, Boston; Sam Seletsky, New Haven; and Joseph Engel, Philadelphia; as well as franchise holder Jack Flax, Washington. The group from the Central district will include branch managers Jack Bellman, Buffalo; Sam P. Gorrel, Cleveland; George H. Kirby, Cincinnati; I. H. Pollard, Detroit; L. W. Marriott, Indianapolis, and franchise holders J. H. Alexander and Sam Fineberg, Pittsburgh.

Al Steffes Is Host To Sales Managers

W. A. Steffes, veteran independent exhibitor leader, was host to home office distribution executives at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here yesterday. The affair was described as an informal gathering arranged by Steffes to renew acquaintanceships following his recent retirement from industry activities.

The Northwest leader, who plans to leave New York for a Florida vacation next week, announced his return to action and the formation of the new Minnesota exhibitor organization, the Theatre Owners Union of the Northwest, at the luncheon.

E. M. Loew Aligned With Buying Combine

BOSTON, Dec. 13.—E. M. Loew was officially disclosed today to have joined with Sol Edwards in forming a buying combine named the Allied Management Co. The new buying organization will begin functioning immediately. Edwards is sole film buyer. Initial membership is estimated at more than 100 theatres.

'Old Film' Charge Is Held to Be False

The following is an excerpt from a letter to Harry Goldberg, director of advertising and publicity for Warner theatres, by Lt. Proctor Jones, former assistant in the circuit's Cleveland advertising department, now stationed overseas:

"I think to a certain degree, the remarks made about 'old film' were exaggerated. My office distributes that film and I am sure that the remarks were based on isolated cases. The job the industry is doing, makes me very proud to have been a part of it."

Lichtman, Rubin Off To England Shortly

Al Lichtman, member of M-G-M's executive staff, will leave Hollywood soon for London, where he will confer with Alexander Korda and Ben Goetz on plans for picture production in England. He will be accompanied by J. Robert Rubin, M-G-M vice-president and general counsel.

During his absence Lichtman's duties at the studio will be divided among other members of the executive staff. It was also announced that Lawrence Weingarten, M-G-M studio executive, will produce a number of pictures each year, in addition to his duties on the executive board.

Lichtman's London trip was planned originally for last September, as reported exclusively in MOTION PICTURE DAILY at the time, and subsequently was postponed to early January.

Rubin Is Host at Conference Lunch

Industry leaders will be guests of J. Robert Rubin, Loew's vice-president and general counsel, at a luncheon meeting of the National Conference of Christians and Jews at the Hotel Astor on Thursday. Rubin is chairman of the amusement division of the Conference.

The principal speaker at the luncheon will be Major General George L. Van Deusen, who will report on the work done by the Conference in Army camps. Other speakers will discuss current dangers of prejudice and bigotry. Members of the Conference amusement division in addition to Rubin are: Jack Alicoate, Brock Pemberton and Robert E. Sherwood.

Columbia Settles Pact With Howard Mayer

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 13.—Columbia has settled its contract with Howard G. Mayer under which the former director of studio publicity will take on publicity assignments for the company in Chicago, where Mayer has maintained his own organization while employed at the studio.

Mayer had about seven months to run under his deal. Whitney Bolton replaced him some weeks ago.

Hope Gratified for M. P. Daily Award

Voted "Champion of Champions o the Air" for the third successive yea by 600 radio editors participating i MOTION PICTURE DAILY's annual ra dio poll, Bob Hope, NBC comedian expressed his gratification in a tele gram to Sherwin Kane, editor of Mo TION PICTURE DAILY.

"The *Fame Magazine*-MOTION PIC TURE DAILY award is one of the mos thrilling things that ever happened t me in my life. I am deeply gratefu to be so highly regarded by a jury o critics as competent as the 600 radi editors who voted in the poll. Comin as it does during the Christmas sea son, I can't help thinking that th award is the finest Christmas preser I have ever received."

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
ROSALIND RUSSELL IN BRIAN AHERNE
"WHAT A WOMAN"
with WILLARD PARKER
A Columbia Picture
Gala Stage Show—Symphony Orchestra
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Held Over 2nd Weel

LATEST
MARCH OF TIME
Released by 20th Century-Fox
RADIO CITY MUSIC HAL

Claudette COLBERT Fred MACMURRAY
"NO TIME FOR LOVE"
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
Woody HERMAN and band
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
BUY MORE AND MORE WAR BONDS

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—Cl 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Screen TECHNICOLOR 'PHANTOM OF THE OPERA' Starring NELSON EDDY
In Person DUNNINGER
Extra JOEY ADAMS

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THEY'RE

HEAD OVER

HEELS

IN

LAUGHS

AGAIN!

The merriest man-hun

Rosalind
RUSSELL
Brian
AHERNE

IRVING
CUMMINGS'

What a Woman

COLUMBIA PICTURES

GIVE WAR BONDS
FOR CHRISTMAS

a KISStory!

she chased him clear across his map!

with

Willard PARKER

Screen Play by
Therese Lewis and Barry Trivers

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

What a Campaign!

What coverage!

LIFE • LOOK

SCREEN ROMANCES

MOVIE LIFE • MOVIE STAR PARADE

MOVIE SHOW • MODERN SCREEN

MOVIELAND • SCREEN GUIDE

PHOTOPLAY-MOVIE MIRROR

STARDOM • MOVIES

SCREENLAND • SILVER SCREEN

MOVIE STORY • MOTION PICTURE

Printed in U.S.A.

chenck Testifies in xtort Trial Today

The $1,000,000 extortion trial of eged Chicago gangsters in Federal urt here was postponed yesterday til this morning, when Josep henck will testify. The defense is en expected to rest its case. Judge hn Bright has stated that no sumation by either side will take place til John Rosselli, a defendant, who ill with pneumonia, will be well ough to be present in court.

Sentencing of Isadore Zevin, formaide to George E. Browne, convictformer president of the IATSE, hich was scheduled to take place yesrday, was postponed again to Dec.

Los Angeles, Dec. 13.—U. S. Atrney Charles Carr left for New ork over the week-end, taking Deity Marshal James Lavelle and Priate Detective C. M. Durber, in reonse to orders to appear in Judge hn Bright's court to explain nonrvice of the first Government subena for Joseph Schenck.

ndustry Cooperates WithCIAA:McKellar

Washington, Dec. 13.—A sharp ply to charges recently made by en. Hugh A. Butler against the moon picture and other phases of the dministration's Latin American proram was delivered in the Senate toay by Sen. Kenneth McKellar.

McKellar's statement, going into very phase of the report made by Butler, following a 20,000-mile tour f Latin America, strongly defended e production and distribution by the Office of Coordinator of Inter-Ameriin Affairs of 16 mm. non-theatrical lms depicting our cooperation and ewsreels, through the cooperation of he five newsreel companies, dealing vith matters of inter-American sigificance.

Catholics Re-Pledge To Legion of Decency

Parishioners of more than 340 Roman Catholic churches in the archdiocese of New York renewed the pledge of the Legion of Decency at the weekend.

Legion members are pledged to avoid motion pictures and other forms of entertainment that are labelled "indecent and immoral" by the organization.

Legion of Decency Classifies 4 Films

The National Legion of Decency this week classified "California Joe" in Class A, unobjectionable for general patronage; "Pistol Packin' Mama" and "Suspected Person" in Class A, Section 2, unobjectionable for adults, and "O, My Darling Clementine" in Class B, objectionable in part, it was reported yesterday.

Crooker Pinch-Hitting

Herb Crooker has been placed in charge of the MGM home office publicity department during the absence of Lou Smith, who has left for the West to convalesce from a recent attack of pneumonia and will be away for an indefinite period.

Personal Mention

(Other Personals on Page 2)

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal's Eastern advertising publicity director, will return today from Hollywood.

•

JIMMY RICCI, manager of Warners' Stanley, Atlantic City, has left to join the Marine Corps. JACK VAN, former manager of the Grand, Wilmington, Del., succeeds him.

•

FRITZ H. THOMAS, manager of the Lyric Amusement Co., Huntsville, Tenn., has been elected president of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce.

•

LT. COL. EMANUEL COHEN, MAJOR LEONARD SPIGELGASS and MAJOR ANATOLE LITVAK arrived here from the Coast yesterday on official business.

•

DAVID COCKRILL, operator of the Denham Theatre in Denver, was a recent visitor at the Paramount home office.

•

HARRY THOMAS, Monogram's Eastern divisional manager, left last night for Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh and Toronto.

•

PHIL CAIN, Philadelphia exhibitor, is back on Film Row in that city with an honorable Army discharge.

•

NORMAN ELSON, vice president of Trans-Lux Theatres, will leave for Boston today.

•

WILLIAM SASSOON, English film producer, arrived here yesterday from London.

•

MAX FINN, general manager of E. M. Loew's, visited Hartford over the weekend.

•

JOE FLOOD, Columbia booker in Philadelphia, has returned to work after a long illness.

•

H. J. SCHAD, owner of the Astor and Strand, Reading, Pa., is confined to his home with illness.

•

WILL MCLAUGHLIN, film editor of *Ottawa Journal* for 27 years, is the father of another boy.

•

M. A. BROWN, Paramount Buffalo branch manager, was a recent New York visitor.

HARRY M. WARNER, president of Warner Bros., arrived in Hollywood yesterday after visiting in New York.

•

MORT SINGER, of the Mort H. Singer circuit and JOHN REDMOND, general manager, visited in Omaha recently.

•

IZZY RAPPAPORT, owner of the Hippodrome Theatre, Baltimore, is confined to his home with a severe attack of flu.

•

HENRY HERBEL, Warner West Coast district manager, has left Los Angeles for Salt Lake City and Denver.

•

TOM MEADE, Universal Newsreel editor, has been confined to his home with a cold.

•

ROY HAINES, Southern and Western division sales manager for Warners, returned yesterday from Chicago.

•

ARTHUR JEFFREY, United Artists publicity manager, is expected to return today from Washington.

•

LOU POLLOCK, MARTIN STARR and BERNIE KAMBER, of United Artists, are on the sick list.

•

CHARLES REAGAN, assistant to NEIL AGNEW, Paramount, is confined to his home by illness.

•

SYLVAN KATZ, 20th-Fox Philadelphia booker, has returned to work after a long illness.

•

RUTH LIEPHART, chief Paramount inspectress in Cleveland, is celebrating 25 years in that capacity.

•

MAURICE GOLDEN, M-G-M Midwest talent head, has returned to Chicago after visiting here.

•

PHILIP N. KRASNE, Monogram producer, has returned to Hollywood after a New York visit.

•

JAMES S. BURKETT, Monogram producer, has returned to Hollywood from Mexico City.

•

B. E. MARINER, PRC Omaha branch manager, will leave Dec. 18 for service with the Marine Corps.

•

MARK LARKIN of the Hays office, was a recent visitor in Cleveland.

Cincinnati Variety Club Inducts White

Cincinnati, Dec. 13.—Maurice White has been installed as chief barker of the local Variety Club. Other officers inducted at the recent ceremonies here were Harry David and Arthur Frudenfeld, first and second assistants, respectively; Allan S. Moritz, dough guy, and Saul M. Greenberg, property master. Crew members, in addition to the officers, are Harold Bernstein, Mike Greenberg, Ralph Kinsler, Noah Schecter, A. L. Weinstein, H. J. Wessel, F. W. Huss, William Onie and Peter Niland.

Municipal Judge Clarence Denning was toastmaster, and Arthur Relly, news commentator, delivered the principal address. Approximately 150 members and guests attended the dinner.

Chicago Reelfellows Name New Officers

Chicago, Dec. 13.—New officers elected by the Reelfellows Club at a meeting here yesterday are: Milton Simon, 20th Century-Fox, president; Morris Hellman, United Artists, 1st vice-president; Harry Walders, RKO, second vice-president; Robert Funk, Universal, treasurer; Ted Myers, Universal, assistant treasurer; Saul Goldman, Variety Pictures, secretary; Mike Kassel, RKO, assistant secretary.

Frank Flaherty, Columbia; A. M. Van Dyke, 20th-Fox, and Max Brosky, Universal, were elected trustees, and Clarence Phillips, Columbia, was elected sergeant at arms.

Installation of officers will be held at a luncheon meeting at the Blackstone Hotel here on January 16.

Warner Theatres Executives to Meet

The annual year-end meeting of Warner circuit zone managers, buyers and home office executives will be held tomorrow at the home office.

In addition to Joseph Bernhard, general manager, and Harry M. Kalmine, assistant general manager, home office executives participating will include Clayton Bond, Harry Goldberg, Frank Phelps, Sam E. Morris, Abel Vigard, W. Stewart McDonald, Harry Rosenquest, Louis Kaufman, Frank Marshall, Nat Fellman, Herman Maier, Rudolph Weiss and Martin F. Bennett.

Zone managers who will attend the meeting are James Coston, Chicago; Nat Wolf, Cleveland; I. J. Hoffman, New Haven; Don Jacocks, Newark; C. J. Latta, Albany; Ted Schlanger, Philadelphia; M. A. Silver, Pittsburgh; John J. Payette, Washington, and Howard Waugh, Memphis.

Buyers present will include B. Jacocks and B. Hoffman of New Haven; Frank Damis, Newark; Max Friedman, Albany; John Turner, Philadelphia; George Crouch, Washington; Harry Feinstein, Pittsburgh; Alex Halperin, Chicago, and Tony Stern, Cleveland.

Maj. Frank Cahill, now in the Signal Corps, and Leonard Schlesinger, C.P.O. in the Seabees, also have been invited to attend.

Metro Premium Meet On Merchandise Lack

Chicago, Dec. 13.—Officials of the Metro Premium Co. are meeting at the Blackstone hotel here to discuss ways of meeting expanded business in the face of a merchandise shortage caused by the war.

Among those attending the meeting are: Irving Zussman, president; Maurice Miller, New York division manager; Edward Glassman, purchasing agent; George Jermain, of Minneapolis; Charles Winet, of Cleveland, and Herschel Kaufman, of Kansas City.

Artkino Film Into Victoria on Jan. 6

"She Defends Her Country," a Soviet film production, which has been dubbed in English, and is being released here by Artkino Pictures, is tentatively set for its premiere showing at the Victoria Theatre on January 6.

It is understood that dubbing of important Russian pictures in English is part of a long range program, with the Soviet government reciprocating by dubbing in Russian select American features, of which "Edison the Man," an M-G-M release, is the first.

Schreiber New Head of Detroit Variety

Detroit, Dec. 13.—Alex Schreiber, president of Associated Theatres, was elected chief barker of Variety Club here today. James Sharkey was named first assistant; Arvid Kantor, second assistant; David Newman, property master; Arthur Robinson, dough guy.

Past chief barker Charles C. Perry is national canvasman. Directors are Lew Wisper, Earl G. Hudson, Irving Belinsky, Moe Dudelson and Larry Becker.

Edward G.
ROBINSON

Charles
BOYER

Barbara
STANWYCK

Betty
FIELD

Robert
CUMMINGS

Robert
BENCHLEY

Thomas
MITCHELL

Charles
WINNINGER

Record breaker of record breakers! Tremendous openings in key cities all over the country ...Unusual staying power! That's "Flesh and Fantasy"...Universal smash hit!

FLESH and FANTASY

The Motion Picture Above All!

"FLESH and FANTASY"

starring in the order of their appearance

ROBERT BENCHLEY
BETTY FIELD
ROBERT CUMMINGS
with
EDGAR BARRIER

EDWARD G. ROBINSON
with
THOMAS MITCHELL
C. AUBREY SMITH
ANNA LEE
DAME MAY WHITTY

CHARLES BOYER
BARBARA STANWYCK
with
CHARLES WINNINGER

Directed by JULIEN DUVIVIER
Produced by CHARLES BOYER *and* JULIEN DUVIVIER

UNIVERSAL

Screen Play by Ernest Pascal • Samuel Hoffenstein • Ellis St. Joseph
Based on stories by Oscar Wilde • Laslo Vadnay • Ellis St. Joseph

52 Shooting, 43 Preparing, 72 Editing

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 13—Ten new pictures were started during the past week while 11 finished work to bring the total on the stages to 52, with 43 preparing and 72 editing. The previous week saw the same number of new ones started, with only two finishing, 53 shooting, 48 preparing and 72 editing. The production scene:

Columbia

Started: "Two-Man Submarine," with Tom Neal, Ann Savage.

Shooting: "Jam Session," "At Night We Dream," "Sailor's Holiday," "Address Unknown," "Nine Girls," "Once Upon a Time."

M-G-M

Started: "Meet Me in St. Louis," with Judy Garland, Mary Astor, Tom Drake, Harry Davenport.

Shooting: "Seventh Cross," "Three Men in White," "Dragon Seed," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed."

Finished: "Two Sisters and a Sailor," "The Canterville Ghost."

Monogram

Started: "Partners of the Trail," with Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton. "The Roaring West," with Hoot Gibson, Bob Steele.

Shooting: "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore."

Finished: "Outlaw Trail," "Hot Rhythm."

Paramount

Started: "Road to Utopia," "Gambler's Choice."

Shooting: "National Barn Dance," "You Can't Ration Love," "Incendiary Blonde," "Till We Meet Again," "The Hitler Gang," "Rainbow Island," "I Love a Soldier."

PRC

Finished: "Men on Her Mind."

RKO-Radio

Shooting: "Marine Raiders," "Seven Days Ashore," "Are These Our Children?" "Show Business," "Action in Arabia" formerly "International Zone."

Finished: "Gildersleeve's Ghost."

Republic

Finished: "Beneath Western Skies," "Rosie the Riveter," "Fighting Seabees."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Wilson," "Greenwich Village," "Four Jills in a Jeep," "The Purple Heart," "Home in Indiana."

United Artists

(Arnold)

Shooting: "It Happened Tomorrow."

(PCA)

Finished: "Knickerbocker Holiday."

(Rogers)

Shooting: "Song of the Open Road."

(Small)

Shooting: "Up In Mabel's Room."

(Vanguard)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

Universal

Started: "The Merry Monahans," with Donald O'Connor, Peggy Ryan, Jack Oakie. "Weird Woman," with Lon Chaney, Anne Gwynne, Evelyn Ankers. "Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly," with Harriet Hilliard, Eddie Quillan.

Shooting: "Christmas Holiday," "Gypsy Wildcat," "Slightly Terrific."

Finished: "Three Cheers for the Boys."

Warners

Started: "Make Your Own Bed," with Jack Carson, Jane Wyman, Irene Manning, Faye Emerson, George Tobias, Alan Hale, Ricardo Cortez.

Finished: "The Horn Blows at Midnight," "Mask of Dimitrios," "Hollywood Canteen," "Mr. Skeffington," "My Reputation."

Reviews

"Mr. Muggs Steps Out"

(Monogram)

THE East Side Kids amazingly lend a hand in helping a wealthy family to solve their problems in securing domestic help in "Mr. Muggs Steps Out," a pleasant little comedy produced by Sam Katzman and Jack Dietz for Monogram. Featured besides Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Gabriel Dell and Billy Benedict as the East Side Kids, are Joan Marsh, Stanley Brown, Noah Beery, Sr., Betty Blythe, Halliwell Hobbs, Eddie Gribbon and Patsy Moran.

Story and screenplay are credited to William X. Crowley and Beryl Sachs. Miss Blythe, mother of Miss March, a debutante, has a mania for trying to rehabilitate "characters" by engaging them as domestics on the household staff. She really bites off more than she can chew when she saves Leo Gorcey from reform school by offering him a job as the family chauffeur. With Gorcey come all the East Side Kids. They upset the dignified household with their antics, and become involved in more serious business when a valuable necklace is stolen during the engagement party given for Miss Marsh and Brown. With the help of Miss Moran, the maid, who recognizes the real thief, they manage to recover the necklace. Brown, mild and meek, asserts his manhood and really wins Miss Marsh's respect during the apprehension of the jewel thief.

William Beaudine's direction keeps the story moving. The East Side Kids turn in their usual performances led by Gorcey. The other performers are satisfactory in their assigned tasks.

Running time, 54 mins. "G."* MILT LIVINGSTON

"Career Girl"

(PRC Pictures)

Hollywood, Dec. 13

WITH Frances Langford, singer on the Bob Hope radio program, playing the lead and singing four new songs in the process, this Jack Schwarz production makes marquee room for itself in better company than commonly attained by films in its bracket. It is at its best when Miss Langford is singing, suffering somewhat from wordiness between times, but sticks to its story from start to finish and keeps within the plausibilities.

The original story by Dave Silverstein and Stanley Baugh reminds in part of "Stage Door," the Ginger Rogers picture of some years back, but has aspects of freshness. It presents Miss Langford as a girl seeking a stage career who is incorporated by her associates and wins, ultimately, both fame and romantic happiness. Iris Adrian is runner-up to Miss Langford on the talent side, with Ariel Heath handling capably the role of the disappointed actress who tries suicide. Craig Woods and Edward Norris portray the contenders for the heroine's affections. Others in the cast are Linda Brent, Alec Craig, Lorraine Krueger, Renee White, Gladys Blake, Charles Judels and Charles Williams.

Wallace W. Fox directed, a little deliberately in spots but steadily. Sam Neuman wrote the screenplay.

Running time, 66 minutes. "G."* WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"G" denotes general classification.

Kallman Jap Prisoner

George Kallman, former RKO branch manager in the Philippines, is interned in a Japanese prison camp near Manila and is in good health, according to information furnished by American repatriates recently arrived on the *Gripsholm*.

Segal New Col. Booker

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—Gilbert Segal has been named booker at the Columbia exchange here. He will book for the New Jersey, Delaware and suburban houses, replacing Martin Cherry.

Lantz Rounding Out Heaviest Schedule

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 13—With 22 subjects already produced and five more heading for completion by the end of the year, Walt Lantz will have rounded out his heaviest schedule.

Thirteen cartoons distribute through Universal. Eight others were made as training films for the Navy. Another was designed to encourage Navy personnel to buy more bonds.

Lt. Col. Mulhall Cited

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—Lt. Col. Jack Mulhall, former district manager for the Warner Theatre circuit in Chester, Pa., and Wilmington, Del., districts, has been awarded the Legion of Merit medal for outstanding service in the African campaign, it was announced here.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Dec. 1

RKO-RADIO studios here have se a pattern in treatment of forme employees returning from the arme services, it was revealed when studi employment records disclosed that 1 persons honorably discharged fro various branches of the armed force have been reemployed in the jobs the held before joining Uncle Sam.

•

Columbia has another new title fo "Curly," which became "Yes, Si That's My Baby." The new title "Once Upon a Time." Picture sta Cary Grant, Janet Blair and a dan ing caterpillar. . . . Ralph Murphy p "Rainbow Island" back on the stag at Paramount after a shutdow caused by Eddie Bracken's illness. . The entire cast of "Up in Mabe Room" participated in the Hollywo Guild Canteen benefit at the Palladiu ballroom. Those attending includ Marjorie Reynolds, Gail Patrick, De nis O'Keefe, Mischa Auer, Charlot Greenwood, Binnie Barnes, Lee Bo man, John Hubbard and Janet La bert. Dick Powell was emcee a Monty Woolley was another parti pant in the event. The canteen fee and houses servicemen on leave.

•

Robert Hutton has been assign his second leading role at Warne He will play the male lead "Janie," Alex Gottlieb producti His first lead is in "Hollywood Ca teen." . . . Ann Sheridan checks at Warners Dec. 15 to start her sta ring role in "Hollywood Cantee with Delmar Daves directing. . Monogram has renewed Billy G bert's contract. He was last se with Frank Fay in the studi "Spotlight Scandals."

•

When Paramount rolls "Road Utopia," starring Bob Hope, Doro Lamour and Bing Crosby, this we the studio will have nine producti on the stages and nine in the cutti rooms. . . . Eddie Sutherland been signed to direct Turneen Prod tion's "Pile Buck," starring O'Brien. It will have a Colum release. . . . Spencer Tracy will p Lt. Col. James Doolittle in M-G- "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo."

•

Joan Davis, comedienne, has b signed to a term contract by R to become effective following work in Eddie Cantor's "Show Bu ness," currently before the camer . . . Zachary Scott makes his fi debut in "Mask of Dimitrios" Warners, but he'll play only a cor in his first screen role. . . . P Malvern has signed Lawrence Ki ble to script "Flame of Stambo for Maria Montez next at Univers . . . Paramount has set "Till Meet Again" as the title for Fra Borzage's "Tomorrow's Harve now before the cameras. . . . Mo gram put "Johnny Doesn't L Here Any More," with Sim Simon, James Ellison and Willi Terry, on the stages.

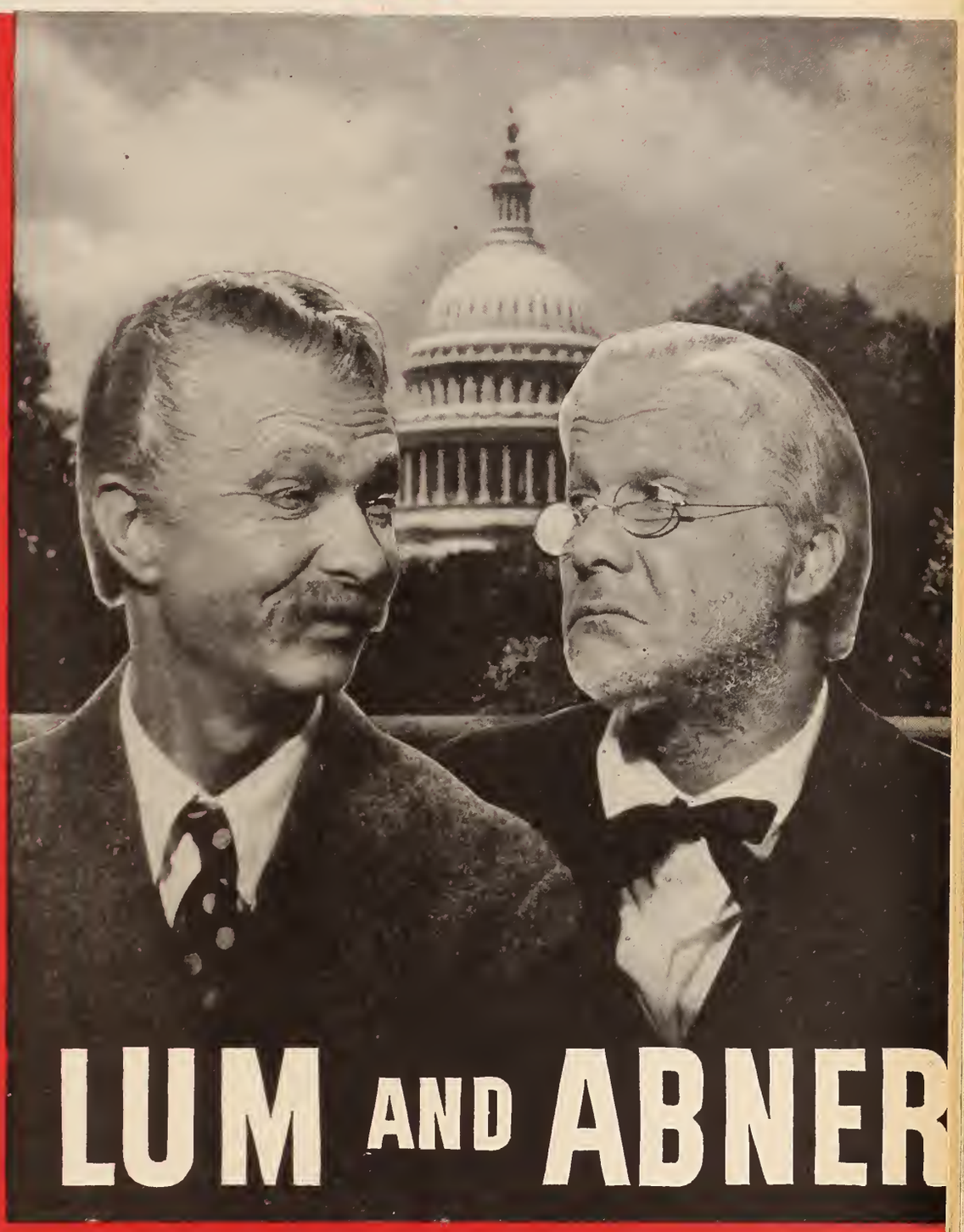
Rhodes Joins Warner

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 13. — Ro Rhodes, formerly of the Los Ang *Examiner*, has joined Alex Evelo publicity staff at the Warner B Studio as a unit man.

ISTENERS ARE *LOOKERS!*

DIO'S TOP RANKING
RIAL ATTRACTION, AS
OWN BY CROSLEY AND
OPER SURVEYS IN 33
RGEST CITIES...BROAD-
ST TO MORE THAN 20
LLION LISTENERS, 4
MES WEEKLY, OVER 202
ATIONS. 12 YEARS ON
E NETWORKS...ALL
ER AMERICA, PRE-SOLD
DIENCES ARE WAITING TO
E THEIR FUNNIEST, TIME-
EST MOTION PICTURE HIT!

★



SO THIS IS WASHINGTON

A Jack William Votion Production • Produced by Ben Hersh
Directed by Raymond McCarey • Screen play by Leonard Praskins
and Roswell Rogers • Story by Roswell Rogers and Edward James

RKO RADIO PICTURE

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Flu, Cold Weather, Shopping Hit Gross At Broadway Houses

(Continued from page 1)

in a second week at the Capitol will probably gross $55,000 and will hold over another week. "No Time for Love" and Woody Herman and his band on the stage at the Paramount grossed an estimated $50,000 in the second week.

"The North Star" is expected to gross about $30,000 at the Palace and $11,000 at the Victoria. "Northern Pursuit" and Glen Gray and his orchestra on the stage in the third week at the Strand should gross an estimated $33,000 and will hold over. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" in the ninth week of a continuous run policy at the Rivoli will probably gross $28,000.

"Flesh and Fantasy," finishing its fourth and last week at the Criterion, is expected to gross $16,500. "Crazy House" will open tomorrow. "Old Acquaintance" is headed for a $13,000 gross in its sixth week at the Hollywood. "Desert Song" will open at the Hollywood Dec. 17. "Cry 'Havoc'," fell to $12,500 in its third week at the Astor.

"In Old Oklahoma" is expected to hit $11,000 in its second week at the Globe and will probably hold over. "The Mad Ghoul" will probably gross about $9,500 at the Rialto.

J. Shea, 71, Toronto Theatre Man, Dies

TORONTO, Dec. 13. — Jeremiah (Jerry) Shea, 71, theatre proprietor in downtown Toronto since 1899, died yesterday at his home after a long illness. With his brother, Michael, he pioneered big time vaudeville in Buffalo and Toronto, later turning to screen entertainment.

At the time of death he was managing director of Shea's Theatre, Toronto, a unit of Famous Players. Survivors are his widow, a daughter and two sons. The funeral service will be held Wednesday.

Baltimore Variety Club Elects Collier

BALTIMORE, Dec. 13.—Rodney Collier, manager of the Stanley Theatre, Baltimore, is the newly elected Chief Barker of the Variety Club here. Other officers named at the recent election include: Frank Durkee, first assistant; Barry Goldman, second assistant; Nick Weems, treasurer and Sam Diamond, secretary.

The new board of governors consists of Leon Back, Louis Becker, Sam Saltz, Ed Yeaple, Morris Oletsky and Isador M. Rappaport.

Conn. Allied Meets

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 13—Allied Theatre Owners of Connecticut will discuss Allied Caravan news and tax developments at a special luncheon-meeting at the Hofbrau Haus Restaurant, here to-day. Dr. J. B. Fishman, president, will preside.

David Siegel Named

TORONTO, Dec. 13.—David Seigel, projectionist at the Casino Theatre, today was elected president of the Toronto local of the motion picture operators' union.

Identify Radio Editorials As Such, Writers Advise

(Continued from page 1)

work editorial board. A first sampling of the editors' and columnists' views on the subject were published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday. More are presented herewith. All were in response to the Radio Poll question: "Should radio news analysts and commentators refrain from editorial comment on the air?"

Indiana: "No! After all, many of these men have visited the places they are talking about. They know the moods, the character of the people, things less-traveled people know little about and are interested in." . . . "No! Many listeners are not equipped to draw conclusions; self-admittedly so. Others like to compare notes with the commentators . Still others want to collect opinions, collate them and arrive at a judicious decision on questions of the day. Finally, such restrictions are antithetic to our war aims."

Pennsylvania: "Editorial comment is permissible when it is good, sound advice having no particular machinations for political purposes and does not defame any individual, firm or worthy project."

New Hampshire: "It's almost impossible to draw the line. An analysis is of itself editorial comment because the news commentator is human. This analysis is bound to be slanted one way or the other even though the analyst thinks he is maintaining an impartial attitude."

Kentucky: "Yes, with reservations! The average listener is unable to distinguish straight news from personal opinion unless it is made plain the editorial comments are those of the news analyst."

Missouri: "No! But newscasts and comment programs should be sharply differentiated. Most so-called commentators should be fired as unworthy of their vast audiences."

Iowa: "No! Their opinions are valuable in interpreting the news for they generally are on the spot or know the circumstances and can give valuable aid in interpreting the news."

Texas: "No! No more than newspapers should omit editorials—but it should be made clear when editorial comment is given—it should not be masked as news."

California: "If you say 'No!' there is the question of free speech, but unless stations and networks will put on the air only men and women of integrity, of good background of as nearly unprejudiced minds as human beings can be, the answer is 'Yes.' At present not sufficient judgment is being exercised in designating authorities."

Connecticut: "As radio stations do not come out politically one way or another, it is important that commentators should refrain from this sort of comment. The public wants factual news reports, not reports bound to be biased by the individual expressing his thoughts."

Warners, SAG Meet On 'Canteen' Stoppage

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 13. — Following shutdown of shooting on Warners' "Hollywood Canteen" at the weekend when the Screen Actors Guild interposed objections to salary reductions accepted by some stars signed for brief appearance in the film, studio representatives were in session tonight with a guild committee headed by Ken Thomson.

SAG, which recently announced a ruling that players cannot accept roles for "substantially less" than the established salary, raised no objection to Warner contract players working at any agreed wage but protested when stars from other studios were engaged for short term work in the picture, which seeks to present a cross-industry picture of how stars entertain servicemen at the canteen.

Neither SAG nor Warners answered inquiries on the probable outcome prior to the meeting but informed observers believed a middle ground would be found.

It is understood that Warners' deal with the canteen entails payment of a $250,000 advance against a percentage of the gross after the negative cost is recouped and it is estimated the studio has put $500,000 in the picture thus far.

McIntyre, Roosevelt Sec'y, Ex-Pathe, Dies

(Continued from page 1)

Early were appointed to the White House secretariat, the former as assistant secretary to the President. He was made a full secretary in 1937, following the death of Louis Howe.

Paramount Partners See 'Lady in Dark'

CHICAGO, Dec. 13. — Paramount theatre partners and members of the advertising-publicity staff, witnessed a screening of "Lady in the Dark" here yesterday. A talk on advertising and promotion plans for the picture by Robert M. Gillham, ad-publicity head, followed. Leonard Goldenson is conducting a meeting of Paramount partners today with a discussion of wartime operation highlighting the session.

In attendance are: Sam Dembow, Jr., Goldenson, Tracy Barham, Earl Hudson, A. H. Blank, Ralph Branton, John Balaban, Harry David, John Friedl, Terry Zigmond, Harry Rayser, Nate Goldstein and Neil Agnew. Members of the advertising staff who are present include: Gillham, Charles Winchell, Mrs. Alice Gorham, Harry Browning and Dale McFarland.

Average Film Wage For Oct. Was $71.32

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13 — Pay checks drawn by motion picture wage earners in California during October were less than in September, but more than for October a year ago, according to figures released here by the State Labor Statistics Bureau.

Average weekly wage for October was $71.32, compared with $72.45 for September, 1943, and $58.15 for October, 1942.

Weigh Umpi Cancellation For Decree

(Continued from page 1)

Umpi plan, but are averse to extending that formula to cover theatres in the highest rental brackets. The Umpi plan provided for a cancellation of two pictures out of each proposed block of 12 films for exhibitors paying rentals of $100 per picture or less, and cancellation of one picture in each block for those paying from $100 to $200 per picture. No provision for cancellation was made for theatres paying in excess of an average of $200 per picture.

Current distributor proposals, it is said, call for a decree provision of a 20 per cent cancellation for theatres paying $100 per picture or less, and 10 per cent for those paying from $100 to $200, with no provision for cancellation above that figure. This proposal is markedly similar to the M-G-M cancellation provisions currently in effect.

OCR Seeks Direct Allocation of Tubes

(Continued from page 1)

AA-3 rating and all present allocations will be cancelled.

Allen G. Smith, head of the theatre equipment section of WPB, is cooperating with McMurphey and Eberson in the effort to have a specific number of tubes allocated for theatres, the only way, it was declared, in which exhibitors can be assured of supplies.

Exhibitor leaders have become concerned over the situation, and Ed Kuykendall, president of the MPTOA, has written WPB vice-chairman Wilson, pointing out the important services the theatres are rendering the Government's war effort and urging that steps be taken to insure their maintenance.

90% of Servicemen Abroad See Pictures

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 13.—Ninety per cent of the servicemen overseas are seeing Hollywood pictures every week, Major John W. Hubbell, commandant of the film circuit section, Army pictorial service, told industry leaders at a luncheon presided over by Y. Frank Freeman.

Paying tribute to Hollywood's part in servicing 16mm prints and its part in supplying projectors, the speaker said an average of 360,000 servicemen attend shows nightly.

Proposes Hours for Theatre Illumination

(Continued from page 1)

which is being pressed by the Office of War Utilities.

Earlier, the committee had recommended establishing a permissive two hour period between dusk and 1 P.M., but this was found to be confusing because of differing practice among individual operations.

Get the most from your

VICTORY CARBONS

RECOMMENDED TRIM AND RANGE OF ARC CURRENT FOR LAMPS USING COPPER COATED, HIGH INTENSITY, PROJECTOR CARBONS

Type of Arc	*Arc Current — Amperes*	*New Victory Carbons — Size and Type*
"1 Kw" High Intensity, A.C.	52-66	7 mm x 9 inch H.I., A.C. Carbons in both holders
"1 Kw" High Intensity, D.C.	40-42	7 mm x 12 inch or 14 inch "Suprex" Positive 6 mm x 9 inch "Orotip" C Negative
Simplified High Intensity, D.C. with *adjustable* feed ratio	42-45	7 mm x 12 inch or 14 inch "Suprex" Positive 6 mm x 9 inch "Orotip" C Negative
Simplified High Intensity, D.C. with *fixed* feed ratio	42-45	7 mm x 12 inch or 14 inch "Suprex" Positive 7 mm x 9 inch "Orotip" C Negative
Simplified High Intensity, D.C.	56-65	8 mm x 12 inch or 14 inch "Suprex" Positive 7 mm x 9 inch "Orotip" C Negative

You can obtain maximum efficiency and economy from your Victory Carbons by observing the following simple rules.

USE CARBON TRIM RECOMMENDED FOR YOUR PROJECTION EQUIPMENT.

The Victory Carbon trims indicated in the above table were established by comprehensive laboratory and field tests to ascertain the best results obtainable in all types of equipment

OPERATE CARBONS AT SPECIFIED ARC CURRENT.

Better projection and greater economy are obtained when recommended arc currents are maintained. The maximum allowable arc current is stamped on each Victory Carbon at the left of the trade-mark.

CHECK FEED RATIO CAREFULLY.

Changes of arc current alter the ratio of burning rate between positive and negative carbons. On lamps equipped with adjustable feed and formerly operated above 45 amperes arc current, this ratio should be adjusted to meet the new current conditions.

A bulletin describing operation of the new Victory High Intensity Carbons is available for distribution and will be sent promptly upon request.

SAVE THE COPPER

Most of the copper used for plating copper coated projector carbons drops to the floor of the lamp house when the carbons are burned. Continue to save these copper drippings and turn them over to your supply dealer as designated by our government.

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Unit of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation

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30 East 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

BRANCH SALES OFFICES
New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco

'London' at $18,000 Best in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Dec. 13.—Business at first-run houses is experiencing the annual pre-holiday slump. Christmas shopping is attracting major attention and, in addition, managers believe hundreds of fans are remaining away from theatres to safeguard against a mild epidemic of flu. Best draw of the week appears to be "Jack London" scoring $18,000 at the Century.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 16:

"Jack London" (UA)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c-50c, and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $16,500)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (30c-40c-50c and 55c weekends) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average, $12,000)
"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (28c-35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,700)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (28c-40c-55c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average, $16,900)
"The Adventures of a Rookie" (RKO)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (28c-39c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days. On stage: Ada Leonard All-Girl Band, Amy Arnell, Watson Sisters, Elaine Kupper. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $16,800)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (20c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $5,900)

All But Two Below New Haven Average

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 13.—The Christmas slump came last week. Two houses had repeat programs, one of which, a dual with "Girl Crazy" and "A Scream in the Dark," at the College, was the only bill to hit average at $3,200. Total first-run business was $23,300; average is $29,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 9:

"The Heat's On" (Col.)
"Unknown Guest" (Mono.)
BIJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,200. (Average, $3,500)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"A Scream in the Dark" (Rep.)
COLLEGE—(1,565) (40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,200. (Average, $3,200)
"Whistling in Brooklyn" (M-G-M)
"There's Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
LOEW-POLI—(3,005) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $9,500)
"True to Life" (Para.)
"Alaska Highway" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,373) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $6,400)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
"Hi-Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
ROGER SHERMAN—(2,037) (40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,900. (Average, $6,400)

Musicians Get Raises

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—The War Labor Board has approved pay increases for musicians at Warner theatres here, allowing an eight per cent increase as provided for in 1943-44 contracts for pit orchestras at the Earle and Allegheny here, and the Stanley, Camden, N. J. WLB also approved an increase of $3.00 per man for musicians at William Goldman's Erlanger, which now has stage shows.

Blast Hearing Deferred

MEMPHIS, Dec. 13.—Hearing of the case of the State vs. John W. Eaton, owner-manager of the Peabody here, has been postponed until the January term by Judge Kinkle, due to the absence of two state wienesses. Eaton is charged with responsibility for an explosion in his theatre last August which resulted in the death of one person.

Reviews

"What a Man"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Dec. 13

PRODUCER BARNEY A. SARECKY does here on a moderate budget with Johnny Downs the type of thing the major studios used to do with Harold Lloyd before the champion delineator of awkward-but-valiant young men withdrew from the pictures. It is some while since just this type of comedy has been offered to the public and this circumstance classifies as a condition in favor of "What a Man," which is by no means the sprightliest work to date of producer or star.

The tale, an original screenplay by William X. Crowley and Beryl Sachs, presents Downs as a meek young clerk in a large office. A girl evidently evading arrest secretes herself in his home and is mistaken for his wife under circumstances which make explanation impractical. Developments at the office result in his promotion to the managership, after which he whips the office wisecracker. Later on the girl turns out to be the boss' daughter and he marries her.

Wanda McKay as the girl is the standout among the players directed by William Beaudine with more deliberation than is good for the property. Others present are Robert Kent, Etta McDaniels, Harry Holman, J. Stanford Jolley, Wheeler Oakman, Lillian Bronson, John Baxley, John Ince, Betty Sinclair, Dick Rush, Jim Farley, Henry Hall, Ralph Cathey.

Running time, 73 minutes. "G."*

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"G" denotes general classification.

"It Happened in Gibraltar"

(Vigor Films)

SET in Gibraltar and Tangiers, "It Happened in Gibraltar" was produced by Gibraltar Films of Paris before the outbreak of hostilities as an indication of France's good feeling for England. For obvious reasons, the common enemy of both nations, Germany, could not be named. Hence the story concerns itself with the espionage activities of a group representing an unnamed country, seeking their own selfish ends. The fact that Eric Von Stroheim, in the part of leader of these international criminals, looks and operates like the Nazi Gestapo, makes the purpose of the film more obvious.

Dialogue is in French but sub-titles in English make it possible to follow without much difficulty. The acting is excellent and the film moves swiftly. It is packed with action, suspense and melodrama. Viviane Romance, European actress, is the Mata Hari of the story, portraying a Spanish dancer, who secures information about British shipping for Von Stroheim. She works on English army officers for shipping details and gets a young lieutenant, Roger Duchesne, "broken" and imprisoned when a troop ship is blown up. Duchesne escapes from jail and joins an espionage ring. In the meantime the glamorous Miss Romance has fallen in love with him. The climax occurs when Duchesne turns out to be an English army secret agent who has informed the government of the moves of Von Stroheim's group. Von Stroheim learns of the treachery and is out to kill Duchesne, who is warned by Miss Romance from the stage of a nightclub which is the cover-up for operating headquarters of the spies. She is killed in her successful effort to save Duchesne.

Fedor Ozep, noted Russian director, handled the original scenario by Jean Stelli, Jacques Companeez and Ernest Neuville, in excellent fashion. Von Stroheim presents a splendid portrayal of the power-mad killer, and Miss Romance turns in a fine performance as the spy. Also deserving of creditable mention are Duchesne and Georges Flament. Musical background by Paul Dessau is stirring and appropriate.

The film is one primarily for adult patronage due to the presence of elements which might be termed "risque" and several scenes which are on the suggestive side.

Running time, 92 mins. "A."*

HELEN MCNAMARA

"A" denotes adult classification.

Two Film Firms Formed

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 13.—Papers of incorporation have been issued to Francam, Inc., Manhattan, by Harry G. Kasch, Justus Goldman and Herman H. Sternstein, all of New York, and to Federal Amusement Corp., Manhattan by Milton Kail, Sharon Gould and Doris Feinsilver, New York.

Wolfe Succeeds Cohen

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—Sam Cohen, former manager of the Avenue Theatre, Affiliated circuit house, has entered defense work. Ray Wolfe, manager of the circuit's Adelphi, succeeds him. In the Warner theatre circuit, Albert Rabino, assistant manager of the Northeastern, was promoted to a similar post at the Earle.

Pre-Holiday Gross In Cinci. Is Spotty

CINCINNATI, Dec. 13—Although "Where Are Your Children?" in connection with "Crazy Show of 1944" on the RKO Albee stage, promises that house an estimated $26,000, business at the other houses was spotty, due to traditional pre-holiday conditions.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 15-18:

"Where Are Your Children?" (Mono.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (44c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Stage: "Crazy Show of 1944" headed by Bert Wheeler, with Glenn Miller Singers. Gross: $26,000. (Average, $22,000)
"Northern Pursuit" (W. B.)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (35c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Sat. midnight show. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $10,000)
"Drums of Fu Manchu" (Rep.)
"Bar 20" (U. A.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 4 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average, $1,400)
"Hi 'Ya Sailor" (Univ.)
"Overland Mail Robbery" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average, $800)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Sat. midnight show. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $9,500)
"Old Acquaintance" (W. B.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover from 2 weeks at Grand. Gross: $4,500. (Average, $5,000)
"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Capitol. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $4,200)
"Jack London" (U. A.)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,500. (Average, $15,000)
"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
RKO SHUBERT—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $5,000)

Republic to Re-issue Eight Autrys in 1944

Republic announced here last week that following the reissuance of eight Gene Autry productions in 1942-43, it will re-release eight additional Autrys during 1944. New prints, posters, press-books and accessories will be available.

The schedule includes: "Red River Valley," Jan. 15; "The Big Show," Mar. 1; "Oh, Susanna," April 15; "Melody Trail," June 1; "Comin' Round the Mountain," July 15; "Ride, Ranger, Ride," Sept. 1; "Git Along Little Dogies," Oct. 15, and "Rootin', Tootin' Rhythm," Dec. 1.

Defer Conference on Toronto Film Fire

TORONTO, Dec. 13.—A meeting of film distributors with Chairman O. J. Silverthorne of the motion pictures branch of the Ontario Government at the Parliament buildings, scheduled for last week, has been postponed until some time in January. The meeting was called to discuss matters arising from the film exchange fire here and evidence at the inquest into the death of Herbert Naiman as a result of explosions. No reason was given for postponement of the conference.

'Penn' Premiere Here

"The Courageous Mr. Penn," British-made Esquire film distributed here by J. H. Hoffberg, will have its American premiere at the 55th St. Playhouse, Dec. 22. Exploitation is being handled by Samuel D. Berns Associates. The film was released in England as "Penn of Pennsylvania," by Anglo-American.

Loop Grosses Off As Holiday Takes B.O. Toll

CHICAGO, Dec. 13—Loop business is off this week, while patrons are stepping up their Christmas shopping activities. Outlying theatres are said to be affected more than those downtown.

"Paris After Dark" and "My Kingdom for a Cook" at the Apollo appear to be headed for a gross of $12,000 for the week. "Guadalcanal Diary" in its 4th week at the Garrick Theatre will probably do $10,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 16:

"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $10,600)
"Hi Diddle Diddle" (U. A.)
CHICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Jimmy Dorsey and his Orchestra. Gross: $45,000. (Average, $45,000)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $8,700)
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
"Falcon and the Co-Eds" (RKO)
GRAND — (1,150) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week in Loop. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $8,900)
"There's Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days. Stage: Art Kassel and his orchestra. Gross: $21,000. (Average, $23,400)
"Corvette K-225 (Univ.)
"She's for Me" (Univ.)
PALACE — (2,500) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c). Gross: $20,000. (Average, $20,000)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (W. B.)
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $19,200)
"Old Acquaintance" (W. B.)
STATE-LAKE — (2,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $22,600)
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $71,000. (Average, $19,200)
"Strange Death of Adolph Hitler" (Univ.)
"Man from Music Mountain" (Rep.)
WOODS — (1,200) (55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $10,000)

Blank Named for Award

DES MOINES, Dec. 13.—A. H. Blank, head of Tri-States Theatres circuit here, and Mrs. Blank, have been nominated by R. L. Lester, real estate salesman, for the 1943 *Des Moines Tribune* community award in recognition of their gift to the city of Raymond M. Blank Memorial Hospital for Children. The award is given annually to a local citizen for outstanding achievement during the year.

Name Wagman

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13. — John Wagman, of Warners here, was elected president of the Film Exchange Employees Union, Local B-7, recently. Other officers include Tom Loftus, Clark Film, vice-president; Peggy Brickley, M-G-M, secretary, and Victoria Van Storey, RKO, treasurer.

Funeral Rites for Hanke

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 13.—Funeral services for Frederick J. Hanke, 36, manager of the Lyric for the past 12 years, were held here recently. Hanke, born in Austria, died of a heart attack. Surviving are his wife, a daughter and son.

Ward New Altec V. P.

At a meeting of Altec Lansing Board of Directors recently, Alvis A. Ward was elected a vice-president. He will headquarter in Hollywood.

Review

"Hands Across the Border"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Dec. 13

LATEST of the Roy Rogers musical Westerns from Republic, with Associate Producer Harry Grey in charge and Joseph Kane directing, "Hands Across the Border" rings the bell for Rogers fans. He sings his song in great style, especially "I Haven't Got a Nickel," while Ruth Terry punches over a neat song number with the nostalgic title, "The Girl With the High-Buttoned Shoes."

Production numbers under the direction of Dave Gould are nicely and tunefully executed with brilliant Mexican dancing girls and glamorous American cowgirls cementing the good neighbor policy in modern Western fashion and with 14-year-old Janet Martin, as Rosita Morales, delivering her Latin numbers with promise of future Carmen Mirandaism.

The story concerns a couple of saddle bums, Roy and "Big Boy" Williams, almost landing in jail as they arrive in Buckaroo, but saved by Roy's singing at the Adams Ranch. Onslow Stevens, the heavy, and competitor for Army cavalry horse contracts, runs the town and has a heavy mortgage on the Adams place. When Adams dies trying to ride Trigger, a wild stallion, Stevens plans to take over, but Roy outwits him by hiding Trigger out, training him, and winning the government contract for Kim and Kim for himself.

Running time, 73 minutes. "G."* JACK CARTWRIGHT

"G" denotes general classification.

Three Philadelphia Managers Shifted

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 13.—A number of managerial changes have been announced in this territory. Roy Sullender, manager at Warners' Palace, moves to the circuit's Uptown, succeeding Ben Blumberg, who will be inducted into the Army.

William Gerst, formerly with the William G. Hunt houses here and in Southern New Jersey, replaces Bob Sidman, also Army-bound, as manager of Jay Emanuel's Senate Theatre in Harrisburg. George Higgenbottam, former owner of the Rio, has assumed the managerial post at the Ritz-Tacony.

Monogram Sells Product to 95 More

Ninety-five additional theatres, comprising units of three major circuits, have signed for Monogram's 1943-1944 product, according to an announcement made recently by Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager.

New signers are Central States Theatres, operating 54 houses in Iowa and Nebraska; 10 situations of Comerford Publix Theatres Corp. in New York state; and 31 Ohio houses belonging to the Schine Circuit.

Detroit Variety Elects

DETROIT, Dec. 13.—Detroit Variety Club Tent No. 5 has elected the following barkers to its crew here: David Newman, Barney Kilbride, Arvid Kantor, Lew Wisper, Earl Hudson, James Sharkey, Irving Belinsky, Charles C. Perry, Arthur Robinson, Moe Dudelson, Larry Becker and Alex Schreiber. Becker and Schreiber are tied for 11th place, pending action by the directors.

Romm to Morris Agency

Leonard Romm has joined the William Morris Agency to work with the theatre department, with Nat and Harry Kalcheim. He was formerly associated with his brother Harry Romm, at General Amusement Corp.

San Francisco 1st Run

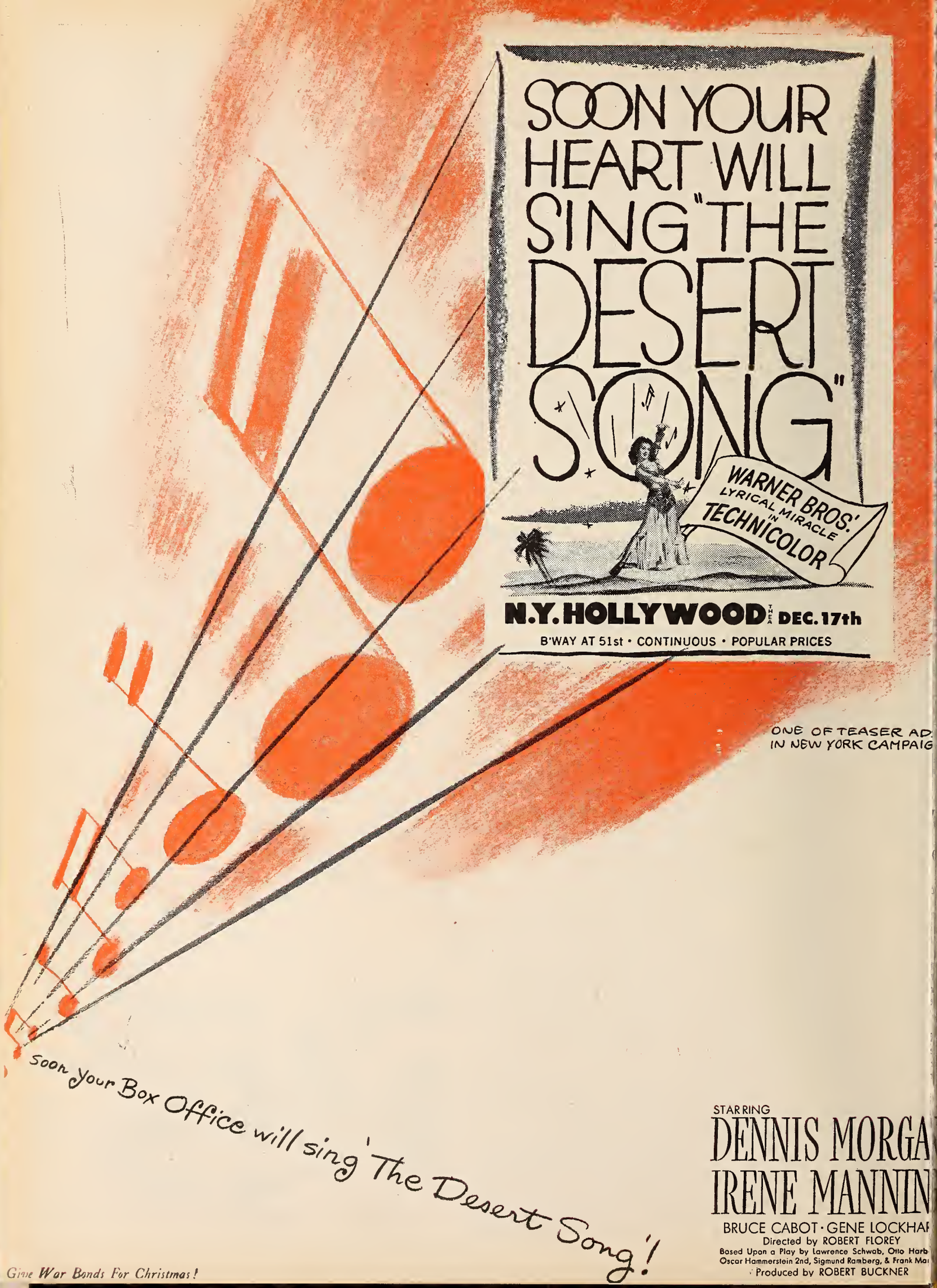
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13—Fox-West Coast Theatres have added the State, downtown 2,306-seat house, to its list of first-runs, using the theatre as another moveover. Chain now has six first-run houses here: the Fox, Warfield, Paramount and Alcazar, with the State and St. Francis for moveovers.

'Pursuit' Dual $27,300 Gross: San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13—"Northern Pursuit" and "Campus Rhythm" are headed toward a $27,300 gross at the Fox. Another big one for Orpheum, which appears headed for $18,500 on first week of Mae West's "The Heat's On," paired with "Chance of a Lifetime."

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 13-14:

"Northern Pursuit" (W. B.)
"Campus Rhythm" (Mono.)
FOX — (5,000) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $27,300. (Average, $22,100)
"The Heat's On" (Col.)
"Chance of a Lifetime" (Col.)
ORPHEUM — (2,440) (20c-35c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average, $12,700)
"Tornado" (Para.)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $22,500. (Average, $20,300)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"Find the Blackmailer" (W. B.)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. (Moved over from Fox.) Gross: $10,500. (Average, $10,300)
"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $18,700)
"North Star" (RKO-Goldwyn)
ALCAZAR—(1,149) (85c-$1.10) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $10,300)
"Iron Major" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (35c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage: vaudeville. Gross: $23,500. (Average, $26,000)
"Jack London" (U. A.)
"Doughboys in Ireland" (Col.)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (20c-35c-60c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average, $10,100)


SOON YOUR HEART WILL SING "THE DESERT SONG"
WARNER BROS.' LYRICAL MIRACLE IN TECHNICOLOR
N.Y. HOLLYWOOD THEA DEC. 17th
B'WAY AT 51st • CONTINUOUS • POPULAR PRICES
ONE OF TEASER AD
IN NEW YORK CAMPAIG
Soon Your Box Office will sing 'The Desert Song'!
STARRING
DENNIS MORGA
IRENE MANNIN
BRUCE CABOT · GENE LOCKHA
Directed by ROBERT FLOREY
Based Upon a Play by Lawrence Schwab, Otto Harb
Oscar Hammerstein 2nd, Sigmund Ramberg, & Frank Ma
Produced by ROBERT BUCKNER
Give War Bonds For Christmas!

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

OL. 54. NO. 114 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1943 | TEN CENTS

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ackets Trial Ends Today, to Jury Friday

ummations Expected to Take Next Two Days

The defense is expected to com-ete its case today in the Federal urt trial here of members of the apone gang charged with extort-g more than $1,000,000 from the in-stry under threats of strikes and er labor disorders. Summations ll be begun immediately afterward d the case is expected to go to the y on Friday.

Joseph M. Schenck, production head 20th Century-Fox, was called to the nd yesterday as a last-minute de-se witness in an effort by defense orneys to prove that industry offi-ls were the willing associates of illiam Bioff and George E. Browne, mer IATSE officials, in a scheme control labor relations, and not, as government contends, the victims the gangsters' demands for money. henck, however, testified that Bioff rned him repeatedly about the ruth-sness of the Chicago mob.

"Bioff told me that I couldn't

(Continued on page 5)

sk Montreal Houses o Limit Audiences

MONTREAL, Dec. 14.—Montreal po-e and firemen threw Canada's tropolis into confusion today when ey left their beats and stations at A.M. acting upon a strike vote er a union recognition dispute. Al-ough Fire Director Raymond Pare rned managements of theatres and bs to "avoid capacity crowds be-use of the danger of fire," mana-rs declared themselves prepared to pe with possible emergencies result-g from the strike.

Zero and subzero temperatures here ve cut theatre attendance to about rmal. Members of theatre staffs,

(Continued on page 9)

Hitchcock in London For MOI Shorts

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Alfred Hitch-ck has arrived here from Hollywood make a series of shorts for the ritish Ministry of Information as an nportant part of MOI's production heme of foreign language films to be own in European countries as and hen they are liberated.

Skouras Pledges Sale Of Bond for Every Seat in Fourth Loan

Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the industry's Fourth War Loan drive to be held Jan. 18 to Feb. 15, yesterday pledged the sale of a war bond for every seat in the nation's 16,000 theatres, according to a statement issued here by the War Activities Committee.

Charles P. Skouras

All exhibitors have been notified of their part in the forthcoming campaign and the immediate acceptance of the "bond for

(Continued on page 9)

Zanuck Purchases 'Winged Victory'

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 14.—Darryl F. Zanuck today purchased "Winged Victory," the Army Air Force show now playing in New York, for 20th Century-Fox production. A guarantee of $1,000,000 to Army Emergency Relief was made by Zanuck.

Balaban Presents 'Rights' Bill Today

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, will present an original copy of the Bill of Rights to the Library of Congress today in ceremonies on the steps of the Sub-Treasury Building.

The Bill, which Balaban purchased recently from Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, collector, is said to be the only basic document of American history missing to date from the archives of the Library of Congress. The document will be used to help the Fourth War Loan.

Senate Moves Ahead On Ticket Tax Bill

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The Senate Finance Committee tonight was pressing forward with its consideration of the new tax bill in a race against time, hopeful of the possible passage of the measure before the end of the week, which would enable the increased admission tax to go into effect Jan. 1.

There is little probability, however, that the bill can be completed by the committee, put through the Senate and worked out by a conference com-

(Continued on page 9)

U.A. Seeking Part Interest In Scophony

Two Other Film Firms Negotiating for Stock

United Artists and two other major film companies are negotiating for the purchase of an interest in Scophony television, it was learned on reliable authority yesterday. Attorneys for U. A. and the two other companies have been conferring with Scophony legal representatives to acquire a stock interest in Scophony, and are now endeavoring to work out a formula which will respect the prior rights of Paramount and 20th Century-Fox, who now have an interest in the television concern.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned that Scophony is entirely receptive to offers of purchase of stock in the firm by major film companies, but Arthur Levey and his associates will definitely continue to hold the majority of stock in Scophony.

Reports from Washington yester-

(Continued on page 8)

Agnew Lists Five For Third Block

Neil Agnew, general sales manager, yesterday announced Paramount's third block of features for 1943-44. The group, consisting of five pictures, includes:

"Miracle of Morgan's Creek," starring Eddie Bracken and Betty Hutton; "Standing Room Only," starring Paulette Goddard and Fred MacMurray; "The Uninvited," starring Ray Milland, Ruth Hussey and Donald Crisp; "Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout," filmed with the cooperation of the Boy Scouts of America, and "Timber Queen," starring Richard Arlen and Mary Beth Hughes.

Silverstone, Quigley, Rose Make Reports

Home office foreign department heads were hosts at a luncheon meeting at the Harvard Club yesterday for David Rose, Martin Quigley, Jr., and Maurice Silverstone, all recent arrivals from Europe. The three made reports to foreign managers on trade and general conditions in Britain and Ireland.

In addition to the foreign managers, Will H. Hays, Carl E. Milliken, MPPDA foreign manager, and Jack Bryson, MPPDA Washington representative, attended the meeting.

WLB Turns Down Raises For Chicago Operators

CHICAGO, Dec. 14. — Robert K. Burns, chairman of the Regional War Labor Board here, announced today that the National WLB has upheld the regional board in a denial of a proposed wage increase for 609 motion picture machine operators in 372 Chicago theatres.

The increase was proposed in a joint application of local theatre owners and Projectionists Union, Local No. 110. It would have raised the hourly pay of operators from $2.54 to $2.75.

The increases were permissible under the "Little Steel" formula but the regional WLB denied them under the "Lever Brothers" principle, which provides that the full allowance of the "Little Steel" formula may be denied if it would have an unstabilizing effect on wages in an industry or area.

The decision was appealed to the national board by labor representatives on the regional board, who dissented.

Grainger Appoints Seletsky, Lewis

J. R. Grainger, president of Republic Pictures yesterday disclosed his appointment of two as New York and New Haven branch managers, respectively.

Sam Seletsky, manager of the company's New Haven branch for five years, assumes duties as New York manager to succeed the late Morris Epstein, on Jan. 10. Jerome Lewis, salesman in Republic's Philadelphia office for six years will assume the New Haven managership on the same date. Lewis will work with Seletsky in New Haven up until the time the changes are effective.

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, will leave for the Coast Sunday for an extended visit at the studio with NATE J. BLUMBERG, president.

•

MARK LARKIN, advance agent for the MPPDA, is in Cleveland arranging for the appearance there of CHARLES FRANCIS COE next month.

•

HARRY MICHALSON, RKO Radio short subject sales manager, left yesterday for Toronto. He will return Friday.

•

A. A. SCHUBART, RKO Radio manager of exchange operations, will return tomorrow from a tour of exchanges.

•

C. P. O. GEORGE E. MARSH, former RKO studio photographic technician now in the Navy, visited the home office yesterday.

•

HARRY KOSINER, Edward Small's Eastern representative, is expected to return today after a week in Beaufort, S. C.

•

PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, is ill.

•

SID BROD, production manager for Cagney Productions, is expected here tomorrow from the Coast.

•

SIDNEY S. HOREN, 20th-Fox general director in Argentina and Uruguay, is in town.

•

STEVE EDWARDS, Republic's director of publicity, will return from Washington today.

•

CARL LESERMAN, UA general sales manager, is home ill with the grippe.

•

JAMES DUNNE, "Coastal Command" publicity man, has the flu.

•

ROSALIE ROSS, secretary to RUTGERS NEILSON at RKO, is on vacation.

Depinet Calls N.Y. War Bond Meet

Ned E. Depinet, chairman of the distributors' division of the industry's Fourth War Loan committee, presided at a meeting of sales managers at the Hotel Astor yesterday at which plans for the division's participation in the drive were discussed.

Depinet will go to Washington tomorrow to attend the meeting there Friday called by Ted Gamble of the Treasury Department and Charles P. Skouras, national drive chairman for the industry.

600 20th Blood Donors

Six hundred employes of 20th Century-Fox and subsidiaries, excluding National Theatres have donated blood to Red Cross banks throughout the country.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Dec. 14

A HINGE on the door, undeniably, is now giving. No one, if he wants to be discreet, can be certain how far the portal will open. Recognizing the intangibles and how easily an upset may develop, important lips here remain publicly buttoned. Privately, it's a different matter.

The ruling of Adjutant General J. A. Ulio, cleared to the Producers' Association by way of Herbert Freston, is Hollywood's latest cause of wonder and speculation. Unlike frequent other and earlier causes, bearing much resemblance to teapot tempests, this one is the potential McCoy. It can be genuinely far-reaching.

■

The language is clear. It is also careful and leaves much to interpretation and application which studio heads at once commissioned their legal heads to seek. "If any soldier is employed to appear in any speaking role, wherein he is employed as a bit player, a supporting player, a feature player or a star, it is the policy of the War Department that approval for that appearance must be given by the War Department Bureau of Public Relations." And this:

"If a man elects to utilize his spare time in civilian employment, the War Department will interpose no objection subject to the conditions herein stated. Passes or furloughs will not be authorized for the specific purpose of permitting men to be employed as actors."

■

This is worth the exploration which follows. Official approval for an actor-soldier to re-enter production for the life of a furlough offers no untoward obstacles. All studios now making pictures dealing with the Army establishment must obtain a green light anyway. Collaboration with the Army is regular procedure at the studios. Thus, the formula insisted upon by the War Department is a current familiar throughout Hollywood.

It seems to make logic that, if a given studio finds it possible to undertake a given attraction with a given star-soldier, good sense would indicate the kind of role handed him would deal with the branch of the service to which he is attached. Thus, if Metro should ever emerge with a commercial film starring Capt. Clark Gable who, incidentally is not on furlough here, it is supposed he would do a picture dealing with the Army Air Forces and not a film attempting to pass him off as a civilian.

Is there such a yarn waiting? Most certainly there is: "Susy-Q."

■

Too, it seems reasonable to foresee no difficulty with the actor, now a soldier, on the point of utilizing his spare time in civilian employment, as the Army's ruling reads. The reasons could be many. For instance, those reasons could include the advisability of keeping his name before the public to which he expects to return when the war is over. Any player with normal business acumen would see that point.

If, on the other hand, a studio were to find the way open to proceed under the relaxed regulations and pursued Warner's "This Is the Army" formula, the reluctant actor, if he were that, might not be hesitant at all in the light of two achieved objectives:

1.—Swell the Army Emergency Relief Fund, by millions possibly.

2.—Remind the ticket buyers he's still around and hopes to be again when it's all over.

■

There is not a studio in all Hollywood which would not turn handsprings or stop short of breaking its back to arrange the kind of shooting schedule necessary to use a Gable or a Stewart on furlough, provided a picture came out. Actors about to enter the services, with no known exception, have been deferred to finish pictures in which they were working. The process, in reverse, may not apply, of course. Yet it is not an impossibility that an actor-soldier, back in production on leave, might be permitted additional time to complete a job already on its way.

This is speculation, admitted as such. But, if there is such a thing as good speculation, please admit it in evidence.

■

In the background, moreover, are several established factors which may tie in here. Capt. Ronald Reagan was detached from active duty to appear in "This Is the Army." For that matter, so was the entire "Army" show, not alone for the picture, but for the tremendous ly successful tour of the sho in this country and now in En gland. Capt. James Stewa was detached from active du with the Air Corps to make short about his own branch the service. Later, he resume and now commands a bombe squadron overseas.

While the Navy does not fo low the Army and the Marine certainly do not follow th Coast Guard, the fact also Robert Taylor entered the Nav and was returned long enoug to appear in "Song of Russia reputedly at the specific reque of the then Soviet Ambassado Maxim Litvinoff to the Sta Department.

■

The one sound conclusion t rest upon at this early junctur is that something decidedl cooks. For some time, it ha been cautiously anticipated mili tary regulations eventuall would unwind to a degree mak ing it possible for important per sonalities to return temporaril to the work for which they ar best known, perhaps bes equipped and where their con tribution in morale through en tertainment wields the wider in fluence. There is much to thi viewpoint as this column ha sought to convey on several oc casions in the last six month

Actors act in England. Many of course, are in the service, bu detachment for the specific tas of making pictures is accepte policy there. Actors act in Rus sia, too, only there an actor i an actor and apparently canno be a soldier, so significant is hi official status regarded.

■

Time is expected to thro added light and leeway aroun the Ulio ruling. The light an the leeway both may come halt ingly, for it is not improbabl Congressional reaction is bein awaited before successive step are undertaken. Moreover, th delicacies are apparent, o should be. Charges of favorit ism may require plenty of livin space in which to dissipat themselves.

Officially, the cue for the in dustry, therefore, ought to b one of silence until this situa tion further rounds itself. N talk would be smart talk for th present.

WesternElectricDividen

At a meeting of directors of We ern Electric held here yesterday dividend of 50 cents per share the common stock was declared. It payable on Dec. 30, to stock of rec on Dec. 23.

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M-G-M
AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
GREER GARSON
WALTER PIDGEON
In their greatest triumph
MADAME CURIE
Plus: Great Christmas Stage Show

M-G-M
AT THE ASTOR
B'way & 45th St. • Continuous • Pop. Prices
MARGARET SULLAVAN
ANN SOTHERN
JOAN BLONDELL
IN
Cry 'Havoc'
THE WOMEN IN ACTION

M-G-M
AT THE CAPITOL
Broadway & 51st Street
MICKEY ROONEY
JUDY GARLAND
in the gay Gershwin Musical
GIRL CRAZY
PLUS BIG IN PERSON SHOW

"He's the talk of the town!"

(*Above*) Newspaper Ads in New York tell the old, old story!

"AND THAT'S WHERE THE TRAFFIC IS HEAVIEST!"

War Bonds for Christmas Gifts!

Axis Pictures Are Now Tops in Spain

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—German and Italian films now predominate in the Valencia, Spain, consular district, according to word received here by the U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, which further explains that most Hollywood films being shown were imported before the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War in July, 1936.

Imports of motion pictures are very limited in the district because of national regulations and restrictions. With the exception of Spanish productions, any feature made within the past four years is considered new by theatregoers.

In the Provincial capitals, first-run houses ordinarily show a feature, a nationally made documentary and a Spanish newsreel, the last two being obligatory. Second-run and third-run houses present two features and the required films. All pictures shown in the capitals are dubbed into Spanish, but films in other languages are exhibited in smaller towns.

There are 314 theatres in operation in the Valencia district (exclusive of the Province of Murcia for which statistics are not available.

Plan Continuance Of TDB Program

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 14.—Preliminary stages in the program for continuance of the Theatre Defense Bureau were worked out at a meeting here today. Rodney Pantages told MOTION PICTURE DAILY, "In the preliminary stages it appears we can continue without the financial assistance withdrawn by FWC. I'm reasonably confident the balance of the theatres can carry the burden and that FWC will be offered an opportunity to participate in any manner the organization sees fit."

All theatre managers, including FWC, have received a request from George Hjelte, city war council director, to cooperate with the TDB. He stressed that the "war is not over" and pointed out his belief the FWC withdrawal was occasioned by an over-optimistic view of the Pacific war.

Jeremiah Shea Rites In Toronto Today

BUFFALO, Dec. 14.—Funeral services for Jeremiah Shea, 72, brother of the late Michael Shea, will be held tomorrow in his Toronto home. He died yesterday after a long illness.

Shea managed Shea's Theatre, home of Keith vaudeville, which was dismantled in 1910, and then became manager of the Victoria and Shea's Hippodrome. Before the turn of the century, he assisted his brother in theatre enterprises here.

To Screen 'Tomorrow'

A special preview of "This Is Tomorrow," M-G-M's new John Nesbitt's "Passing Parade" short, will be held tomorrow at 4 P.M., in the clubrooms of the Junior League of New York, 221 East 71st Street. The program will include addresses by Nesbitt and Quincy Howe, president of the National Board of Review, concerning the use of motion pictures in dealing with post-war adjustments.

Review

"The Desert Song"

(Warner Bros.)

Hollywood, Dec. 14

SOARING on the wings of Sigmund Romberg's unforgettable score and blazing with Technicolor, the second and modernized Warner version of "Desert Song" possesses everything required to command top playing time, grosses and kudos in today's market.

Producer-scenarist Robert Buckner has brought the tale up to 1939, placed it in the Morocco then infested with Nazi agents, made Berlin the "heavy" and an American pianist the hero. But he preserved the Riff conflict intact and fortified it with an abundance of violent desert warfare counterpointed with espionage and chicanery which round out a film that is rousing as a narrative and more than rousing as coated in song. Robert Florey's direction is an achievement in timing for suspense, relief and climax. Dennis Morgan plays and sings the top role with ease and distinction, Irene Manning matching his performance evenly, while Bruce Cabot, the late Lynne Overman, Gene Lockhart, Faye Emerson, Victor Francen, Curt Bois, Jack LaRue and scores more supply sterling support.

The picture divides its time about equally between eye-filling desert sequences, city streets and Moroccan cafes, in all of which settings occur such fighting as few outright action pictures display and such singing as seldom comes from the screen. "One Alone" and "Desert Song," Riff fighting song, are standouts of the original score and receive handling due their fame and character. Additional equations are the dance sequences, some of them torrid, staged by Leroy Prinz, and thrilling photographic accomplishments by Bert Glennon.

Running time, 94 mins. "G."* WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"G" denotes general classification.

Deny Selznick Deal With Theatre Guild

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 14. — A report that David O. Selznick is closing a deal next week for Theatre Guild stage properties is unfounded, according to a company spokesman, who said the story originated on Broadway. The Guild is among several New York producing organizations with which Selznick has talked at various times regarding a play-production arrangement which would place his contract stars on the Broadway stage, but no such plans in any quarter is near the finalistic stage.

Selznick conducted a similar enterprise two years ago when he took over the Santa Barbara Playhouse to produce several plays in which his players and directors participated. Using the project as a laboratory, the Theatre Guild has had conversations with virtually all studios here relating to disposition of play properties in its possession.

Thompson to Head Unit in Loan Drive

Leslie E. Thompson, RKO circuit executive, has been named chairman of screen radio and stage in the group of 13 section chairmen named to represent the commerce and industry division of New York in the Fourth War Loan Drive, it was announced here by William E. Cotter, director of that division of the State War Finance Committee.

Cotter has characterized the program of the commerce and industry division as a liaison group between business and the War Finance Committee to promote bond purchases, emphasizing employe and executive subscriptions.

Draft Dads Returned To Regular Sequence

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—Much to the relief of many Film Row dads here with draft classifications that would mean a call before Christmas, city draft boards were instructed yesterday by Illinois selective service headquarters to comply immediately with new legislation postponing induction of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers.

Those who had been told to report without regard for sequence of order numbers because they were in non-deferrable film jobs now are to be placed with either pre-war dads or until they are called in regular sequence, officials explained.

Selectees were warned that all who have received notice to report for induction must do so anyway unless notified by their boards.

'Happy Land' Set In 30 Western Cities

Twentieth-Fox's Denver office has set "Happy Land" in 30 theatres in four states starting yesterday, William C. Gehring, Western sales manager for the company announced yesterday.

Patterned along the lines of the recent "Land" premiere in 65 Iowa theatres, the 30 houses will use the facilities of radio in covering Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska and New Mexico. Robert Blair of 20th's special service department is now in Denver cooperating with theatres.

William Harrer Dies

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 14.—Funeral services will be held Thursday for William Harrer, 56, who for 15 years was business agent for IATSE, Local No. 8, who died last Friday at his home here. He also served as international vice-president of the union from 1923 to 1933. His wife and three children survive.

Warners, SAG Fail To Agree on Salaries

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 14.—Failing t achieve agreement in conferences la night with a Screen Actors Guild spe cial committee on a basis for payin stars employed for bits in the pictur Warners has placed "Hollywood Car teen" on a suspended-shooting bas for the week awaiting the outcome an SAG board meeting next Monda night at which the matter will b thrashed out.

A statement issued by the guil following the conference quoted Ru 33: "It shall be conduct unbecoming Guild member to perform in any pi ture without compensation, or for con pensation substantially lower than th normal salary of the performer." Th script as written calls for the appea ance of a large number of top stars sequences requiring only a day or tw of their time.

Although the studio issued no stat ment, the inference is that the pictu will be abandoned unless a formula ca be worked out for bringing in produ tion under the negative cost figure which a substantial return to th Hollywood Canteen and affiliated ben ficiaries can be realized.

RKO Awards Bonds For 'Lucky' Campaig

Ned E. Depinet, president of RK Radio, and Edward L. Alperson, ge eral manager of RKO Theatres a nounced yesterday the winners of "Mr. Lucky" contest conducted amo the circuit's managers in conjunctio with the showing of "Mr. Lucky The company awarded war bonds those whose campaigns netted the be box office returns.

First prize went to Harry Schreib manager of the RKO Palace, Colu bus, O. David Levin of the Prov dence Albee, won second prize a Carl Siegle of the Grand, Columb and Stephen Kucsan of the Alba Theatre, New Brunswick, N. J., ti for third place. Larry F. Gre Brooklyn Albee, placed first in th New York area. Second award a third went to Joseph Di Loren Proctor's New Rochelle, and Pluchos, Keith's White Plains, r spectively.

Kelly Reports New U.A. Cairo Branc

United Artists has opened a bran in Cairo for the distribution of pictures in Egypt and Palestine, was announced yesterday by Arth W. Kelly, vice-president in charge foreign affairs. Joseph Coen, th company's former representative that territory, has been appoint manager of the exchange, which w carry the corporate name of Unit Artists Corporation of Egypt.

Establishment of the new offi Kelly emphasized, is in line with th company's policy of expansion North Africa as rapidly as wor conditions will permit.

New York Owners Mee

The Unaffiliated Independent E hibitors of New York is scheduled meet today at the Hotel Lincoln discuss the consent decree, juveni delinquency, the proposed 20 per ce admission tax and other matters.

Racket Trial Ends Today, to Jury Friday

(Continued from page 1)

squawk about my transaction with him," said Schenck. "He said: 'The gang never stands for anyone revealing anything harmful.'"

After relating the details of the $100,000 deal whereby a loan was arranged with Bioff's own money, to cover up the fact that Bioff had that much money, Schenck was asked if he were in fear of Bioff at the time.

"Yes," he answered.

"On repeated occasions he told me, on signing the $100,000 transaction, 'You can't squawk or tell anybody about this deal. We'll string along with you but our people never stand for any one revealing anything harmful.'"

"He told me of different things that happened in Chicago when he lived there. Labor matters and other things. They would run matters by force and fear. There is no limit that they don't go to if people don't do what they want," he said.

Murray Reads Bioff's Testimony

James D. C. Murray, chief defense counsel, read from Bioff's testimony at the present trial several times in order to freshen Schenck's memory, asking each time, "Does that refresh your memory?"

"It refreshes my memory that Bioff is a liar," said Schenck, at one point.

Two cables identified by Schenck were introduced in evidence. They were sent from Germany by Schenck to Charles Russell, a Los Angeles tax consultant, in 1938. One said:

"B. is to testify at Sacramento. He is to withhold information, I suppose at the request of Mac. If he does, Mac should intercede in Washington to end the persecution."

Schenck identified "B" as Bioff, "Mac" as the late Senator William G. McAdoo, and the investigation as the Grand Jury probe of labor relations in the film industry which was then going on in Sacramento.

"Russell telephoned me about the investigation," testified Schenck. "He said Bioff was going to withhold facts because William Neblett, (McAdoo's law partner and counsel for a legislative investigation which preceded the grand jury investigation) had taken $25,000 from Bioff, according to Bioff. I thought that if McAdoo wanted Bioff to withhold information about his partner he should at least have the investigation stopped."

The second telegram said: "Hurrah if you can do it, regarding Sacramento. Prefer matter not aired, as newspapers would love it. See no danger. Regards."

$100,000 Deal Cleared Up

The $100,000 deal which was first revealed in 1937 appeared finally to have been cleared up today, with Schenck's interpretation of it coinciding with that of Bioff. The money was Bioff's. He gave it to Schenck, who gave it back to Bioff disguised as a loan to finance the purchase of a farm. The deception was practiced to hide the fact from union members that Bioff had $100,000 of his own money.

Schenck said he financed two excursions of Bioff and Mrs. Bioff, one to Europe, the other to South America, but that he expected Bioff to reimburse him.

Westbrook Pegler, the newspaper columnist, was called as a defense witness to testify about conversations he had with Major Albert Warner and Nicholas Schenck about their labor relations in 1937, but the testimony was held by Judge John Bright to be incompetent and Pegler was excused without giving any testimony.

Reviews

"The Sultan's Daughter"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Dec. 14

ANN CORIO is the featured and most photographed personality in this Philip W. Krasne-James S. Burkett musical comedy (a work in the general pattern of the Hope-Crosby-Lamour "Road" pictures) but the cast offers additionally the names of Charles Butterworth, Fortunio Bonanova, Tim & Irene, Cris-Pin Martin and the Freddie Fisher orchestra for use in billing the attraction.

As directed by Arthur Dreifuss from an original screenplay by Milton Raison and Tim Ryan, the picture tells without seriousness and with flashes of humor a tale about two Americans in a mythical place (it looks like Arabia), who become involved in an oil purchase which serves mainly to give the characters something to talk about between musical numbers and gag routines. Of the musical numbers there are seven, four originals and three oldies dished up by the Fisher combo, and of the gag routines there are more undertaken than click. The costuming is Oriental, although the plot's not that subtle.

Irene, as usual, turns in the best singing job, with "I'm Always the Girl" sung into a couple of mirrors. The film does credit to its budget.

Running time, 64 minute. "G."*

"Death Valley Rangers"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Dec. 14

THIS latest in the Monogram Ranger series starring Hoot Gibson and Ken Maynard with Bob Steele is standard western fare with the usual bag of tricks, fast riding, shooting affrays and fisticuffs, to provide action.

The story deals with efforts of Texas Rangers to halt a series of stage coach robberies affecting the mine owners. Puzzled because the stolen gold never shows up, the Ranger trio is sent for. They plant Steele amongst the outlaws, where he finds out a leading citizen and mine operator is in cahoots with the bandits. To dispose of the stolen gold, they are remelting the bars and, through a secret process, replacing it in quartz. A well-laid trap results in the capture of the band.

Robert Tansey produced and directed from a script by Robert Emmett and Frances Cavanaugh based on an original story by Elizabeth Beecher.

Running time, 57 minutes. "G."* JACK CARTWRIGHT

*"G" denotes general classification.

Warners Aid Scraps

Differing from usual campaigns of its kind in that no free admissions will be granted, scrap drives under school and civic auspices are being promoted nationally through cooperation of Warners' field staff with local exhibitors in connection with engagements of "Destination Tokyo," starting around the holidays. Instead of offering free tickets appeal will be made to the patriotism of students and adults.

Slater With RKO Circuit

William Slater, former Broadway publicist, who also has been employed in the United Artists and Walter Reade circuit publicity departments, has joined the RKO Theatres publicity department in the metropolitan area, working under Harry Mandel.

Buffalo Variety Club Directors Are Elected

BUFFALO, Dec. 14.—Directors of the Buffalo Variety Club, elected today, are Irving Fried, ABC Candy Co.; Elmer F. Lux, RKO; Stanley Kozanowski, chief barker; Dewey Michaels, Palace Theatre; Murray Whiteman, Whiteman's Song Shop; Gus Basil, Basil Theatres; Jack Goldstein, National Screen; Ira Cohn, 20th-Fox; Ralph Maw, MGM, and Max Yellen and Robert T. Murphy, 20th Century Theatre.

Daredevil Dunham Dies

Press dispatches from "Somewhere in New Guinea" report that Lieut. Harry Dunham, former Pathe newsreel cameraman in New York, flying in New Guinea, is dead. Dunham was noted for his disregard for difficulties encountered by aviators. His widow, Marian Chase Dunham, survives.

'Tokyo' Set for New Strip

Clayton Irwin of the Associated Press is preparing a new syndicated feature titled "Minute Movies," a five-picture strip telling about new film stories. First release to be presented will be Warner's "Destination Tokyo."

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 14

THE Screen Actors Guild board of directors' committee conferred today with a Class B membership committee on "war duration memberships" protested by the latter group. The board committee will report to the full directorate Monday night.

•

PCA has signed Harry Joe Brown to a four-year producer-director contract, and has assigned him to three pictures budgeted at a $2,500,000 total. The company has also announced its commitment to produce five pictures for United Artists in addition to the completed "Knickerbocker Holiday."

•

Russell Hayden started a new three-picture contract with producers William Pine and William Thomas when he began work today in Paramount's "Gambler's Choice," in which he is co-starred with Chester Morris and Nancy Kelly.

•

Republic's "John Paul Revere" series has been rechristened the "Smiley Burnette" series with the start of the fourth picture tomorrow.

•

Republic today announced "Lady from Lisbon," with Vera Hruba Ralston starring. George Sherman will produce.

•

Jerry Wald and Hal Wallis, Warner producers, will return here tomorrow from the East.

•

Carmen Miranda's contract for two pictures annually has been renewed by 20th Century-Fox.

•

Paul Lukas was today handed a new contract by Warners.

•

William Saal, Republic producer, will leave here Thursday for the East.

•

George Brown returned here today from the East.

•

William Perlberg will arrive here Monday from New York.

Ellis Hearing Dec. 20

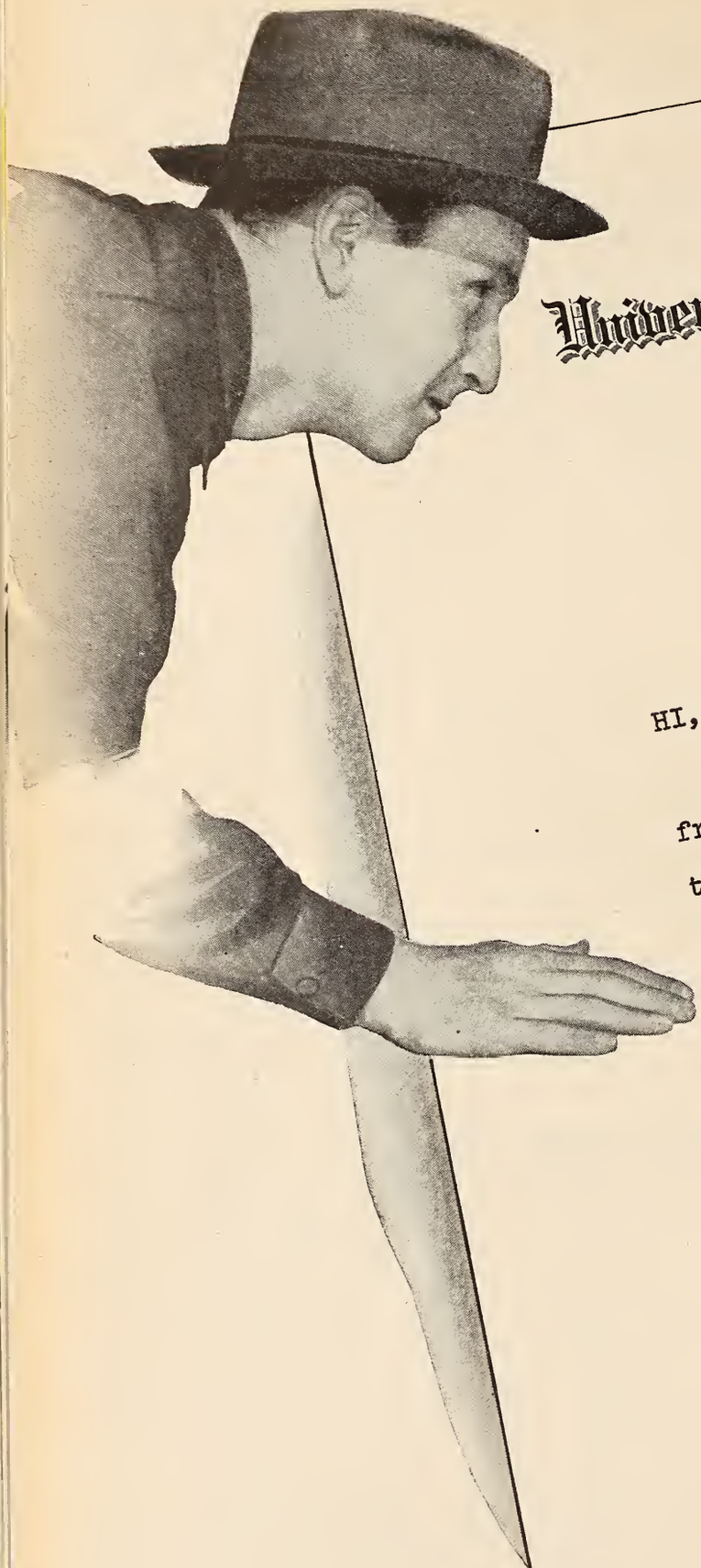
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 14. — Hearing on the suit of Lewis Rovner against A. M. Ellis and other partners in the Ellis theatre circuit has been set for Dec. 20 in Common Pleas Court No. 5. Rovner seeks restoration of his interest in the Rockland Theatre, charging that Ellis violated an agreement and ruled him out of the partnership following payment of his initial deposit on the house, which was purchased earlier this year.

$750,000 Mexican Loans

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 14. — Banco Cinematografica, S. A., the industry's own bank, announces that up to Oct. 31 of this year it financed the local film business to the extent of $750,000 in the form of loans, discounts and the opening of credits.

To Aid Red Cross Drive

CLEVELAND, Dec. 14.—Theatres in Cleveland will show M-G-M's "Brothers in Blood," single-reeler, in connection with the Red Cross drive for blood donors. Twenty-four prints will be shown in the territory beginning the end of this week.



CABLE ADDRESS UNFILM

Universal Pictures Company, Inc.

PACIFIC COAST STUDIOS

UNIVERSAL CITY, CALIFORNIA

We're Hon

HI, GANG!

We're back and bustin' to go! Thanks from the heart for all your good wishes during the lay-off.

We're digging in for bigger things at Universal, and a greater year on the radio.

Thanks again to everyone. It's reall swell to be back with you.

Sincerely,

Bud Abbott

Lou Costello

Universally Your

gain . . .

and

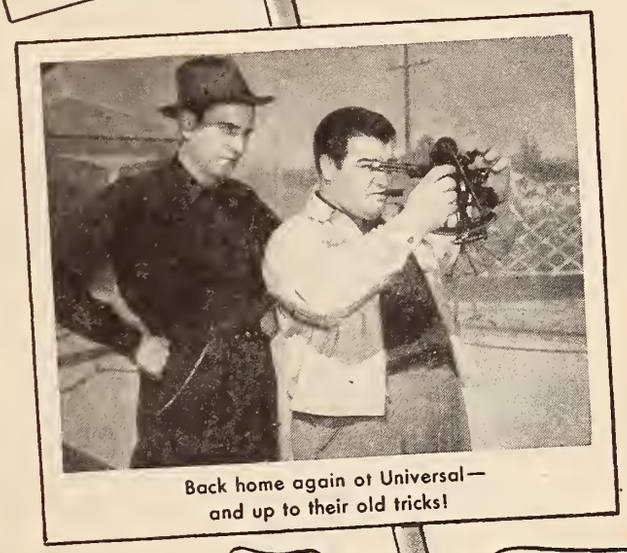
we

LOVE

IT!

Lou tells a good one to Cliff Work, Nate Blumberg, George Raft and Milton Feld on the Universal lot

"Welcome home, Lou," says Deanna Durbin!



Back home again at Universal—
and up to their old tricks!

BBOTT & COSTELLO

Shopping and the Flu Hit Theatres; 'Acquaintance' Best

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 14.—Apart from the seasonal lull brought about by the start of Christmas shopping, business at downtown houses has been further hit by an epidemic of colds. But even with such factors, activity was better than anticipated and unless the epidemic gets worse the first runs will come through this week on top. Of the new openings, "Old Acquaintance" leads, pointing to $26,200 at the Mastbaum.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 15-17:

"For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $15,700. (Average, $10,300)
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
ARCADIA—(600) (35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,200. (Average, $3,500)
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
BOYD — (3,000) (35c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average, $19,000)
"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox) (6 days)
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (46c-57c-75c) 6 days of vaudeville, including Earl Carroll's Vanities with The Three Sailors, Gaudsmith Bros., Seiler & Seabold, Barney Grant, Costello Twins and Barbara LaRene. Gross: $24,000. (Averge, $22,000)
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
FOX—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,700. (Average, $17,800)
"Under Two Flags" (20th-Fox)
KARLTON—(1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, reissue. Gross: $5,600. (Average, $5,600)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $3,800. (Average, $5,000)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $26,200. (Average, $22,000)
"Sahara" (Col.)
STANLEY—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,800. (Average, $18,300)
"Hostages" (Para.)
STANTON—(1,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,800. (Average, $8,000)

Junior Critics Pick 10 Best Films of 1943

The "Young Reviewers" of the National Board of Review and the nationwide "4-Star Clubs," the board's junior field groups, have made their annual selection of the 10 best pictures of the year, naming "This Is the Army," "So Proudly We Hail," "Stage Door Canteen," "For Whom the Bell Tolls," "The Human Comedy," "Bataan," "Lassie Come Home," "Watch on the Rhine," "Random Harvest" and "My Friend Flicka."

U. A. Negotiating for Interest in Scophony

(*Continued from page* 1)

day revealed that James L. Fly, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, has encouraged Scophony in continuing its technical television developments and in making a place for itself in the television field. Fly pointed out that the company could aid in preventing a monopolistic condition from developing in the television industry and could help bring about a "free and more competitive market."

Norman Joins RKO

Fred Norman, formerly in the radio field, has joined the RKO home office publicity department to handle radio promotions and air contacts.

Off the Antenna

REVISED censorship codes for press and radio, designed to encourage a more liberal presentation of war news in publications of all classes and on the air have been completed and go into effect immediately, Byron Price, U. S. Director of Censorship stated yesterday. Numerous restrictive requests by the Government have been eliminated; others have been modified, and not one new request has been added. The changes are expected to open the way for more news regarding war production; operations of the Merchant Marine; diplomatic negotiations not directly connected with military operations and weather conditions. In addition, the OCS has announced its intention to assume wider responsibility in clearing material of all classes for publication and broadcasts.

• • •

Purely Personal: *Miller McClintock, president of Mutual, yesterday addressed 500 New York business executives at a luncheon of the Sales Executives Club in the Roosevelt Hotel on "Peace Is a Business Proposition." . . . Sidney N. Strotz, NBC vice-president in charge of the Western division, headed a group of the company's executives stationed in San Francisco on a recent pheasant hunt in Northern California. . . . Merrill Mueller, NBC correspondent in North Africa, is returning to New York for a rest. . . . When John B. Kennedy launches a news program on the Blue at 1 p.m. this Sunday, it will mark his 19th year in radio. . . . H. V. Kaltenborn has arrived in Australia on a tour of the Pacific fighting front. . . . William Dowdell, WLW-WSAI, Cincinnati newsroom editor, and Margaret Whitehead of the news staff, will wed shortly. . . . Betty Rann, Blue singer, was the recent bride of Lt. Hiden Cox of the Coast Guard. . . . Ottis Devine is the new program director at WSM, Nashville. . . . James D. Shouse, vice-president of the Crosley Corp., has returned to Cincinnati from five weeks in London.*

• • •

Program Notes: Networks are going all-out to entertain troops overseas on Christmas day. CBS has lined up two hours of entertainment emanating from Hollywood and starting at 4 p.m. EWT. Among the senders of Yuletide cheer on this show will be Jack Benny, Bob Hope, Judy Garland, Lena Horne, Cass Daley, Carmen Miranda, the Revuers, the Charioteers and Henry Busse's orchestra. Robert Young will be m.c. and Ken Carpenter will be announcer. . . . NBC will devote the time between 3 and 6 p.m. on Dec. 25 to service men and women all over the world and will carry back home traditional songs and music of the holiday season from far points. Helen Traubel will sing "Silent Night" over the full NBC network at 11:57 Dec. 24. Mme. Ernestine Schumann-Heink started the tradition may years ago. Pope Pius XII will be heard on two NBC programs Dec. 24, at 7:15 a.m. and 6:40 p.m. EWT. . . . Archbishop Francis J. Spellman has written a special Christmas prayer to be heard on Mutual at 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. EWT Christmas day to lead a full day of holiday broadcasting by that network.

'Fantasy' Gross of $18,000 Is Best

CLEVELAND, Dec. 14.—In a slump that is about two weeks ahead of Christmas, "Flesh and Fantasy" was the only picture that rose above average. It had a good week-end opening, with the week's take heading for $18,000, which tops par by several hundred.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 15:

"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
ALLEN—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $8,500)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,800) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $17,500)
"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $1,500. (Average, $3,000)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (40c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (No average for run)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c and 85c Saturday and Sunday) 7 days. Stage: Charles Spivak's orchestra, featuring Irene Daye, Patricia Morrison. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $22,000)
"Jack London" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $17,500)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $9,500)

New Office for Classics

CLEVELAND, Dec. 14.—Robert Snyder and Al Dezel will open a new Film Classics exchange in the Film Building here on Jan. 3.

Toronto Also Hit; 'Lassie' Is Best

TORONTO, Dec. 14.—"Watch on the Rhine" in its second week at Shea's was the leader in a weak spell among all first-runs with a prospect of a gross of $10,800, while the second week of "Lassie Come Home" pointed to $10,300 at Loew's Theatre. The first wintry blasts of the season at the week-end hit patronage, while the "flu" scare also had its effect.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 16:

"In Old Chicago" (20th-Fox) (Reissue)
"Banjo on My Knee" (20th-Fox) (Reissue)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average, $3,900)
"Appointment in Berlin" (Col.)
"What's Buzzin', Cousin?" (Col.)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,600. (Average, $12,600)
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,300. (Average, $10,800)
"Watch on the Rhine" (WB)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,800. (Average, $12,300)
"The Constant Nymph" (WB)
"All By Myself" (Univ.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,600. (Average, $4,600)
"Top Man" (Univ.)
"The Strange Death of Adolph Hitler" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $8,700. (Average, $9,700)

'Comrades' Screenings

RKO's "Tender Comrade" will be tradeshown in New York and Los Angeles on Tuesday, Dec. 28th, it was announced yesterday.

Short Subjec Reviews

"Ten Pin Aces"
(*Columbia*)

This one of the best sports reels recent months, featuring Frank Be kovic, world champion kegler, ve eran of 14 years of championsh competition. The short will plea both men and women since Sally Tw ford, reputed to be the world's be woman bowler, is also a promine performer in the reel. Tips on bow ing and "palm" bowling are offer and trick shot artist Jimmy Clark de onstrates the technique of bowli without the use of finger grip hol Harry Foster has directed in adm able fashion and Bill Stern's co mentary is good. Running time, mins. Release date, Nov. 26.

"Her Honor the Mare"
(*Paramount*)

First in a new series of "Popeye in Technicolor, "Her Honor the Mar is an hilarious cartoon which featu the sailor-man's three nephews and old nag they rescued from the glu factory and brought home for a hous hold pet. Pop's efforts to get rid the horse fail and the end finds frie horse dining with Popeye and t three boys. Technicolor does a for this. The musical background excellent and the story is good. Po eye's many friends will like this o Running time, 7 mins. Release da Nov. 26.

"Phony Express"
(*Columbia*)

The Three Stooges go West in a b way, knocking each other out, in cu tomary fashion, all the way throu this slapstick comedy. The kids w like it from the very beginning becau it starts out like a rip-roaring Weste and ends up in a cabin "wi'd crooks." The screenplay by Elwo Ullman and Monty Collins puts th release considerably above the usu "Stooges" vehicles. Direction by D Lord is adequate. Produced by D Lord and Hugh McCollum. Runni time, 17 mins. Release date, Nov. 1

"The Hopeful Donkey"
(*20th-Fox*)

Here is the fairy tale story of t donkey who runs away from home a picks up a dog, a cat and a roost along the road. Together they he for the big city to make their fortu as musicians. A touch of the mode is introduced when the animals rc some robbers in a jiving good se sion of jam. This is a Terrytoon Technicolor which will please ever one, produced by Paul Terry. Ru ning time, 7 mins. Release date, D 17.

"Good Night, Rusty"
(*Paramount*)

A delightful fantasy in Technicol is "Good Night, Rusty." George P producer of Puppetoons, has direct this appealing story to the children the boy who smokes his first cig but the adults will enjoy it, too. T musical background is delightfu imaginative and adds much to t clever theme. The story is clever, t direction good. Running time, 7 mins. Release date, Dec. 3.

Skouras Pledges Sale Of Bond for Every Seat in Fourth Loan

(Continued from page 1)

"every seat" objective by them "is a ready indication that the industry will get off to a flying start to reach this goal," Skouras stated. Upon request by the Treasury Department, the motion picture industry will again direct its bond-selling to "E" bonds.

Cooperation has also been pledged by the Hollywood Victory Committee, the studios on the Coast and all major distributors. An active "army" of bond workers will begin functioning immediately, pointing towards the start of the drive, in cooperation with WAC state bond chairmen. Plans are underway for a nationwide theatre observance on the first day of the campaign.

Following the first of four regional meetings to perfect plans for the campaign and held in Los Angeles yesterday, Skouras, accompanied by Theodore Gamble, "Rick" Ricketson, B. V. Sturdivant, Si Fabian, A. J. Krappmann, Fred Stein and Seymour Peyser, flew to Washington where the second regional session will be held Friday.

Quigley Presides at WAC Trade Press Meet on Drive

Martin Quigley, chairman of the trade press committee of the War Activities Committee, presided at a meeting here yesterday of representatives of the trade press to discuss their participation in the Fourth War Loan Drive.

It was agreed that each publication would devote space to the industry's effort in the drive, just as they did for the Third War Loan. Plans are now being perfected to decide what form the participation will take, and the date of the issues.

David Lipton, acting public relations chairman of the WAC, was present at the meeting as were Red Kann, Quigley Publications; "Chick" Lewis, *Showmen's Trade Review;* Jay Emanuel, *Exhibitor;* Bill Formby and Ray Levy, *Boxoffice;* Roy Chartier, *Variety;* Jack Harrison, *Hollywood Reporter.*

WAC Show Recruits

The War Activities Committee is mailing to more than 17,000 theatres a special campaign book prepared by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer on the short subject, "Brothers in Blood" which dramatizes the evolution of blood plasma. Originally made as one of M-G-M's "Miniatures," the Carey Wilson one-reeler is scheduled to be released as a regular WAC subject tomorrow.

The Blood Donor Service of the Red Cross has bulletined units in principal cities urging direct cooperation with local showings of "Brothers in Blood" in order to stimulate blood donations among theatre audiences.

Bookers Plan Party

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—Film Bookers of America will hold a reception at the Variety Club rooms here, Friday night, Dec. 17. The committee includes: Russ Uswetsky, president; Joe Abramson, secretary; Jerry Frost, treasurer, and Leo Schauere, arrangements.

State Chairmen for 4th War Loan

Following are the state chairmen of the War Activities Committee appointed for the Fourth War Loan drive, Jan. 18 to Feb. 15, named this week by Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres and industry chairmen of the drive:

Alabama, R. H. Kennedy; Arizona, Harry Nace; Arkansas, M. S. McCord; Southern California, Dave Bershon; Northern California, Ray Cooper; Colorado, R. J. Garland; Connecticut, Harry F. Shaw; Delaware, Lewis S. Black; Florida, J. L. Cartwright; Georgia, W. K. Jenkins; Idaho, Frank Larson; Illinois, Jules Rubens; Indiana, Don Rossiter; Iowa, A. H. Blank; Kansas, H. E. Jameyson; Kentucky, Fred Dolle; Louisiana, E. V. Richard.

Also, Maine, Connie Russell; Maryland, Frank A. Hornig; Massachusetts, Sam Pinanski; Michigan, E. C. Beatty; Minnesota, John Friedl; Mississippi, Arthur Lehman; Missouri (East), Harry Arthur; Missouri (West), Elmer Rhoden; Montana, J. A. English; Nebraska, William Miskell; New Hampshire, Edward J. Fahey; New Jersey (Southern), Ben Amsterdam; New Jersey (Northern), H. H. Lowenstein; New Mexico, George Tucker; Nevada, N. Dow Thompson; New York (Metropolitan), Edward Alperson; New York (Brooklyn), Sam Rinzler; New York (Queens), Fred Schwartz; New York (Bronx), Russell Emdee; New York (Richmond), Lewis Goldberg; New York (Manhattan), Harry Brandt; New York (Upstate), Myer Schine.

Also: North Carolina, H. F. Kincey; North Dakota, co-chairmen Mike Cooper and Ed Kraus; Ohio (Cleveland), William Skirball; Ohio (Cincinnati), Arthur Frudenfeld; Oklahoma, C. B. Akers; Oregon, Al Finke; Pennsylvania (Eastern), David Barrist; Pennsylvania (Western), M. A. Silver; Rhode Island, Ed Fay; South Carolina, Warren Irwin; South Dakota, Fred Larkin; Tennessee, Tony Sudekum; Texas, R. J. O'Donnell; Utah, Samuel Gillette; Vermont, Frank Venett; Virginia, William Crockett; Washington, D. C., Carter Barron; Washington, Frank Newman, Sr.; West Virginia, Sol Hyman; Wisconsin, Harold Fitzgerald; Wyoming, Tom Berta.

Chicago Tribunal In Clearance Award

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—A consent award was entered into here today at the local arbitration tribunal which permits the 28-day clearance granted the Rockford Enterprises, Rockford, Ill., Coronado Theatre, over the Freeport Theatre, Freeport, Ill., to stand, with the exception, however, that the Freeport Theatre can play the disputed product 28 days after the opening date in Chicago.

Senate Moves Ahead On Ticket Tax Bill

(Continued from page 1)

mittee this weekend the Senate is expected to be satisfied if it passes the measure before it adjourns for the Christmas holidays. Congressional leaders are hopeful of quitting at the end of the week, but it is likely the session will resume Dec. 27 instead of a week later as had originally been planned.

Pep Club Expands

Expanded activities are planned by the Paramount Pep Club for the coming year, G. Knox Haddow, president, announces. Haddow announced the appointment of committee chairmen for the year as follows:

Membership, Annette Singher; entertainment, J. L. Brown; sports, Al Sicignano; planning, Richard Bennett; choral group, Martha Castellan; welfare, Dr. Emanuel Stern; cooperative buying, Percy Lockwood; service men, Harold Lagar; finance, Paul Raibourn; publicity, Al Finestone; advisory counsel, Claude Lee; rules, Roger Clement.

Appeal for Blood Donors

Arlene Francis, wife of Neil Agnew, Paramount's sales manager, and Arleen Whelan, wife of Hugh Owen, Eastern division sales manager, appealed to 700 attending a Paramount Pep Club meeting here yesterday to donate to the Red Cross blood bank. Claude Lee, director of public relations for Paramount, introduced them.

Conner to Des Moines

DES MOINES, Dec. 14.—M. J. Conner, of Cleveland, has begun work in the sales department of the Monogram office here. He replaces Joe Friedman.

Creavy Joins Paramount

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 14. — Tom Creavy, professional golfer in this area, and winner of the National Open Championship some years ago, has joined the Paramount exchange here.

Ask Montreal Houses To Limit Audiences

(Continued from page 1)

according to managers, are "on their toes and an extra close watch will be maintained for careless smokers for the strike's duration."

While Power Controller H. J. Symington has lifted the ban on shop window lighting and has allowed an increase in street lightings for the duration of the strike, this emergency license has not affected theatre marquees which will remain blacked out.

Starts School Program

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 14.—Jack Schwartz, operator of the West End here, has arranged a series of educational matinees, including films on science, music, travel and others, which he is screening free for students and teachers. Authorities in local schools are cooperating. The house has no regular matinee performance.

Buys PRC Product

CLEVELAND, Dec. 14. — Cooperative Theatres of Ohio, buying and booking for about 70 houses in this area, has closed an all-product deal with PRC. Deal was negotiated by Fred Scheuerman, local PRC office manager, and Milton A. Mooney, president of CTO.

'One Night' Reissued

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—"It Happened One Night" will be reissued by Columbia Pictures. It has been booked for a repeat first-run in the Loop at the World-Playhouse in a package deal with "Lost Horizon."

Don't miss
GINGER ROGERS'
UNFORGETTABLE PERFORMANCE
IN
Tender Comrade
RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.,
New York Trade Showing
10 a. m. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28
NORMANDIE THEATRE
51 EAST 53RD ST., New York, N. Y.

Eleven firsts...

Motion Picture Daily's annual radio poll has graciously made the following awards to CBS programs for excellence in 1943:

★ The Best War News Coverage of 1943 . . . . . CBS
★ The Foremost Popular Female Vocalist . . . . . DINAH SHORE
★ The Foremost Classical Female Vocalist . . . . . GLADYS SWARTHOUT
★ The Foremost Symphonic Orchestra . . . N. Y. PHILHARMONIC-SYMPHONY
★ The Foremost Sweet Band . . . . . GUY LOMBARDO
★ The Foremost Swing Band . . . . . HARRY JAMES
★ The Foremost Dramatic Program . . . . . "LUX RADIO THEATRE"
★ The Foremost Musical Show. . . ."PAUSE THAT REFRESHES ON THE AIR"
★ The Foremost Children's Program . . . . . "LET'S PRETEND"
★ The Foremost Commercial War Program . . ."THE MAN BEHIND THE GUN"
★ The Most Promising Star of Tomorrow . . . . . DICK HAYMES

On behalf of the people whose resources and skills added up to these outstanding programs, CBS thanks the 600 radio editors and columnists throughout America whose discernment led to such gratifying recognition.

CBS NEWS

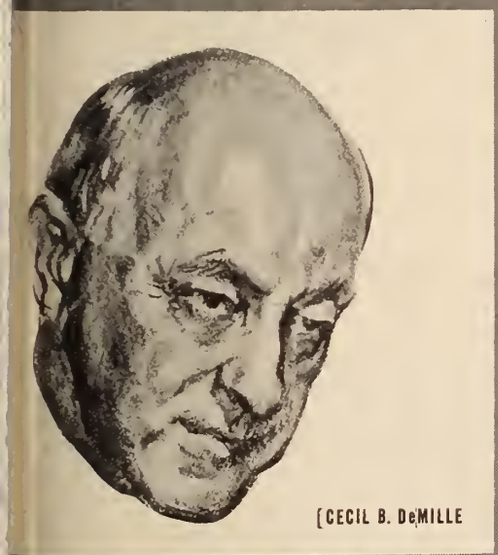
DINAH SHORE

GLADYS SWARTHOUT

OR ROOZINSKI

GUY LOMBARDO

HARRY JAMES


CECIL B. DeMILLE

ANDRE KOSTELANETZ

"LET'S PRETEND"

This is CBS
THE COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM

"God grant a Merry Christmas to you who remember us, the less fortunate."

It's a Christmas card that spreads true happiness. Mail it Today!

Here's My Pledge!

To Nicholas M. Schenck, Chairman,
National Motion Pictures Committee,
1944 MARCH OF DIMES Drive,
Suite 173, Astor Hotel, New York City

Realizing how important it is to keep up the fight against Infantile Paralysis, I pledge my complete cooperation in the motion picture industry's campaign to raise funds for this necessary war of the home front.

During the week of January 24-30, I promise to show the appeal trailer and make audience collections in my auditorium.

Send full details.

*Signed*_____

_____ THEATRE

_____ STREET

_____ COUNTY

_____ CITY • STATE

MOTION PICTURES' MARCH OF DIMES DRIVE—1944

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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6-Day Work Week to Help Box Offices

WPB Permits Cut for Certain War Workers

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15. — War Production Board approval of a six-day week for copper miners in Montana and Arizona is regarded as a prelude to similar action in other heavy war-work industries which are now on a seven-day week basis, where production has caught up with war needs. This granting of more time off from their jobs to workers is expected to reflect itself in future increased theatre attendance, with war workers gaining additional free time for recreation.

Theatres in scores of communities where workers have been employed on full-time war shifts, with much overtime have been suffering from a box-office slump and these houses stand to benefit by the new WPB order.

Treasury officials here point out that

(*Continued on page 6*)

Grainger Convenes Republic Sales Meet

James R. Grainger, president of Republic, will open the first session of a sales conference today at the New York Athletic Club with another meeting slated for tomorrow. Maxwell Gillis and Sam Seplowin head contingents from the Eastern and Central sales districts, respectively.

Discussion will center about the company's "The Fighting Seabees," to which more than $350,000 has been allocated for newspaper advertising, radio spot announcements and bill-

(*Continued on page 12*)

Michalove Is N. Y. Area 4th Loan Head

The War Activities Committee here yesterday announced the appointment of Dan Michalove, vice-president of National Theatres, as New York metropolitan area chairman of all bond sales to members of the industry during the Fourth War Loan Drive, Jan. 18 to Feb. 15.

During the industry's participation in the campaign, Michalove, with the assistance of a committee which he is now forming, will canvass employees of home offices, circuits and independent exhibitors to boost bond sales.

Hazen, Clark Confer on New Draft Of Distributors' Decree Proposals

Washington, Dec. 15.—A third draft of the distributors' proposals for revision of the consent decree was brought to Washington today by Joseph Hazen of Warners and was the subject of more than two hours' discussion with Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark. No information regarding the developments of the conference was immediately available, but the length of the session indicated that Hazen and Clark may have discussed in detail the questions which the latter said earlier this week would be the subject of study over the holidays.

There were intimations that the Department and the distributors are still unagreed as to the scope of the new decree and that a number of points remain to be worked out, but it could not be learned whether these were embraced in the distributors' proposals or are among the matters which the Department asks be incorporated.

SPG Plan to Form Coast Union Snarled

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15.—Labeled as "premature and impossible of fulfillment," plans announced by the Screen Publicists Guild to form an American Federation of Labor union of all independent professional guilds in film studios here were given a setback today by union leaders, film technicians, screen cartoonists and others.

SPG officials will meet however, with Screen Office Employes Guild members and with set designers, readers, script clerks, film editors and

(*Continued on page 12*)

Schenck Names 53 'Dimes' Chairmen

Nicholas M. Schenck, national chairman, announced yesterday the completion of the roll of exhibitor state chairmen for the 1944 March of Dimes campaign, Jan. 24-30. Regional meetings will be called immediately after Christmas to complete plans for an intensive drive. Behind these leading exhibitors, showmen of America will rally to make good the campaign slogan, "Make It More in '44"; Alabama, R. M. Kennedy, Birmingham; Arkansas, M. A. Lightman, Mem-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Cost Control Will Ease Postwar Problems: Cowdin

By SHERWIN KANE

The industry's task of postwar readjustment will present no unusual problems, even in the event of a box office slump, if costs are kept in hand now, in the opinion of J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal board chairman.

J. Cheever Cowdin

Expressing the view yesterday that a decline in theatre attendance after the war is to be expected, Cowdin said that the industry could safely absorb a

(*Continued on page 6*)

Wilcox, Korda in Producing Deal?

LONDON, Dec. 15. — Authoritative sources here indicated that Herbert Wilcox is dickering with Sir Alexander Korda to institute a new joint production program. It is understood that Wilcox's contract with RKO has been completed. Wilcox tonight is circularizing through the national press the outline of a "grandiose" project to make a film of typical American sailors' impressions, contacts and conflicts in this country, entitled "I Live in Grosvenor Square." No distributor was mentioned.

RKO home office spokesmen yesterday said they had no knowledge of any completion of Herbert Wilcox's RKO producing contract. Alexander Korda went to London from New York several months ago with the understood intention of producing an un-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Television to Be Urged for RKO Adoption

Board Will Soon Receive R.K.Austrian Proposal

RKO can be expected to play an important part in television if the corporation accepts recommendations of its own private television consultants.

A report urging Radio-Keith-Orpheum to enter the television field will be made to the company's directors at a meeting of the board in the near future, it was reliably learned yesterday. The report in which all phases of television, both technical and financial, and an insight into how television might affect motion picture production and film theatres, is rapidly nearing completion.

Ralph K. Austrian, former assistant vice-president of RCA Manufacturing Co., has been surveying television for

(*Continued on page 6*)

'Easier and Cheaper' Arbitration Urged

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Tom Clark, Assistant U. S. Attorney General handling the consent decree, has before him a brief sent by New York independent exhibitors urging "a more satisfactory, easier and cheaper method of arbitration" for clearance cases and their appeal. It was signed in their behalf by Morris Stein, New York attorney and asks for the appointment of 12 full-time field referees, selected by the arbitration appeal board, who would assume all functions now undertaken by local ar-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Exhibitors, Rodgers Meet on Problems

A delegation comprised of Jacob Leff, Max Cohn, Max Wallach and Jesse Stern, representing the Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York, yesterday said they had been assured by William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of sales, and Henderson M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor contact, that exhibitor problems presented to the distributor officials at a conference held during the afternoon would be surveyed,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, United Artists president, arrived in New York from the Coast yesterday.

•

HARRY MOSKOWITZ, head of Loew Theatres construction department, was a recent visitor in New Haven and Springfield.

•

MELVIN HIRSH, president of Crystal Pictures, was in Philadelphia yesterday and will return to New York today.

•

HELEN O'TOOLE, New York secretary to ED KUYKENDALL, is on the sick list.

•

ROBERT LYNCH, M-G-M district manager in Philadelphia, is ill with the flu.

•

TED GALANTER, M-G-M exploiteer in Chicago, returned to that city yesterday from New York.

•

EDWARD A. CUDDY, M & P circuit division manager, is in New Haven from his Boston headquarters.

•

AL GOLDEN, of the M-G-M home office, was a New Haven visitor yesterday.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner circuit labor relations head, will be in Philadelphia today.

•

GRACE GOLDBERG, secretary to JACOB WILK at Warners, returned to her desk yesterday after a week's illness.

•

RICHARD N. ROFFMAN, promotion director of *Movieland* magazine, has returned from Washington.

•

PHIL WILLIAMS, of the March of Time, is home ill.

Moray Lists 32 W.B. Shorts to May

Warner Bros. will release 32 short subjects from January to mid-May, half being cartoon comedies and about 75 percent of the total in Technicolor, Norman Moray, Warners' short subject sales manager, said here yesterday.

Three two-reel Westerns also are on the schedule, one for January, another for March and the third in April.

AMPA to Meet Dec. 22

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers will meet Wednesday, Dec. 22, in the Sun Room of the Hotel Edison, it was announced by Vincent Trotta, president. The meeting will be a Christmas party. The first edition of AMPA's new publication, "The New AMPA Spark," and gifts will be distributed.

Turner Gets Promotion

Don L. Turner, Altec Service Corp.'s Eastern manager, has been promoted to commercial engineering manager, it was announced here.

Connors Concludes 20th Sales Meeting

A three-day mid-winter sales meeting of 20th Century-Fox division and district managers was concluded here yesterday, with Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution, presiding. The conferences took place at the Hotel Astor, with discussions of 1943-44 productions conducted by Connors and Spyros P. Skouras, William J. Kupper, William C. Gehring, A. W. Smith, Jr., and L. J. Schlaifer. Heads of the company's publicity-advertising-exploitation departments, under Hal Horne, also addressed the meeting.

Division and district managers who attended and who are returning to their posts tonight, were Herman Wobber, Harry G. Ballance, George M. Ballentine, W. E. Scott, M. A. Levy, Sydney Samson, Edgar Moss, Paul S. Wilson, E. X. Callahan, J. J. Grady, H. R. Beiersdorf and Philip Longdon, special representative, Southwest District, and Ray E. Moon, New York branch manager.

Other home office executives who attended were Felix Jenkins, Murray Silverstone, Irving Maas, Jack Sichelman, William J. Clark, Roger Ferri, G. A. Roberts, Paul Terry, Harvey Day, C. A. Hill, assistant to E. H. Collins, and Jack Bloom.

Rinzler Turns Over $151,000 to Fund

Cash totaling $151,000 has been turned over to the National War Fund from collections in the film industry in New York, Sam Rinzler, exhibitor and chairman of the fund here reported yesterday. This is $1,000 over the quota set and is expected to go even higher with the liquidation of a number of pledges unfulfilled and which can still be met with checks addressed to Fred Schwartz at 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York.

Rinzler yesterday expressed the fund committee's appreciation to the trade press and to other industry members for their efforts in behalf of the recent drive.

L.A. Projectionists Elect Larsson Pres.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 15.—E. W. Larsson was elected president of the local IATSE projectionists union at a meeting held here yesterday. Other officers include George Schaffer, business manager; Thomas Armentrout, assistant business manager; W. G. Crowley, vice-president and M. J. Sands, secretary-treasurer.

Executive board members for the new year will be Charles Vencill, Magnus Neilsen, John Maynard, Ray Haskell and Joseph Pylet.

Schneiderman in N. Y.

M. M. Schneiderman, Warner Brothers foreign manager in Panama, arrived in New York yesterday from Panama City. He will report to his draft board in Brooklyn.

Armando Trucios will handle the Panama office during Schneiderman's absence.

Friedl Urges Filing War Bond Reports

Minneapolis, Dec. 15—John Friedl, circuit operator and general chairman of the northwest division of the War Activities Committee, declared here that an "outstanding weakness" of the WAC war bond field setup lies in the failure of many exhibitors to file complete reports on war stamp and bond sales. Friedl has informed pledged theatres in this area that "if the industry is to register the extent of its war effort" monthly reports must be filed with the WAC committee promptly.

Adolph Zukor Suit Is Withdrawn Here

Suit to recover $69,930 from Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board at Paramount, for alleged services rendered as financial adviser was discontinued in Federal Court here yesterday by Bernard Byrens, Los Angeles insurance broker. No reason for the discontinuance was given.

Byrens alleged in the action that, under an agreement made with Zukor, he was to receive 10 per cent of all savings resulting from a survey of the film executive's financial problems. In order to put Zukor's affairs in order, Byrens claimed he made a study of all of Zukor's holdings and saved him a total of $69,930. He maintained that he was paid only $1,000. Zukor denied that any agreement was entered into, although he admitted that Byrens did make a study of his holdings and that he paid the insurance broker $1,000 in full payment for all services rendered.

Warner Executives To Wash. Bond Talks

Harry Goldberg, director of advertising and publicity for Warner Theatres, and M. A. Silver, zone manager for Pittsburgh, are scheduled to leave today for Washington where they will confer with Treasury Department officials in connection with the industry's part in the Fourth War Loan drive.

They will return tomorrow night.

Party for Perlberg

Twentieth Century-Fox home office executives and members of the press will attend a reception to be given this afternoon by the company for William Perlberg, producer, at the Hotel St. Regis. Perlberg, whose latest production is "Song of Bernadette" will return to Hollywood at the weekend.

McCarthy to See Press

PRC and Leo McCarthy will be hosts to the trade-press Friday afternoon at PRC headquarters here on the occasion of the arrival of the company's new sales manager from Hollywood conferences with Leon Fromkess, production executive.

Name Speakers for Conference Lunc

Speakers at the luncheon meeting the amusement division of the N tional Conference of Christians a Jews at the Hotel Astor today w announced yesterday by J. Rob Rubin of Loew's, chairman of the vision.

They are: Major General Geo L. Van Deusen, Will H. Hays, B O'Connor, Father John Ford, Ra Israel Goldstein and Dr. Theod Cuyler Speers. Among those sch uled to be on the dais, in addition those named, are: Nicholas Schenck, David Bernstein, Dr. Ev ett R. Clinchey, president of the C ference; Ned E. Depinet, Nate Spingold, John J. O'Connor, Br Pemberton, Richard E. Dwight, H mann G. Place, Joseph H. Bernha William F. Rodgers, Harry Bra and Walter Vincent.

Fats Waller, Noted Jazz Pianist, Di

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 15.—Thor (Fats) Waller, noted Negro jazz pi ist and composer, who appeared in 2 Century-Fox's "Stormy Weathe died in Union Station here today o heart attack. He was en route to N York from Hollywood to be with wife and three sons in St. Albans, I., for the holidays.

The 39-year-old entertainer, son a minister in New York City, wr many popular song hits, includ "Ain't Misbehavin'," "Honeysuc Rose" and others; he also wrote music for the current Broadway "Early to Bed."

'Mitchell' to Aid Air Forces Fun

A share of the proceeds of Sam Bronston's production of a film ba on the life of General "Billy" M chell will be given to the Air For Aid Society, it was announced yest day. General H. H. Arnold, co manding general of the USAAF, assigned as technical adviser for film, Col. Thomas DeWitt Milli who was chief of staff to Mitchell World War I.

The film will be a United Art release, and will be made from biography of Mitchell by Isaac L Levine. Bronston is now here se ing talent.

Dowden Coordinate Red Cross Dri

Eddie Dowden, New York pul relations chairman of the industr War Activities Committee, has b named field director to cooperate w out-of-town theatres in the WA blood donor drive for the Red Cros

Dowden has handled the New Y drive, resulting in 37,925 blood don to date. He has sent out a brochure WAC state and public relati chairmen on how to conduct the ca paign.

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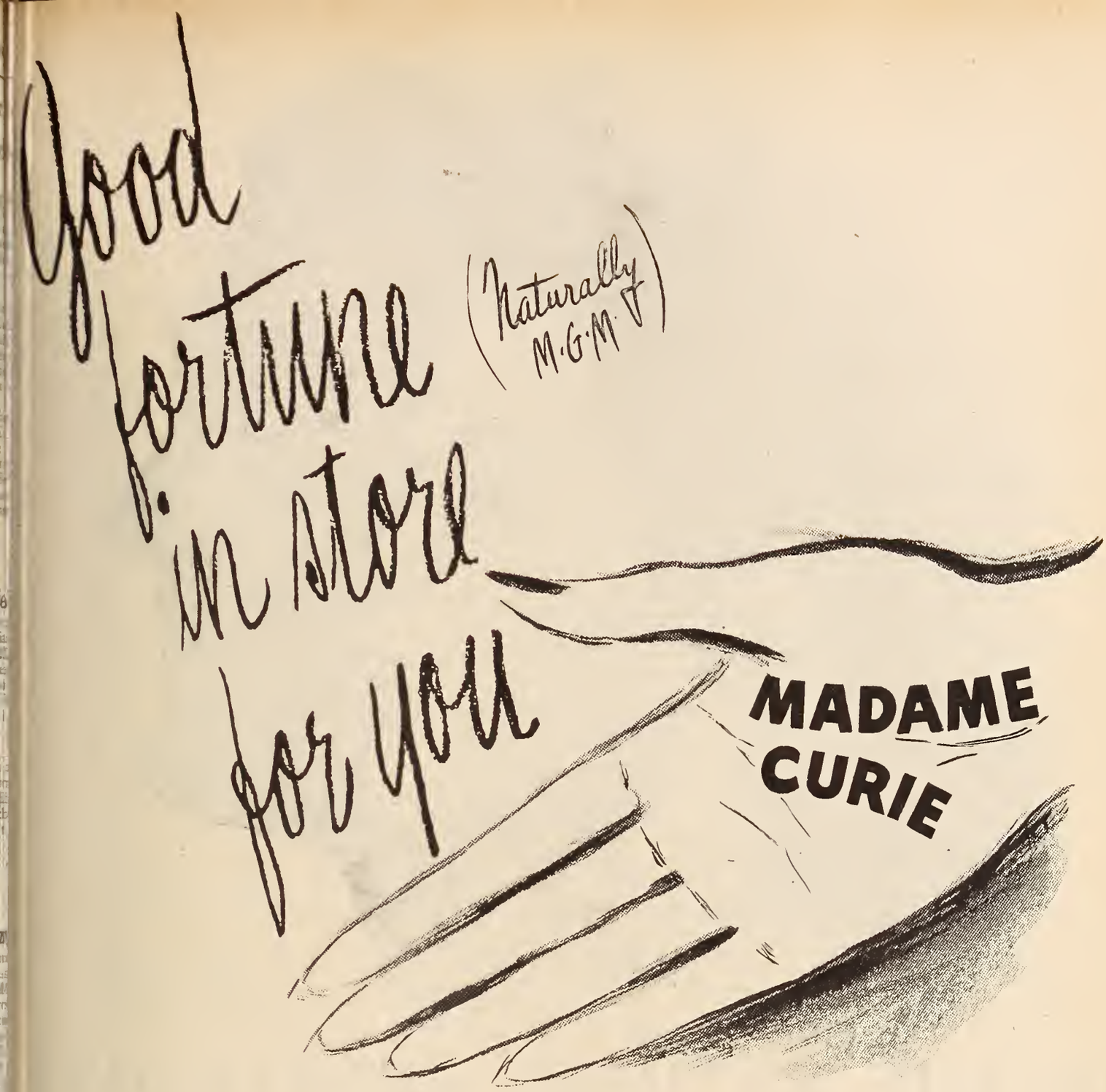

HOLD THE PRESSES, MR. EDITOR FOR THESE AMAZING REVIEWS!

Never such advance acclaim for any picture. Its fame spreads like wildfire across the nation! Read!

(next page please)

IN THE NATION'S SPOTLIGHT!

"Movie of the Week: M-G-M may well have another shining Oscar or two virtually in the satchel. Uncommonly good movie. A masterpiece of lucidity. A love story."
—*Life Magazine*

"Best picture of 1943."
—*Andrew R. Kelly, Washington Daily News*

"One of the strongest contenders for all-around Academy honors. Greer Garson can well make room for a little brother to the Oscar she won for her 'Mrs. Miniver'. Garson and Pidgeon in their most successful teaming, as the box-office returns cannot fail to prove."
—*Hollywood Reporter*

"A cinematic event. It will add not only to the coffers of the theatres which play it, but to their standing in the community as well."
—*Motion Picture Daily*

"A fine and impressive motion picture that should win high honors. It is difficult to see how it could be anything but a box-office triumph."
—*Showmen's Trade Review*

"Metro's distinguished candidate for the coming Academy Award for 1943. Sidney Franklin, and the director, Mervyn Le Roy, share in creating an unforgettable picture."
—*Daily Variety*

"Every one concerned with this remarkable production is a sure-fire candidate for the Academy Award."
—*Erskine Johnson, Newspaper Enterprise Association*

"Easily the best picture of the year. A cinch for the Academy Award."
—*Jimmy Starr, Los Angeles Herald-Express*

"Inevitable success. A production having much of the quality of illustrious predecessors, including 'Mrs. Miniver'." —*Motion Picture Herald*

"We go on record favoring it for Academy Awards." —*Frank Quinn, N. Y. Sunday Mirror*

"Greer Garson's gentle, dignified and wholly-convincing portrayal of 'Madame Curie' is certain to be a candidate for Academy Award honors." —*Denley, Film Bulletin*

"The finest picture since 'Gone With The Wind'." —*Mayme Ober Peak, Boston Globe Syndicate*

"I consider 'Madame Curie' one of the most beautiful pictures I have ever seen and feel definitely it will mean another Academy Award for Greer Garson." —*Liza Wilson, Screenland, Silver Screen*

"One of the great pictures of motion picture history." —*Louella Parsons, Motion Picture Editor, I. N. S.*

"Prestige pictures are not uncommon, but prestige plus profit — big profit — pictures are exceptional. 'Madame Curie' is one of these. Stirring throughout...film drama at its best. A great picture." —*Boxoffice Magazine*

"Last year it was the Miniver Rose; this year it is the Curie Orchid." —*Red Kann, Quigley Publications*

"One of the year's outstanding films. One of the finest to emerge from the Hollywood studios in a long time." —*Jay Emanuel Publications*

"An achievement which will live long in Hollywood history." —*Hedda Hopper*

"Last night I saw 'Madame Curie' and without a doubt it is one of the greatest motion pictures ever made. I feel sure that Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon will walk away with the Academy Award. Mervyn LeRoy, Sidney Franklin and the entire M-G-M organization are to be congratulated for such splendid entertainment. 'Madame Curie' is an outstanding box-office success, and is an immortal contribution to the motion picture industry." —*Frank L. Newman, Sr., Evergreen Theatre Corp. Seattle, Wash.*

"Raises motion pictures to the realms of Shakespearean drama." —*Harry Crocker, Los Angeles Examiner*

"Every inch a great picture. A distinguished contribution to the screen. Its box-office success is assured." —*Variety*

"Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon of 'Mrs. Miniver' fame again bid for Academy honors." —*Edwin Schallert, Los Angeles Times*

"One of the truly fine pictures of the year." —*Sidney Skolsky*

"Unlimited in its appeal. Solid grosses should be the rule. Crammed with all the human elements that are the essence of first-rate dramatic entertainment." —*Film Daily*

"A wonderful picture; Greer Garson should, without question, again receive the Academy Award." —*Elsa Maxwell, Nationally Syndicated Column*

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer presents

GREER GARSON
WALTER PIDGEON

in

"MADAME CURIE"

Directed by MERVYN LeROY • *Produced by* SIDNEY FRANKLIN

Henry Travers
Robert Walker
Dame May Whitty
Elsa Basserman
Van Johnson
Albert Basserman
Margaret O'Brien
C. Aubrey Smith
Victor Francen
Reginald Owen

Screen Play by Paul Osborn and Paul H. Rameau • Based on the Book "Madame Curie" by Eve Curie

SIMULTANEOUS WORLD PREMIERE TODAY

At Radio City Music Hall, N. Y. and 4 Los Angeles Theatres

"Our Two Big Jobs in January:
Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes"

Television to Be Urged for RKO Adoption

(Continued from page 1)

RKO for some three months at the specific request of N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president. In 1941, he supervised a demonstration of theatre television at the New York Theatre, and it is known that he foresees this field as an important part of theatre operations in the post-war.

Austrian is of the opinion that home television will come to the public directly after the end of World War II, to be followed by theatre television. He holds that many programs will emanate from Hollywood where film companies will use their stars, studios and technical facilities to present programs. He also sees film trailers as the basis for many televised programs.

The film industry's potential television participation would be further accentuated by RKO's entrance, what with United Artists and two other unnamed companies negotiating for an interest in Scophony television, as reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY and with Paramount and 20th Century-Fox already have some Scophony interests and Paramount also having interests in Dumont Television.

Exhibitors, Rodgers Meet on Problems

(Continued from page 1)

and that results would be made known at a later meeting. The conference was held prior to a UIE meeting held at the Lincoln Hotel here last night

At the UIE session, further discussions on the consent decree were continued, and a letter written by Tom C. Clark, Assistant U. S. Attorney General, was introduced, inviting a UIE committee to Washington to give their views on final decree proposals by the five consenting companies when submitted to him.

UIE resolved to continue opposition to the 20 per cent admission tax. Continued cooperation with the City Administration and juvenile social agencies to aid in stamping out juvenile delinquency was pledged by the theatre owners.

The inability of UIE exhibitors in obtaining new product because of extended playing time and fewer pictures released by major distributing companies, was discussed; also rentals of major company reissues, which are being offered to them at the same price as originally released and in some instances higher.

Dates for 'Deerslayer'

"Deerslayer" produced by P. S. Harrison and E. B. Derr for Republic release, will play a week's run at the Strand, Brooklyn, beginning today and will play the Loew circuit beginning Dec. 21. It will also play several RKO houses.

The picture has played the Pantheon, Toledo, as a top part of a double bill. It will open first run in Youngstown Christmas week, and in Cleveland, at the Circle, Jan. 16, for a week.

Review

"There's Something About A Soldier"

(Columbia)

Hollywood, Dec. 15

PRODUCER Sam Bischoff has given the usual story of the smart-aleck, self-centered individual who has a change of heart a little different twist by permitting the central character to lose out at Officers' Candidate School due to conduct unbecoming an officer.

Directed by Alfred E. Green, from a script by Philip Tannura and George Meehan, "There's Something About a Soldier" is a solid documentary of stringent officers' training at Camp Davis with the addition of such values as entertainment, love interest, drama and comedy. Tom Neal capably handles the role of a smart-aleck sports columnist sent to OCS, where he meets Bruce Bennett, doing equally well the role of a candidate selected from an overseas outfit for OCS training. Romance enters when both fall for Evelyn Ankers, sister of Bennett's captain, killed in battle, and an office employe at OCS headquarters. Bennett does not like Neal's smartiness, while Neal thinks Bennett a prig as well as a rival for his girl. In the end Neal changes, tries to help Bennett, but his offers of aid are spurned. He finds an opportunity to change Bennett's math exams so he'll pass, but is discovered and washed out. Bennett and Evelyn discover what he has done but it's too late to save him.

The supporting cast, headed by John Hubbard, Jeff Donnell, Frank Sully, Lewis Wilson, Robert Stanford and others effectively backstop the good work of the leads.

Running time, 75 minutes. "G."* JACK CARTWRIGHT

*"G" denotes general classification.

Cowdin Sees Costs As Postwar Key

(Continued from page 1)

probable loss of patronage of 15,000,000 weekly from today's high levels and still remain on solid ground. Assuming that costs, particularly in production, are kept under control, the postwar readjustments which would be called for could be applied without serious dislocation in any field of operations within the industry and without unusual financial strain, he said.

Cowdin indicated that while current practice in setting up reserves for postwar readjustment is to be regarded as sound, it is not in itself the answer to the whole problem, and could prove to be no answer at all if costs are permitted to get out of hand.

The Universal chairman cited certain prices paid in recent months for plays and stories and other manifestations of unusual production costs as indicative of a dangerous trend.

"I wonder," Cowdin observed, "how long the market will continue to absorb negative costs of $3,000,000 and $4,000,000."

Cowdin has postponed a scheduled visit to the Universal studio for a week or two in order to complete work here and in Washington on which he is currently engaged. He has been in the forefront of the taxation work of the National Association of Manufacturers for many months past.

6-Day Work Week To Help Box Offices

(Continued from page 1)

spending money for recreation will continue to be plentiful despite the shorter work week, and this monetary peak is expected to continue throughout 1944 at least. WPB executives do not look for the war production peak to be passed until the summer of next year.

'Easier and Cheaper' Arbitration Urged

(Continued from page 1)

bitrators, except the rendering of decisions which would be done by the appeal board from recommendations passed along by the local referees. These referees, who would be stationed all over the country, would preside over field trials, hear evidence and transmit their findings to the appeal board. Counsel for litigants would then submit briefs to the appeal board which would then render a decision.

"The plan outlined would considerably shorten the time necessary to conduct a trial," according to the brief which suggests the appointment of 12 clerks from the local tribunals to be referees, since "their experience would fit them for the job."

Wilcox, Korda in Producing Deal?

(Continued from page 1)

named number of pictures for that company. So far as is known he has not started work on the deal.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Sir Alexander Korda today announced that he will make between 12 and 16 major films a year at an estimated $1,000,000 cost each in a new 10-year production program involving $140,000,000. A new company which he will head, M-G-M-London Films, Ltd., will be formed for the purpose. "Our films," Sir Alexander revealed "all will be made for the world market and given worldwide distribution by M-G-M."

WB Pays Holiday Bonus

Warner Brothers' home office employees received a Christmas bonus yesterday of from one to two weeks' pay. The amount paid out yesterday, plus a bonus paid in July, of from a half-week to one week's salary, amounts to about a 50 per cent increase over the total salaries paid in 1942.

Schenck Names 53 'Dimes' Chairme

(Continued from page 1)

phis; Arizona, Harry Nace, Phoeni California, Chas. Skouras and Rob Poole, Los Angeles, George Ma San Francisco; Colorado, Rick Ri etson, Denver; Connecticut, I. Hoffman, New Haven; Delaware a D. C., Carter Barron, Washington

Also, Delaware, A. Joseph DeFio Wilmington; District of Columb John J. Payette, Washington; Fl ida, M. C. Talley, Lakeland; Georg J. H. Thompson, Hawkinsville, a Hugh G. Martin, Columbus; Idaho, H. Harris, Burley; Illinois, Ja Kirsch and Jules J. Rubens, Chicag Indiana, Harry Katz, 1270 6th A New York, and R. T. Collins, Indi apolis; Iowa and Nebraska, A. Blank, Des Moines; Kansas, Eln C. Rhoden, Kansas City, Mo.; Ke tucky, Fred J. Dolle, Louisvil Louisiana, Rodney Toups, New O leans; New England chairman, M. Mullins, Boston; Maine, John B. C roll, Portland.

Also, Massachusetts, Edward Cud Boston; Maryland, Frank Horn Baltimore; Michigan, J. O. Broo Detroit and Paul Schlossman, Mu Kegon; Minnesota, W. H. Workma Minneapolis and Wm. C. Sea Minneapolis.

Arthur Lehman Named

Mississippi, Arthur Lehman, Jac son; Missouri, Harry C. Arthur, Louis; Montana, A. M. Russe Bozeman; Nevada, N. Dow Thom son, Reno; New Hampshire, Melv Morrison, Dover; New Jersey, W ter Reade, New York, and Don J cocks, Newark; New Mexico, Mu L. Hurley, Tucumcari; New Yo Fred Schwartz, New York, J. My Schine, Gloversville and Max Yell Buffalo; North and South Carolin Rovy F. Branon, Charlotte; Nor Dakota, M. C. Cooper, Grand Fork Ohio, P. J. Wood, Columbus; Orego Albert J. Finke, Portland; Oklahon L. C. Griffith, Oklahoma City; Per sylvania, Ted Schlanger, Philadelpl and Sidney Samuelson, Philadelpl and M. A. Rosenberg, McKees Rocl Pennsylvania and West Virginia, M Silver, Pittsburgh; Rhode Island, M. Fay, Providence; South Dako Chas. Klein, Deadwood; Texas, R. O'Donnell, Dallas; and Julius Gord Beaumont; Tennessee, Tony Sudeku Nashville; Utah, John Rugar, Pa City; Washington, Frank Newma Seattle; Vermont, Frank Venne Rutland; Virginia, W. F. Crocke Virginia Beach; Wisconsin, H. Fitzgerald, Milwaukee; Wyoming, J. Schulte, Casper.

WAC Shifts Dates On 2 War Film

The War Activities Committee ye terday announced that the U. S. Go ernment film, "The Price of Rendov originally scheduled for release Dec. 23, will be released instead Jan. 6. The film which was made the U. S. Army Signal Corps, will distributed by M-G-M for the WA

"Destination, Island X," which fo merly filled the Jan. 6 spot, will su stitute for "Rendova" on the earli date. "Destination, Island X" w produced by the Navy Department a will be distributed by Paramount.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Nov. 20		(Second Block) THOUSANDS CHEER Kathryn Grayson Gene Kelly M—126 mins.	CAMPUS RHYTHM Gale Storm Johnny Downs (1942-43) M—(210)	(Second Block) RIDING HIGH (Technicolor) Dorothy Lamour Dick Powell Victor Moore M—89 mins. (4307)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN BOSS OF RAWHIDE O—(452) HARVEST MELODY M—(402)	MYSTERY BROADCAST D—(304) OVERLAND MAIL ROBBERY O—(376) DEERSLAYER Bruce Kellogg O—67 mins. (306)	(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C—(405)	DANCING MASTERS Laurel and Hardy C—63 mins. (413)		NEVER A DULL MOMENT The Ritz Brothers Frances Langford Mary Beth Hughes (8030)	
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal D—(5017)	THE CROSS OF LORRAINE Pierre Aumont Gene Kelly D—90 mins.	TEXAS KID Johnny Mack Brown O—(351)	NO TIME FOR LOVE Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Ilka Chase C—83 mins. (4309)		DRUMS OF FU MANCHU (Adapted from Serial) Henry Brandon D—(305)	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D—(401)	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)		HIS BUTLER'S SISTER Deanna Durbin Pat O'Brien Franchot Tone D—(8004)	OLD ACQUAINTANCE Bette Davis Miriam Hopkins D—110 mins. (308)
Dec. 4	THE HEATS ON Victor Moore William Gaxton Mae West Hazel Scott M	LOST ANGEL Margaret O'Brien Marsha Hunt D—91 mins.	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer) O—56 mins. (361)	CANYON CITY Don "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O TUMBLING TUMBLEWEEDS Gene Autry (Re-Issue) O—(2308)		IN OLD OKLAHOMA John Wayne Martha Scott O—102 mins.	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C—(402)	HAPPY LAND Don Ameche Frances Dee Ann Rutherford 75 mins. (415)		SO'S YOUR UNCLE Billie Burke Elyse Knox Donald Woods C—(8042)	(Re-Issues) CRIME SCHOOL Humphrey Bogart Dead End Kids 86 mins. (327)
Dec. 11	THE CRIME DOCTOR'S STRANGEST CASE Warner Baxter Rose Hobart Lynn Merrick D	A GUY NAMED JOE Irene Dunne Spencer Tracy D	MR. MUGGS STEPS OUT East Side Kids D—64 mins. (301)	HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith John Litel C—73 mins. (4306)		PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA Ruth Terry Robert Livingston C Wally Vernon RAIDERS OF SUNSET PASS O—56 mins.	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D—(403)			SHE'S FOR ME David Bruce Grace McDonald George Dolenz D—(8041)	GIRLS ON PROBATION Jane Bryan Ronald Reagan 63 mins. (328)
Dec. 18	KLONDIKE KATE Tom Neal Ann Savage D	CRY HAVOC Margaret Sullavan Ann Sothern D—97 mins.	SMART GUY Rick Vallin D—63 mins. (227)	MINESWEEPER Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—67 mins. (4308)	THE DRIFTER Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John (461) JIVE JUNCTION Dickie Moore Tina Thayer M—65 mins. (407)		SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C—(404)			CALLING DR. DEATH Lon Chaney Patricia Morrison Ramsey Ames D	
Dec. 25	SWING OUT THE BLUES Bob Haymes Lynn Merrick COWBOY IN THE CLOUDS Charles Starrett Walter "Dub" Taylor	RATIONING Wallace Beery Marjorie Main C		(Third Block) MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK Eddie Bracken Betty Hutton D—99 mins. (4312)		WHISPERING FOOTSTEPS John Hubbard D—56 mins. OH, MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Frank Albertson C—69c mins.	(Second Block) THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)	THE GANG'S ALL HERE Carmen Miranda Alice Faye James Ellison 103 mins. (416) (Technicolor)	JACK LONDON D Michael O'Shea Susan Hayward 94 mins.	MOONLIGHT IN VERMONT Gloria Jean Fay Helm Sidney Miller Ray Malone D	
Jan. 1	WHAT A WOMAN Rosalind Russell Brian Aherne Willard Parker D	BROADWAY RHYTHM Ginny Simms George Murphy M			THE TEXAS RANGERS IN GUNSMOKE MESA James Newill (453)	CALIFORNIA JOE Don "Red" Barry Helen Talbot Wally Vernon O	GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)		THE WOMAN OF THE TOWN Albert Dekker Claire Trevor D—88 mins.	GUNG HO Randolph Scott Alan Curtis David Bruce Noah Beery, Jr. D	DESTINATION TOKYO Cary Grant John Garfield D—135 mins. (309)
Jan. 8	HEY ROOKIE Ann Miller Joe Besser Larry Parks Joe Sawyer C	SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE Robert Walker Donna Reed C	WOMEN IN BONDAGE Gail Patrick D—71 mins. (303)	STANDING ROOM ONLY Paulette Goddard Fred MacMurray C—83 mins. (4314)	CAREER GIRL Frances Langford M	PRIDE OF THE PLAINS Bob Livingston Smiley Burnette O	GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)			SING A JINGLE Allan Jones June Vincent Samuel S. Hinds 62 mins. M	
Jan. 15		THE HEAVENLY BODY Hedy Lamarr William Powell D—95 mins.	WHERE ARE YOUR CHILDREN Jackie Cooper D—72 mins. (302)	THE UNINVITED Ray Milland Ruth Hussey D—98 mins. (4315)	NABONGA Buster Crabbe Fifi D'Orsay Barton MacLane D	HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER Roy Rogers O—74 mins. (341)	GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)		THREE RUSSIAN GIRLS Anna Sten Kent Smith D	ALI BABA AND THE 40 THIEVES (in Technicolor) Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey	
Jan. 22	THE RACKET MAN Tom Neal Jeanne Bates Hugh Beaumont D	SONG OF RUSSIA Robert Taylor Susan Peters D—107 mins. SWING FEVER Kay Kyser Marilyn Maxwell M—81 mins.	SULTAN'S DAUGHTER Ann Corio C—64 mins. WESTWARD BOUND Hoot Gibson Ken Maynard O—(362)	HENRY ALDRICH, BOY SCOUT Jimmy Lydon C—66 mins. (4311)		CASANOVA IN BURLESQUE Joe E. Brown June Havoc C	THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D—(410)			SPIDER WOMAN Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Gale Sondergaard D	
Jan. 29	BEAUTIFUL BUT BROKE Joan Davis John Hubbard C	MADAM CURIE Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins.	WHAT A MAN Johnnie Downs C—66 mins. (228) RAIDERS OF THE BORDER Johnny Mack Brown O—(352)	TIMBER QUEEN Richard Arlen Mary Beth Hughes D—66 mins. (4313)		MY BEST GAL Jane Withers Jimmy Lydon Frank Craven C	NORTH STAR Anne Baxter Walter Huston Dana Andrews D—105 mins. (451)		KNICKERBOCKER HOLIDAY Nelson Eddy Charles Coburn D	LADIES COURAGEOUS Loretta Young Geraldine Fitzgerald O	

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical, (C) Comedy, (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses.]

R-F Productions Present
"Three Russian Girls"
Starring
ANNA STEN • KENT SMITH
with Mimi Forsaythe • Alexander Granach
Cathy Frye • Paul Guilfoyle • Kane Richmond
Adaptation by Maurice Clark and Victor Trivas • Based upon photo-
play "The Girl From Leningrad" • Screen play by Aben Kandel and
Dan James • A GREGOR RABINOVITCH Production • Associate
Producer EUGENE FRENKE • Directed by Fedor Ozep and
Henry Kesler • Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

The one picture all women
will want to see is
"Three Russian Girls!"
The one company for well-timed
hits all the time is
United Artists!

To the winners in the 1943
Fame-Motion Picture Daily
poll . . . and a special word
of appreciation to those
heard over NBC, *17 first*
place winners in all.

We wish you more and
more success in helping to
make radio entertainment
more and more enjoyable

Stay tuned to t

"CONGRATULATIONS..."

FIRST PLACES

Champion of Champions
Favorite Comedian
Favorite Comedy Show
} *Bob Hope* (Pepsodent Co.)

Favorite Master of Ceremonies
Favorite Male Vocalist (popular)
} *Bing Crosby* (Kraft Cheese Co.)

Favorite Comedienne—*Joan Davis* (Sealtest, Inc.)
Favorite Comedy Team—*Fibber McGee & Molly* (S. C. Johnson & Son)
Favorite Male Vocalist (classical)—*John Charles Thomas* (Westinghouse)
Favorite Studio Announcer—*Don Wilson* (General Foods)
Favorite Sports Announcer—*Bill Stern* (Colgate)
Favorite Symphony Conductor—*Toscanini* (General Motors)
Favorite Daytime Serial—*Vic & Sade* (Procter & Gamble)
Favorite Dramatic Series—(same cast)—*One Man's Family* (Standard Brands)
Favorite Variety Show—*Kraft Music Hall* (Kraft Cheese Co.)
Favorite Quiz Show—*Information Please* (H. J. Heinz)
Favorite Educational Program—*University of Chicago Round Table* (N B C)
Favorite Government War Program—*The Army Hour* (N B C)

America's No. 1 Network

National Broadcasting Company

It's a National Habit

A Service of Radio Corporation of America

Extort Trial May Go to Jury Tuesday

The $1,000,000 motion picture extortion case is not expected to reach the jury until Tuesday. Special U. S. prosecutor Boris Kostelanetz is expected to begin the Government's summation late tomorrow or early Monday morning.

Federal Judge John Bright yesterday, at the request of defense attorneys, adjourned the trial until this morning. Chief defense attorney James Murray, representing five of the six Chicago defendants, asked for the delay in order that he might have sufficient time in which to prepare his summation, expected to last all of today. Other defense attorneys are expected to take most of tomorrow summing up the evidence for and against their clients during the 10 weeks of the trial.

Gov't Probe Will Not End

Termination of the trial of the seven defendants, six former Capone mob gangsters and Louis Kaufman, business agent of local 244, motion picture operators union, of Newark, N. J., will not end the Government's investigation into alleged racketeering within the film industry.

Kostelanetz, an accountant as well as a prosecutor, has been delving into a mountain of records during the last three years and unearthed most of the evidence which has already landed George E. Browne, former IATSE president, William Bioff and Nick Dean, both former personal representatives of Browne, in jail for gouging the film industry by means of threats to call IATSE strikes. It is likely that both Browne and Bioff have appeared before a special Federal grand jury, probing other angles of the industry's labor relations problems, since the extortion trial began 10 weeks ago.

Other Indictments Hinted

Kostelanetz has hinted on several occasions that other indictments, "naming names in the film industry," will be returned. In addition to the continued investigation, all of the defendants on trial, except Kaufman, are already under indictment charged with mail fraud. The mail fraud case, which probably will be tried after the first of next year, involves the alleged shakedown of IATSE members of more than $1,500,000 by means of a special wage assessment, the fund being controlled completely by Browne and Bioff.

SPG Plan to Form Coast Union Snarled

(*Continued from page* 1)

possibly the Screen Writers Guild, art directors and unit managers tomorrow night to discuss standardizing union demands on studios at the expiration of current contracts.

Film technicians today announced a drive "at the request of film editors" to bring all film editors, cutters, assistants and apprentices under Technicians' Local No. 683, IATSE. The IATSE had granted the technicians jurisdiction, John Martin, local business agent told MOTION PICTURE DAILY today, "but when Willie Bioff was organizing here they were overlooked. A petition to the National Labor Relations Board will follow the signing of pledge cards by the film editors."

Spanish-Titled Films Aid to U. S. Troops

Washington, Dec. 15.—American soldiers in Central and South America find Hollywood pictures with English titles translated into Spanish an aid in learning that language, Rep. John M. Costello of Hollywood, member of a Congressional committee just returned from a tour of U. S. military bases in that area, reports.

He said the Congressional party did not see any U. S. films on the trip, but said he had discussed them with American troops.

Grainger Convenes Republic Sales Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

boards in key city openings. Also on the agenda are promotion plans for "The Monster," "The Man from Frisco," "Hands Across the Border," the new Republic Western series of Red Ryder Productions, and the re-release of eight additional Gene Autrys during 1944.

In attendance from the East, besides those mentioned, will be Jerome Lewis, Arthur Newman, Jack Davis, Joseph Engel and Jake Flax, Washington. The Central district will be represented by Jack Bellman, S. P. Gorrel, George H. Kirby, I. H. Pollard, L. W. Marriott, J. H. Alexander and Sam Fineberg, Pittsburgh.

Republic's home office group will include Walter L. Titus, Jr., Morris Goodman, G. C. Schaefer, Seymour Borus, Albert Schiller, Edward Seifert, Carl Botkin, Steve Edwards and Charles Reed Jones.

Film Exchange F-51 Re-elects Finklestein

Film Exchange Employes Union, local F-51, IATSE, has reelected Jack Finklestein president. Other officers include Agnes McLoughlin, vice-president; A. Mazzi, financial secretary-treasurer; Gertrude Reiman, re-elected secretary; R. E. Bluetreich, sergeant-at-arms.

Executive board members for the new year are: P. Saglen Beni, Harry Hummel, Frieda Laurie, J. Joel, J. Dennet, Fred Mayer, Lillian Bergson and Richard Magan. The board of trustees includes Kitty Flynn, Molly Tromantano and Sybil Mayer. An installation dinner will be held on Jan. 11 at the Cafe Loyale.

Dan Russo Passes

CHICAGO, Dec. 15.—Dan J. Russo, orchestra conductor for the Palace-RKO circuit here for the past 30 years, 20 of which he passed at the Palace, died in North Hollywood where he has lived since his retirement in 1938, according to word received here. Russo was 60. His widow and a son survive.

'U' to Distribute 'Wings'

Universal will distribute in this country, starting next month, a British Ministry of Information short subject, "Wings in Record Time."

Para. Issues Press Book on 'Bell Tolls'

Paramount yesterday distributed a 64-page press book on "For Whom the Bell Tolls" with advertising, publicity and exploitation ideas to aid in selling the picture. The book, prepared by Hal Danson, Paramount's assistant advertising manager and his staff, under Robert M. Gillham, director of advertising and publicity, contains campaigns tested in key runs since the picture had its premiere in New York last July 14.

It contains 22 pages devoted to exploitation, 19 pages of ad layouts, 14 pages of publicity and five pages on accessories. The material presented has been tailored for all types of runs.

A four-color reproduction of Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman superimposed on a large bell with the design framed by an embossed gold border decorates the front cover. The heavy cover is blue, with red plastic spiral binding.

F.C.C. Will Issue 3-Year Radio License

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The Federal Communications Committee yesterday announced that radio station licenses will be issued on a three-year basis, instead of two as has been the policy in the past. The three-year period is the maximum specified in the Federal Communications Act.

The new plan will not go into effect immediately, it was reported, but renewals will be staggered for periods, ranging from one to two years and nine months, after which all regular licenses will be issued for three years.

Business Is Up in K. C.; 'True to Life' Tops with $14,00

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 15.—First-ru grosses spurted this week from a lo of the previous week. "True to Lif at the Newman is leading, with a proximately $14,000 and will be he over. Stage and musical shows at t Music Hall and Municipal Auditoriu getting first rate attendance, and religious revival series at the Are are counter-attractions.

Estimated receipts for the week en ing Dec. 15-16:

"Crazy House" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gro $5,500. (Average, $5,500)

"Jack London" (U. A.)
"There's Something About a Soldier" (Co
MIDLAND — (3,600) (35c-50c) 7 da Gross: $12,500. (Average, $14,000).

"True to Life" (Para.)
NEWMAN — (1,900) (40c-60c) 7 da Gross: $14,000. (Average, $11,000)

"The Oklahoma Kid" (W. B.)
"Petticoat Larceny" (RKO)
ORPHEUM — (1,900) (40c-60c) 8 da Gross: $12,000. (Average, 8 days, $11,4

"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
"Alaska Highway" (Para.)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) 7 days. Sta show. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,400)

"Crazy House" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gro $5,500. (Average, $5,600)

"Crazy House" (Univ.)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gro $1,200. Average, $1,450)

Record for 'Reap'

New all-time Paramount grossi record was claimed yesterday by t company for "Reap the Wild Wind based on auditors' reports just co pleted.

The white heat of war-time pressures has *welded together* the ability of Altec Service to meet the technical demands both of the armed forces and the nation's theatres. Equally, Altec's present-day technical knowledge is inevitably welded to the ability to master the processes of future technical change. This is the basic principle on which the continuing usefulness of Altec Service to theatres is to be judged.

ALTE
SERVICE CORPORATI
250 West 57th Str
New York 19, N.

Protecting the theatre — Our "first line of morale

DO NOT REMOVE

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 116 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1943 | TEN CENTS

OCR Asks for Theatres for Defense Areas

U.S. Agency Survey Indicates 100 Houses Needed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Any exhibitor or another "who knows of any war manufacturing spot where a theatre is needed" will have "little difficulty in securing the support of the Office of Civilian Requirements," the recreation division of the OCR discloses here.

George McMurphey, chief of the OCR's film section, said applications would be welcome from theatre operators for construction of at least 100 new theatres in areas where recrea-

(*Continued on page* 8)

'Canteen' Receipts Assist Conference

The American Theatre Wing has contributed $50,000 out of its share of distribution receipts from "Stage Door Canteen" to the annual quota of the amusement division of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, J. Robert Rubin, vice-president of Loew's and chairman of the division, announced at a luncheon meeting at the Hotel Astor yesterday.

J. Robert Rubin

Additional thousands were pledged by industry leaders at the meet-

(*Continued on page* 3)

FromkessNamesPRC Production Aides

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 16.—Leon Fromkess, vice-president of PRC in charge of production, today appointed Chris Beuete production manager of all PRC pictures, named Frank Lawrence supervising film editor, and added Pierre Gendron to the story department.

He also disclosed that Ferde Grofe has been signed to prepare the score of "Minstrel Man," the studio's next directly-produced attraction.

12-17% Increase For W.B. Workers Wins Approval

The Regional War Labor Board here has approved the joint application of Warner Bros. and Motion Picture Office Employees Union, Local 23169, for salary increases for 650 Warner home office white-collarites. Granted were a six per cent increase retroactive to Aug. 10, 1943, another increase of six per cent as of Aug. 10, 1944, and an additional five per cent increase for those employees who have been with the company for 10 years or more, retroactive to Aug. 10 last.

RWLB also approved 31 job classifications with minimum and maximum

(*Continued on page* 3)

Republic Promotion Budget Is $2,000,000

Republic will spend over $2,000,000 this year in advertising and publicity, it was reported by Herbert J. Yates, Sr., at the opening session of Republic's two-day sales conference yesterday at the New York Athletic Club here. President J. R. Grainger presided. Maxwell Gillis and Sam Seplowin head the Eastern and Central districts, respectively.

Yates said that Republic is building prestige in the industry through "super deluxe" and "deluxe" productions as well as "big-budget specials."

(*Continued on page* 8)

U.S., MAJORS STILL APART ON DECREE

Korda Seeks Government's London Studio

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Sir Alexander Korda, head of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer London Films, Ltd., is negotiating with the British government to take over Amalgamated Studios in Elstree, it was learned today. Eight large stages which are now being used in war work are involved. Amalgamated was taken over by debenture holders before the war and leased for industrial purposes.

In connection with Korda's produc-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Archibald Returns To London in Jan.

George Archibald, motion picture representative of the British Ministry of Information in America, will return to London in the near future for a new assignment, it was learned yesterday. His successor here has not been announced.

Archibald, former joint managing

(*Continued on page* 8)

Clark Rejects Majors' Refusal to Accept Three Main Points

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Department of Justice and the five consent decree signers are still at odds over the contents of a new decree, with three important points still at issue, as follows:

The right of the five distributors to use their product in their own theatres when and how they see fit.

Establishment of regional arbitration appeal boards; the Government is understood to have proposed abolition of the appeal board at New York in favor of regional boards to make appeals less expensive and less lengthy for exhibitors.

The acquisition of new affiliated theatres and the regulation of existing circuit and pooling alliances between distributors and exhibitors.

The last point is reported to have

(*Continued on page* 3)

Summations Start In Extort Case

Demanding the acquittal of his clients, James D. C. Murray, chief defense counsel, in Federal Court yesterday asserted that George E. Browne, former IATSE president, and William Bioff, star Government witnesses at the film extortion trial, committed perjury on the witness stand in an effort to win their way out of prison.

The theme selected by Murray, in

(*Continued on page* 8)

Trade Press Aid Cited As Essential to Drive

B. V. Sturdivant, campaign director for the industry's Fourth War Loan drive, yesterday emphasized that the trade press is a keystone in the industry's war bond efforts and that without that assistance the industry's participation in the Fourth War Loan campaign, from Jan. 18 to Feb. 15, could not succeed. He addressed trade paper representatives at a luncheon given by Charles P. Skouras, national campaign chairman, at the St. Moritz Hotel.

"I consider today's meeting the most important of any we will have," Sturdivant told the trade press. "I cannot impress too strongly upon you the magnitude and the value of the job your publications can do in the

(*Continued on page* 8)

Studio Unions Seek Aid to Ride-Sharing

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 16.—With gas stations limiting sales to regular customers as a result of a reduction in the supply to dealers, and with further cuts expected, studio union representatives at a meeting last night under the chairmanship of Francis Carothers, secretary of the international motion picture unions, prepared a petition to producers to unify workshifts in order to facilitate ride sharing which is now complicated by different starting and stopping times in the various studios. A subcommittee will meet to-

(*Continued on page* 8)

BFPA Meets with BOT On Post-War Plans

LONDON, Dec. 16.—British Film Producers Association today met with Board of Trade officials to lay down plans in connection with the demobilization of priorities on materials and discuss details of labor and studio space requirements after the war.

The Cinematograph Exhibitors Association's renters committee also held its first meeting today and adjourned, pending "preparation of detailed information" concerning these post-war plans. This group will meet again after the holidays.

Personal Mention

LEONARD GOLDENSON, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, will return to New York tonight following a visit of several days in Washington.

•

MRS. NICHOLAS HERMAN, Columbia press book editor and the former SYLVIA KOSSACK, and DR. NICHOLAS HERMAN are the parents of a baby girl born at Doctor's Hospital Wednesday.

•

DAVID E. ROSE, managing director for Paramount in Great Britain, leaves today for Hollywood to confer with Y. FRANK FREEMAN, B. G. DE SYLVA and HARRY GINSBERG. He will be gone three weeks.

•

MARJORIE MORROW, Warner Eastern talent head, will be in Philadelphia today. ZELMA BROOKOV, her assistant, has returned to New York from a Connecticut trip.

•

FRANCIS HARMON, WAC coordinator, will return to New York Monday after several weeks recuperating at Tucson, Ariz., and in Mississippi from pneumonia.

•

DAVE COPLAN, United Artists Canadian general manager, returned to Toronto yesterday after a four-day New York visit.

•

SAMMY COHEN, United Artists foreign publicity manager, returned to his desk yesterday after a two-day illness.

•

EDWARD SCHREIBER, WAC publicist, will return Monday from Fourth War Loan conferences on the Coast.

•

MORT SINGER, head of the Singer theatres, returned to Chicago yesterday from New York.

•

JOSEPH HAZEN, Warners' general counsel, will return today from Washington.

•

LT. LEW MENTLIK, former New York trade paper representative, has arrived in Great Britain.

•

HERB BERG, United Artists trade press contact, will return Monday from a trip to Atlanta and Miami.

•

JAMES DUNN, "Coastal Command" publicist, is back at his desk at RKO after a brief illness.

•

DALE MCFARLAND, advertising-publicity director for Tri-States Theatres, Des Moines, is in New York.

•

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK, WILLIAM PERLBERG and EDWIN LOEB will leave New York for the Coast today.

•

TONI SPITZER, Disney Eastern publicity representative, returned yesterday from Chicago.

•

NED E. DEPINET was a new addition to the sick list yesterday.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 16

ON the personal request of General Eisenhower, the Hollywood Victory Committee will make a command performance transcription presenting personalities who have entertained troops in North Africa, in celebration of the first anniversary of the establishment of the Army radio service. Stars include Bob Hope, Jack Benny, Frances Langford, Kay Francis, Martha Raye, Carole Landis, Tony Romano and Mitzi Mayfair.

•

Ken Thomson, former executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, will leave here for Mexico City Tuesday for a holiday before joining the William Morris Agency in January.

•

Irving Rubinc, Sam Jaffe-Lloyd Bacon publicity director, will leave here tomorrow for the East to confer with 20th-Fox executives on "The Sullivans" campaign.

•

Jack Warner today bought Ernest Hemingway's novel, "To Have and to Have Not." Howard Hawks will produce and Humphrey Bogart will star.

•

Columbia has issued a denial of circulated reports that the studio is negotiating a deal for Orson Welles' "services in any capacity."

•

Major John W. Hubbell, Army pictorial section, has left here for Washington following conferences with studio heads.

•

Sid Shagler has left here for New York. He expects to acquire a stage property for production.

•

Lou Lifton, Monogram ad-publicity head, will arrive here today from New York.

Nesbitt to Produce Post-War Films

John Nesbitt, producer of M-G-M's "Passing Parade" shorts, revealed plans to produce documentary films on post-war problems, yesterday, at a screening of his "This Is Tomorrow" at the Junior League Club of New York.

Nesbitt was presented with a scroll by National Board of Review secretary, Shelley Hamilton, for "Tomorrow." Arthur DeBra, director of research for MPPDA, another speaker, referred to "Tomorrow" as a "personification" war film rather than a documentary. Screening of "Main Street on the March," an earlier Nesbitt film, preceded the showing. Herbert Morgan, M-G-M short subjects publicity head, handled arrangements.

Para. Christmas Party

The Paramount Pep Club will hold its annual Christmas party on Friday, Dec. 24, in the home office recreation room. Lillian A. Silk is chairman of the committee in charge and Richard L. Worcester is vice-chairman.

Exchanges Step-up Fire Conservation

At the request of district sales and branch managers in New York, the local Film Board of Trade sponsored a meeting yesterday in the Universal exchange to "step up" the industry's fire conservation program and to hear reports on fire conservation measures adopted by individual exchanges in view of increased volume of handling, shipping, and storage due to the war.

From these a uniform pattern of procedure was adopted and branch managers agreed to organize a committee with a rotating membership to make weekly inspections of all exchanges. Coordination of the city's and the MPPDA's inspection services with that of the committee was worked out.

It was agreed that the improvement in conditons achieved in exchanges through intensive attention to fire conservation during the past three months should be preserved through continual reminders of the individual responsibility of all concerned with exchange practice.

20th-Fox Honors Perlberg at Party

Company executives and members of the trade press were guests of 20th Century-Fox yesterday at a reception at the St. Regis Hotel in honor of William Perlberg, producer of "Song of Bernadette."

Among those present were Felix Jenkins, Joseph Moskowitz, Joseph Pincus, A. W. Smith, Jr., W. J. Kupper, W. C. Gehring, Spyros Skouras, N. Peter Rathvon, Phil Baker, Gregory Ratoff, Charles Schlaifer, Sam Shain, Dave Bader, Red Kann, A. J. Balaban, Irving Lesser, Jack Partington, Jean Parker and Celeste Holm, Maury Silverstone, Melville Cooper, Pete Harrison and Jack Goldstein.

Detroit Tribunal Gets Clearance Complaint

A clearance complaint has been filed with the Detroit arbitration tribunal by Sol Winokur, operator of the Ritz Tower, Watervliet, Mich., against Loew's, RKO, Paramount and Warners.

Complaint alleges that seven days clearance enjoyed by the Heart at Hartford, and Loma, Koloma, both in Michigan, over the Ritz Tower, is unreasonable and should be abolished.

20th Signs $1,000,000 In Player Contracts

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 16.—New contracts and renewals aggregating more than $1,000,000 in salary commitments for the year were executed by 20th-Fox this week, according to the studio.

Contractees include Carmen Miranda, William Bendix, Carole Landis, Lloyd Nolan, Preston Foster, Dana Andrews, Linda Darnell, Roddy McDowall and 25 stock players.

Industry Earnings 60% Over Last Year

Greatest gains in earnings from 1942 through 1943 were made by film companies, the New York Stock Exchange reports in its magazine, *The Exchange*.

The industry's increase was 60.9 per cent, the report stated, with the automotive industry running second, at 24.6 percent, and railroads third, with 21.6.

Putnam Subbing for Thomas in Newsree

George Palmer Putnam, WEAI NBC newscaster, will substitute f Lowell Thomas in 20th Century-Fo Movietone newsreels for the next s weeks while Thomas is on the We Coast.

Putnam, who was voted a top new caster in MOTION PICTURE DAILY eighth annual radio poll announced la Friday, will continue his regular rad tasks while doing the newsreel chor

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Greer Garson - Walter Pidgeon
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MADAME CURIE"
Great CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Claudette COLBERT Fred MACMURRAY
"NO TIME FOR LOVE"
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
Woody HERMAN and band
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
BUY MORE AND MORE WAR BONDS

MacKinlay KANTOR'S
HAPPY LAND
Don AMECHE · Frances DEE
Harry CAREY · Ann RUTHERFORD
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW
ROXY
7th Ave. and 50th St

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—Cl 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Screen
World Premiere Showing
ANDREWS SISTERS
"SWINGTIME JOHNNY"
In Person
JAMES BARTON
AMY ARNELL
Extra!
NICK KENNY

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Korda Seeks Gov't Studio in London

(Continued from page 1)

ion plans, M-G-M has announced that the first four films to be made by him here starting early next year will be budgeted at $5,000,000 and will be made at Denham Studios. Korda will then make 12 to 16 annually at his own studios, which, it now indicated will be Amalgamated. Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon are expected here soon for one picture, while Spencer Tracy and principals in the Hardy family series, including Mickey Rooney, will come here later. Wesley Ruggles, who is now in New York awaiting transportation to London, will direct Korda's first picture here, it was stated.

England Will Release Space for U.S. Companies

Extra studio space in England will be made available for American companies sometime before next spring, in the opinion of William Sassoon, producer for Two Cities Films in England, now visiting in New York.

British producing units of several American companies have been stymied for months in England because of the non-availability of studio space, the comparatively little space left by authorities producing war films being occupied by native producers.

Sassoon took exception to the recent outburst made by Michael Balcon which appeared in the *London Evening Standard* charging that British pictures regardless of quality or production value were not getting sufficient playing time on American screens, allegedly because a small group controls American theatres.

Sassoon will leave over the weekend for three weeks in Hollywood.

'Canteen' Receipts Assist Conference

(Continued from page 1)

ing but the total of the pledges had not been computed late yesterday. The amusement division's quota is $150,000 of the $1,000,000 being sought nationally by the Conference. The work of the Conference was described by Dr. Theodore C. Speers, Father John Ford, Rabbi Israel Goldstein, Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the Conference; Major General George L. Van Deusen, commandant at Fort Monmouth, N. J., and Rubin. Will H. Hays made an eloquent plea for support of the organization's work.

On the dais at the meeting, in addition to those named, were: Barney Balaban, Jules Brulatour, David Rose, Louis Nizer, John J. O'Connor, Nate B. Spingold, Brock Pemberton, Richard Dwight, Hermann Place, William F. Rodgers, Joseph Bernhard, Walter Vincent and Basil O'Connor.

Among those present were: Louis Phillips, J. Meyer Schine, Paul Nathanson, H. M. Richey, Gordon Youngman, Samuel Machnovitch, Adolph Schimel, Sam Rinzler, Louis Frisch, Henry Randell, F. J. A. McCarthy, Arthur Israel, William Ferguson, Leon Bamberger and Bob Wile.

Small Houses Note Slump

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 16.—Neighborhood houses here report a big slump in business, apparently due to Christmas shopping. Downtown theatres have not been affected much.

U. S. and Majors Are Still Apart on the Consent Decree

(Continued from page 1)

been the most serious item of argument. It was indicated that the Government wants to class as an affiliated circuit all pooling arrangements, and all circuits in which distributors own any stock, regardless of the amount. The majors are said to have objected strenuously to this provision.

The Government's demands, it was learned, also include a provision requiring a company to secure approval of the court before acquiring new theatres.

Under Clark's regional arbitration plan, when an arbitrator's decision is to be appealed, the exhibitor and distributor involved would each pick one man and a third would be named by the arbitration appeal board, the three constituting a panel to hear the case.

Make Bid for Settlement

Distributors made their bid again for a settlement of the Decree in meetings in Washington yesterday between Tom C. Clark, Assistant U. S. Attorney General and Joseph Hazen, vice-president and general counsel of Warner Bros., who represented the five consenting companies. Clark sent Hazen back to New York with the injunction to straighten out remaining points of disagreement. Hazen is expected to return to Washington early next week with a further revision of the decree.

Points at issue were reported to have developed in a two-hour afternoon session, and a longer evening conference between Clark and Hazen.

The Government is said to be not particularly interested in selling arrangements, it was learned after the meeting. Clark was said to have taken the position that any deal satisfactory to both buyer and seller would meet the Department of Justice's approval. Nor is it interested in the price of films or the terms agreed upon by exhibitor and film salesman, it was said.

Clark Insists on Protection

Clark, however, is reported to be still insisting that there must be protection against forcing of product, either in large or small blocks. To this end it is understood that the Government and distributors have reached an understanding which would grant cancellation on an average of approximately 20 per cent. It has not been indicated, however, whether it would be applicable to all theatres equally, or scaled according to rentals, as was the case of the United Motion Picture Industry plan.

Clark indicated that there definitely was no final agreement on a new consent decree. He made it clear that Government acceptance of the distributors' document hinged directly on the "ifs" presented to Hazen Wednesday.

Hazen was expected back in New York today and it was reported that he would confer with company heads over the weekend.

Asked if negotiations were in danger of blowing up Clark replied that that was a possibility which always exists. But he indicated that although there was not a complete agreement yet there was not, on the other hand, any agreement to disagree.

Next Session Crucial

The next session with distributors, Department officials indicate, is very likely to be the turning point in decree negotiations. A deadline may be set for mid-January, unless the new conditions asked are met in the copy which Hazen brings back to Washington next week, Clark said.

Clark said exhibitor representatives may be called to Washington within ten days. He indicated that exhibitor views would be solicited on some points at issue prior to further negotiations with the companies.

Keough Talks About Amicable Settlement

"Never have relations between the Department of Justice and the industry been on a sounder basis." Thus *Motion Picture Herald* today quotes Austin Keough, vice-president and general counsel of Paramount, discussing the framing of a new consent decree.

Referring to Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark, Keough stated that, as supervisor of the motion picture anti-trust work of the Department, he "has been extremely fair and open-minded in his discussions with distributors."

Distributors are confident they can reach an amicable agreement with the Government on a revised decree, Keough said. He further stated that he foresaw no obstacle to a fair and lasting settlement of the New York anti-trust suit by a new decree.

"I would be really surprised if an impasse should develop over anything important," Keough said.

Ritchie Testimony Off

Examination of Norton V. Ritchie, foreign vice-president of Monogram Pictures, in connection with the $500,000 breach of contract suit being brought by Arthur Levey against Monogram, Pathe Pictures of England, W. Ray Johnston and William Gell has been postponed indefinitely. Ritchie, now a Lt. (s.g.) in the U. S. Navy, was scheduled to testify today.

Wabash Gutted by Fire

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—The Wabash Theatre here, a landmark since 1880, once Weber's and Columbus theatres, was gutted by fire at 2 a.m. this morning. William Aslanadis was the lessee.

Erdman Rites Held

Funeral services for Ben Erdman, 72, who died here Wednesday, were held yesterday at Riverside Chapel. Erdman was the father-in-law of Morton Spring, M-G-M foreign department executive here. He is survived by a son, Mark, and two daughters, Mrs. Ruth Weiss and Mrs. Retta Spring.

$4,400 ATP Profit

LONDON, Dec. 16.—Associated Talking Pictures today announced a year's profit of $4,400, which has been applied to reduction of the company's deficit. Associated, which was incorporated in 1929, has never paid a dividend.

'Curie' Does $14,000 In 1st Day at M.H.

Radio City Music Hall rang up an estimated $14,000 gross yesterday with the opening of M-G-M's "Madame Curie." This is a near-record first day gross for the house, according to Russell Downing, Music Hall treasurer. Downing confirmed an earlier report that the house to date has the biggest advance sale for a Christmas season show in Music Hall history.

12 to 17% Increase For W. B. Workers

(Continued from page 1)

salary rates for each classification. All increases granted must be confined within these limits. In addition, any person receiving below the minimum of a classification is to be brought up to such minimum as of Aug. 10, 1943 before receiving the increases mentioned. The RWLB also approved the petition of Warner Bros. for a substantial unnamed weekly sum to be expended by the company for merit increases.

Russell Moss, MPOE president, revealed yesterday that approximately 60 per cent of its salary minimums and maximums cited were approved as requested. Appeals will be made where the RWLB has reduced rates below MPOE requests to conform with a RWLB ruling issued on Dec. 7 covering this area.

Proposals similar to the one covering Warner home office employees are pending for Warner music publishing subsidiaries and its Ace Film Laboratory white-collarites; their approval is expected shortly. Similar plan is being prepared in connection with MPOE's negotiations covering Paramount News white-collarites.

Local 109, SOPEG, Names Young Head

Sidney Young was named president of Local 109, UOPWA, CIO, Screen Office & Professional Employees Guild at a meeting held this week. Other officers elected are Sam Shapiro, 20th-Fox, vice president; Harry Goldsmith, United Artists, secretary-treasurer; Grace Walsh, RKO, recording secretary; Tillie Stein, NSS, corresponding secretary; Rose Valenstein, United Artists, sergeant-at-arms.

Stoltz to Put Arthur Murray on Screen

Arnold Stoltz, acting independently of his post as director of exploitation for United Artists, has signed Arthur Murray, the dance-man, to do his life-story on the screen in a cavalcade of American dancers down through 30 years. There has been no decision as to who will actually produce.

Stoltz holds the 1941 *Quigley Publications'* Silver Grand Award for Showmanship.

Dance at SOPEG Canteen

A Christmas dance will be held tomorrow night at the Silver Screen Canteen Fraternal Clubhouse here. Several professionals will entertain.

Today New York Sings WARNERS' "DESERT SONG"!!!

Our Two Big Jobs in January:
Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes

STARRING

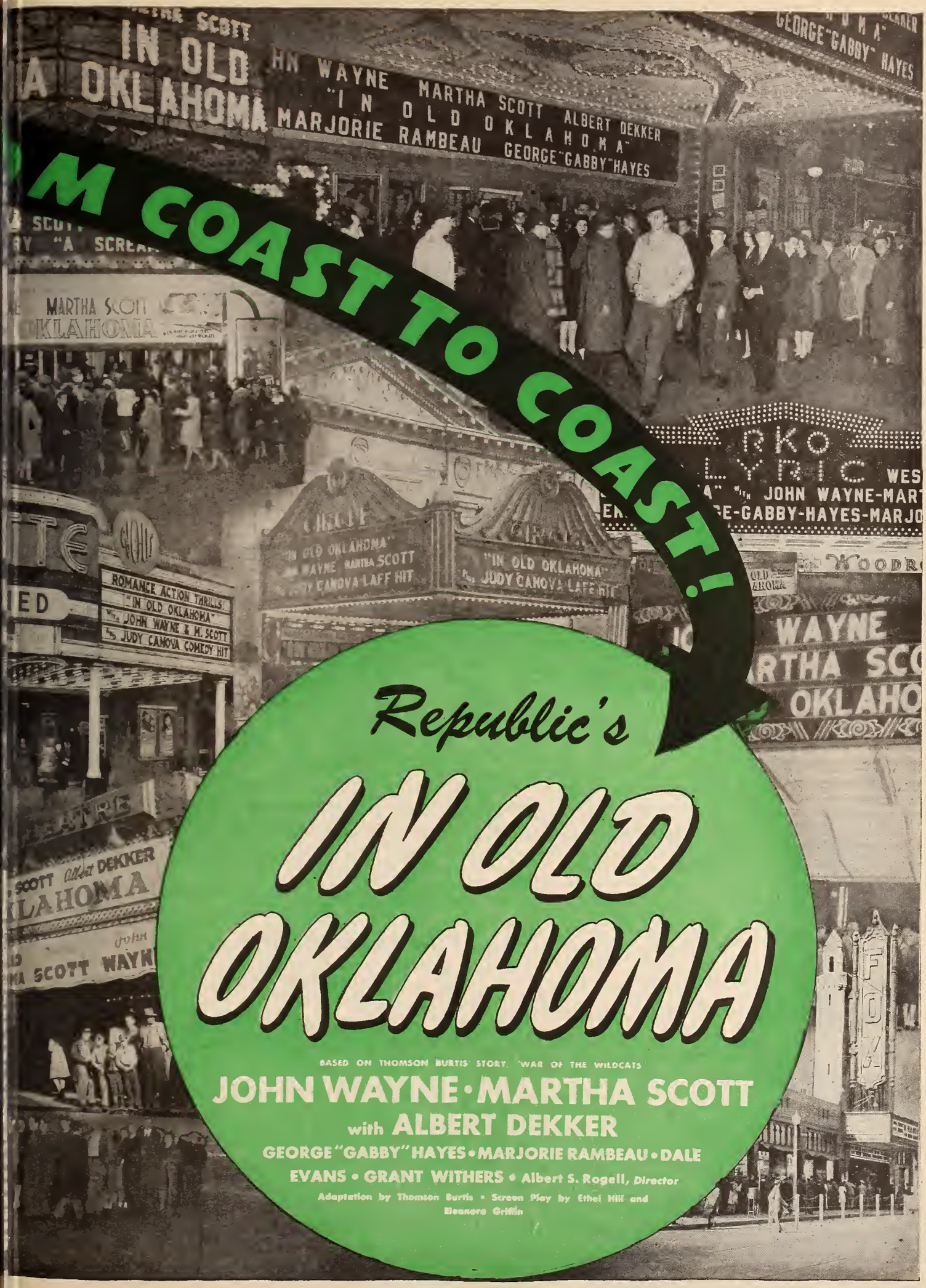
DENNIS MORGAN · IRENE MANNING

BRUCE CABOT · GENE LOCKHART · Directed by ROBERT FLOREY · Produced by ROBERT BUCKNER

Based Upon a Play by Lawrence Schwab, Otto Harbach Oscar Hammerstein 2nd, Sigmund Romberg, & Frank Mandel

BOOKED BY THESE TOP FIRST RUN THEATRES

GLOBE . . . New York, N. Y.
WOODS . . . Chicago, Ill.
FOX . . . St. Louis, Mo.
MAJESTIC . . . Dallas, Tex.
AMBASSADOR . . . Washington, D. C.
EARLE . . . Washington, D. C.
LYRIC . . . Cincinnati, Ohio
PARAMOUNT . . . Boston, Mass.
FENWAY . . . Bostan, Mass.
STANTON . . . Philadelphia, Pa.
ADAMS . . . Detroit, Mich.
CIRCLE . . . Indianapolis, Ind.
ORPHEUM . . . Des Moines, Ia.
CRITERION . . . Oklahoma City, Okla.
SAENGER . . . New Orleans, La.
PARAMOUNT . . . San Francisco, Calif.
MAYFAIR . . . Portland, Ore.
PARAMOUNT . . . Denver, Col.
ORPHEUM . . . Minneapolis, Minn.
FOX . . . Atlanta, Ga.
MALCO . . . Memphis, Tenn.
FULTON . . . Pittsburgh, Pa.
BRANDEIS . . . Omaha, Neb.
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD . . . Los Angeles, Calif.
PARAMOUNT . . . Los Angeles, Calif.
ALHAMBRA . . . Milwaukee, Wis.
PARAMOUNT . . . Seattle, Wash.
MUSIC HALL . . . Seattle Wash.
UPTOWN . . . Kansas City, Mo.
ESQUIRE . . . Kansas City, Mo.
FAIRWAY . . . Kansas City, Mo.
STATE . . . Cleveland, Ohio
MAYFAIR . . . Baltimore, Md.
UPTOWN . . . Salt Lake City, Utah
OLYMPIC . . . Utica, N. Y.
RIALTO . . . Louisville, Ky.
IMPERIAL . . . Charlotte, N. C.
PARAMOUNT . . . New Haven, Conn.
PALACE . . . Jacksonville, Fla.
LAFAYETTE . . . Buffalo, N. Y.
ORPHEUM . . . St. Paul, Minn.
RITZ . . . Tulsa, Okla.
EMPIRE . . . Birmingham, Ala.
STRAND . . . Pravidence, R. I.
NORVA . . . Norfalk, Va.
RIALTO . . . Champaign, Ill.
STATE . . . Rockford, Ill.
CAPITOL . . . Lawrence, Mass.
WAYNE . . . Ft. Wayne, Ind.
ORPHEUM . . . Ogden, Utah
RIALTO . . . Boise, Idaho
RIALTO . . . Tacoma, Wash.
ORPHEUM . . . Spokane, Wash.
WELLER . . . Zanesville, Ohio
EMBASSY . . . Easton, Pa.
COLONEL . . . Allentown, Pa.
MARYLAND . . . Hagerstown, Md.
NORVA . . . Norfolk, Va.
GRAND . . . Terre Haute, Ind.
HOLLYWOOD . . . Atlantic City, N. J.
ASTOR . . . Atlantic City, N. J.
CINEMA . . . Atlantic City, N. J.
ASTOR . . . Reading, Pa.
CHIEF . . . Puebla, Colo.
EMPIRE . . . New Bedford, Mass.
CAPITOL . . . Montpelier, Vt.
GRAND . . . Evansville, Ind.
ORPHEUM . . . Quincy, Ill.
BEN ALI . . . Lexington, Ky.
RIALTO . . . Amsterdam, N. Y.
STRAND . . . Amsterdam, N. Y.
GLOVE . . . Gloversville, N. Y.
STRAND . . . Portland, Me.
STRAND . . . Quincy, Mass.
QUINCY . . . Quincy, Mass.
WARWICK . . . Newport News, Va.
YALE . . . Sapulpa, Okla.
JAYHAWK . . . Topeka, Kan.
WATSON . . . Salina, Kan.
DODGE . . . Dodge City, Kan.
RITZ . . . Toccoa, Ga.
CAMBRIA . . . Johnstown, Pa.
PALACE . . . Stamford, Conn.
REGENT . . . Elmira, N. Y.
PALACE . . . Jamestown, N. Y.
ALBANY . . . Albany, N. Y.
ROXY . . . Savannah, Ga.
INDIANA . . . Marion, Ind.
RIVOLI . . . Muncie, Ind.
CAPITOL . . . Charleston, W. Va.
FOX . . . Joplin, Mo.
FOX . . . Sedalia, Mo.
FOX . . . Billings, Montana
AMERICAN . . . Butte, Montana
LIBERTY . . . Great Falls, Montana
MARLOW . . . Helena, Montana
JUDITH . . . Lewiston, Idaho
MAJESTIC . . . Nampa, Idaho
ORPHEUM . . . Pocatello, Idaho
LOGAN . . . Logansport, Ind.
CAPITOL . . . Altoona, Pa.
COLONIAL . . . Erie, Pa.
MAJESTIC . . . Bridgeport, Conn.
AMERICAN . . . Roanoke, Va.
RIVOLI . . . Pendleton, Ore.
IOWA . . . Cedar Rapids, Ia.
RIALTO . . . Glen Falls, N. Y.
FOX . . . Laramie, Wyo.
WYO . . . Sheridan, Wyo.
RIALTO . . . Rock Springs, Wyo.
RIALTO . . . Alliance, Neb.
PARAMOUNT . . . North Platte, Neb.
FOX . . . Las Vegas, New Mexico
ELECTRIC . . . Konsas City, Kan.
FOX . . . Hutchinsan, Kan.
PARAMOUNT . . . Taleda, Ohio


M COAST TO COAST!
IN OLD OKLAHOMA
JOHN WAYNE MARTHA SCOTT ALBERT DEKKER
"IN OLD OKLAHOMA"
MARJORIE RAMBEAU GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES
GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES
ROMANCE ACTION THRILLS!
"IN OLD OKLAHOMA"
JOHN WAYNE & M. SCOTT
JUDY CANOVA COMEDY HIT
"IN OLD OKLAHOMA"
JUDY CANOVA LAFF HIT
RKO
LYRIC
JOHN WAYNE-MART
E-GABBY-HAYES-MARJO
WAYNE
RTHA SCO
OKLAHO
Republic's
IN OLD OKLAHOMA
BASED ON THOMSON BURTIS' STORY, 'WAR OF THE WILDCATS'
JOHN WAYNE • MARTHA SCOTT
with ALBERT DEKKER
GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES • MARJORIE RAMBEAU • DALE
EVANS • GRANT WITHERS • Albert S. Rogell, Director
Adaptation by Thomson Burtis • Screen Play by Ethel Hill and
Eleanore Griffin

Summations Start In Extort Case

(Continued from page 1)

summing up to the jury, was that premeditated bribery—not extortion as charged by the Government—caused Hollywood producers to hand millions to Browne and Bioff.

Browne and Bioff, convicted of conspiring to extort more than $1,000,000 from film producers, are serving eight and 10-year prison terms, respectively.

Murray assailed Boris Kostelanetz, special Federal prosecutor, for injecting into the case the names of Al Capone, Louis (Lepke) Buchalter, Charles (Lucky) Luciano, and Abe Zwillman, all notorious in underworld circles, asserting that Capone had no connection with the defendants. The dragging in of the names of Capone and the others just proves that the prosecution was attempting to convict these defendants on newspaper reputations, he stated.

Seeks Gov't Explanation

Murray demanded to know why the Government failed to call numerous witnesses it had scheduled, including Barney Balaban, head of Paramount Pictures; his brother, John, head of Balaban and Katz Theatres in Chicago, and Charles Moskowitz, theatres head for Loew's.

Murray was the first of the defense attorneys to sum up after the completion of testimony in the 10 weeks' old case. Defense and Government summations are expected to take the case through today and part of Monday, with the possibility that the jury won't begin deliberating until Tuesday.

Doyle to Warners

CLEVELAND, Dec. 16.— Richard Doyle, former Universal booker, has been named Warner salesman in this territory, Joe Kaliski, branch manager, reports. Mrs. Betty Bluffstone, from Richmond, Va., will succeed Doyle at Universal.

20th CENTURY-FOX
TRADE SHOWING
of
The LODGER
on
Sat., Dec. 18, 2:30 P.M.
20th Century-Fox Exchange
932 NEW JERSEY AVE., N. W.
★★★★★
WASH., D.C.

Trade Press Aid Cited As Essential to Drive

(Continued from page 1)

field." He disclosed that a $5,500,000,000 bond sale to small-bond buyers had been placed "right in the film industry's lap" by the Treasury, out of a total of $14,000,000,000 for the entire drive.

Skouras also introduced "Rick" Ricketson, drive vice-chairman, and publicity director Seymour Peiser. S. H. Fabian, chairman of the theatres division of the War Activities Committee was toastmaster. Ricketson also stressed the importance of the cooperation of the trade press to the industry's bond effort and added that in contacts with exhibitors and distributors in the field, the press was mentioned as the No. 1 aid to their efforts in promoting industry activity for bond sales.

Trade Press Present

Among those also present were: Red Kann, Quigley Publications; Chick Lewis, *Showmen's Trade Review;* William Formby, *Boxoffice;* James Cunningham, MOTION PICTURE DAILY; Chester Bahn, *Film Daily;* Herman Schleier, *The Independent;* Jack Harrison, *Hollywood Reporter;* Paul Greenhalgh, *The Exhibitor;* Terry Ramsaye, *Motion Picture Herald;* Pete Harrison, *Harrison's Report;* Bob Francis, *Billboard;* David Lipton; Arthur Mayer, treasurer of WAC; Herman Gluckman, vice-chairman of the WAC distributors' division; Oscar Doob and Dan Michalove, Metropolitan area chairman for bond sales by the industry.

Five Stars in 4th Loan Bulletin and Trailers

James Cagney and Edward Arnold will appear in a bulletin to be issued by the War Activities Committee for the industry's Fourth Loan drive, it was announced yesterday. Ginger Rogers, Ann Sothern and Bob Hope will be featured in trailers which will be shown in the nation's 16,000 houses during the campaign.

The Treasury Department will send 12,000 positive prints of each trailer to individual theatres through National Screen Service.

Skouras and 4th Loan Staff Attend Eastern Service Meet

Charles P. Skouras, "Rick" Ricketson, B. V. Sturdivant, Si Fabian, Seymour Peiser, Arthur Mayer and Oscar Doob were present at the weekly meeting of the industry's Eastern Service Bureau held yesterday, and, with film company advertising and publicity heads discussed plans for the Fourth War Loan.

Alperson, Mochrie, Bamberger To Washington on 4th Loan

Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO Radio and chairman of the distributor unit for the Fourth War Loan, who is ill with a cold, will be represented at the Eastern regional meeting of loan drive officials in Washington today by Robert Mochrie, general sales manager of RKO.

Mochrie left for the Capitol last night, accompanied by Edward L. Alperson, head of RKO Theatres, and Leon J. Bamberger.

Leonard Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, and Claude Lee, director of public relations, will also attend the meeting of state chairmen of the industry's Fourth War Loan Drive, with Charles P. Skouras, national chairman, to be held at the Hotel Statler in Washington today. Goldenson arrived in Washington yesterday.

Studio Unions Seek Aid to Ride-Sharing

(Continued from page 1)

morrow with Carothers to work out a detailed proposal for submission to producer representatives Monday. Y. Frank Freeman, Association of M. P. Producers president, has indicated a readiness to act favorably on any practical suggestion for economizing gas consumption.

'Tokyo' Premiere Dec. 22

"Destination Tokyo," Warner picture of submarine operations in the Pacific, will be previewed at the New London (Conn.) submarine base on Dec. 22 for 900 persons, including newspapermen, submarine trainees, returned heroes and other invited guests.

'Ravaged Earth' to Open

"Ravaged Earth," depicting the Jap invasion of China will open at the Stanley Theatre Christmas Day. The film was made by Mark L. Moody, American business man and amateur photographer. A preview showing will be held at Carnegie Hall Monday night, Dec. 20, at 8:30.

Republic Promotion Budget Is $2,000,000

(Continued from page 1)

It was said that the company is leaning towards musicals and drama. Two of its big budget productions will probably be filmed in color.

Skouras Books Monogram

The Skouras Circuit of 57 theatres in New York has booked the Monogram program for 1943-1944, according to an announcement by Steve Broidy, vice-president and general sales manager. Other recent signers include Indiana-Illinois Theatres with 29 houses in those two states.

Bowman to War Theatre

Lee Bowman, film star, has volunteered to the Hollywood Victory Committee and will organize an entertainment unit and go into the European theatre of war, following completion of Edward Small's picture, "Up in Mabel's Room."

Flynn to Cincinnati

CLEVELAND, Dec. 16. — Vincent Flynn, local M-G-M salesman, has been transferred to Cincinnati.

OCR Asks Theatre For Defense Area

(Continued from page 1)

tional facilities are urgently needed for war workers.

It was also disclosed that furth surveys are being made by the agen to locate situations where addition theatre facilities are required, e pecially in spots where the lack adequate recreational activities c tributes to excessive labor turnover war plants.

Because, under present wartir regulations, the builder of a new th atre must have seats and booth equi ment available before he can obta authority to construct, the OC recreation division plans to ask t War Production Board to relax orders to permit limited resumption seat and equipment manufacture.

Requirements Being Developed

In the meantime, it was said, bas requirements to be met by applican are being developed with a view their use by both the OCR divisi and the facilities division of the WP

The first requirement will be a der onstration that the population of t area in which the theatre is project has increased beyond the ability existing theatres to take care of it, increase anywhere up to 25 per ce or more.

Other OCR requirements are abili to show that the land has been a quired or available; that plans ha been or will be drawn promptly; th local construction permits have be or can be obtained without delay; contractor and labor and equipme have been lined up; power, water a sewer connections are available, a that local war industry and WMC of cials determine that the theatre needed.

Archibald Returns To London in Ja

(Continued from page 1)

director for United Artists in Brita has occupied the MIO post here f the past year. His future assignme has not been made known but it understood that it will not be in th country.

Simons with M-G-M

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—Harry Simor formerly of Paramount and RKO h succeeded Joe Markowitz as loc M-G-M office manager. Markowi who reported for induction at F Sheridan, Ill., had been with the con pany for 14 years in Atlanta, Okl homa City, Kansas City and Chicag Simons was honorably discharged r cently from the Army.

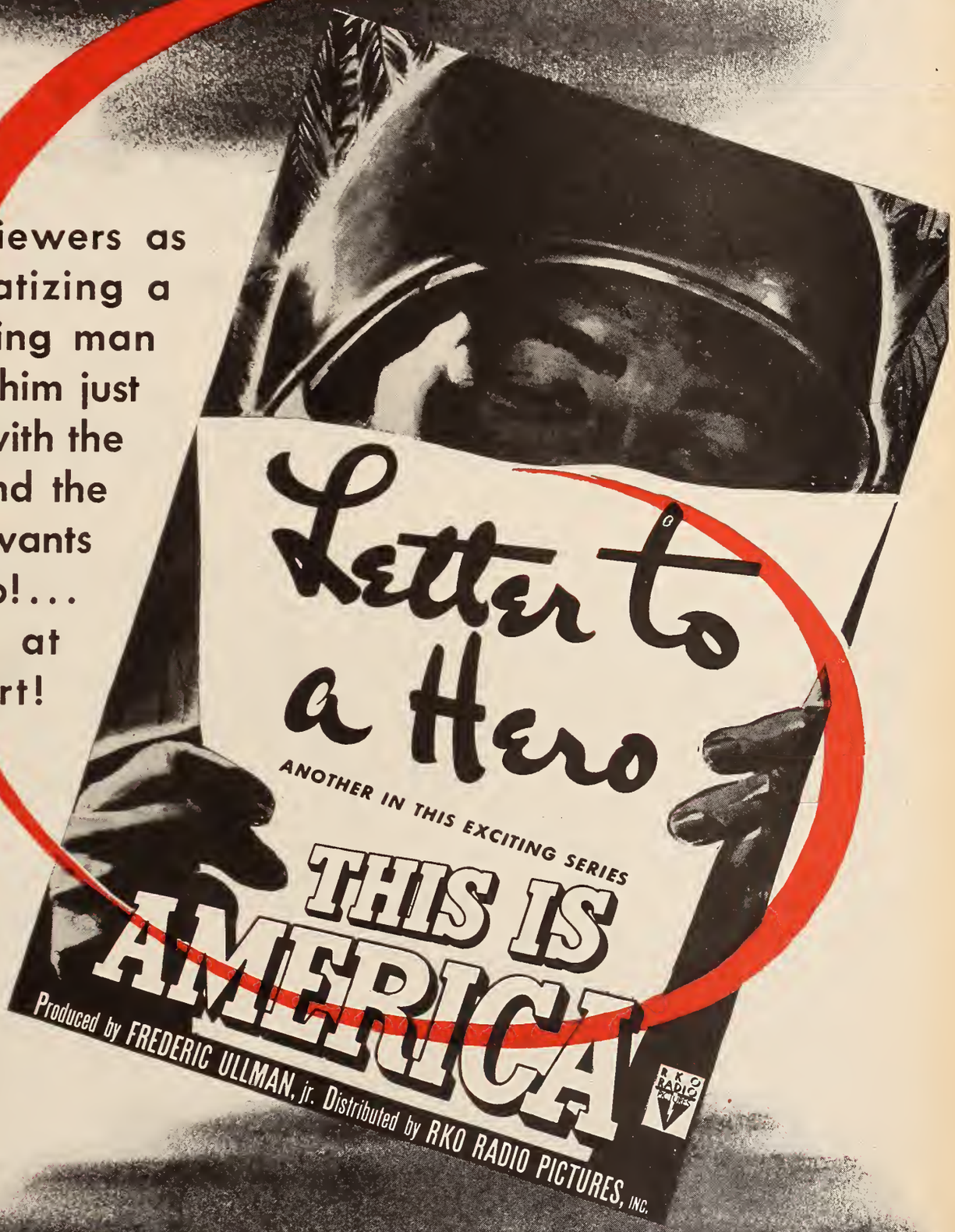
Majors Already Have 88 in Top Brackets

Analysis of major company release schedules show that a total of 10 specials and 78 additional high-bracket-sales films have already been released or are scheduled for the first half of the 1943-44 season, *Motion Picture Herald* will say today.

Last year there were only 23 in the top bracket group, it was said.

worthy of co-billing with any feature!

ailed by previewers as
OPS! . . . Dramatizing a
tter to a fighting man
verseas, telling him just
ow things are with the
lks he loves and the
ome places he wants
come back to! . . .
med straight at
merica's heart!



A New Two-Reel Release Every Four Weeks

Thank you!

EARL HUDSON

General Manager of the United Detroit Theatres Corporation and your great organization for your brilliant showmanship in the all-out campaign that *brought out* the crowds to the

WORLD PREMIERE OF MONOGRAM'S

Where Are Your Children?

BROADWAY CAPITOL, DETROIT

* AND HEAR

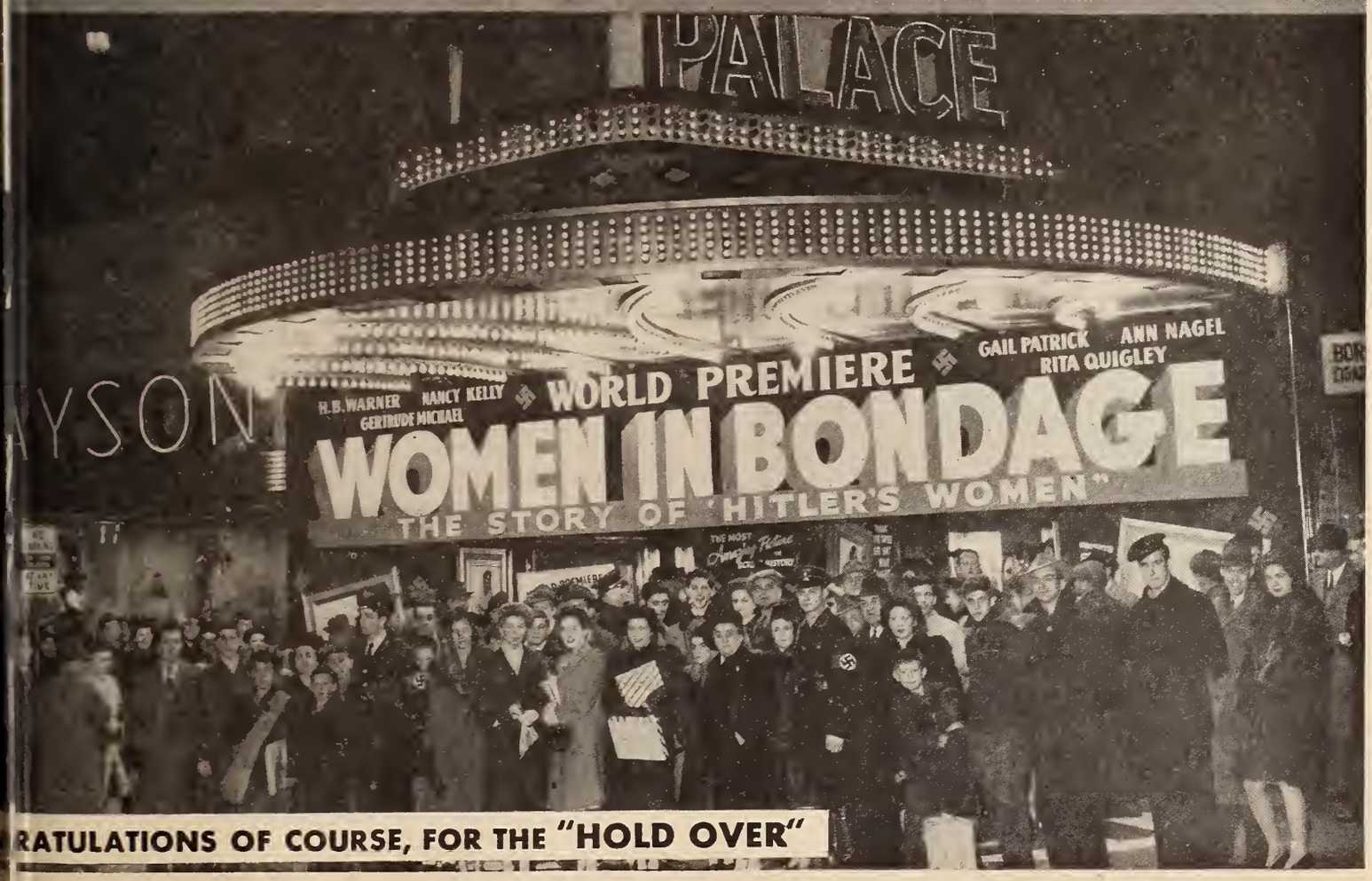
THANK YOU!

HAROLD S. FITZGERALD
General Manager of Wisconsin Amusement Enterprises and your splendid organization for the smashing exploitation that built up record box office business.*

WORLD PREMIERE OF MONOGRAM'S

WOMEN IN BONDAGE

AT THE PALACE THEATRE, MILWAUKEE



RATULATIONS OF COURSE, FOR THE "HOLD OVER"

Official Photographs, U. S. Army Air Forces

ON TARGET

Kodak optical systems for fire control destroy the legend of "German supremacy" in lens making

For America's bombsights—which have shown our enemies the bitter meaning of "high-altitude precision bombing"—most of "the optics" are made by Kodak.

For our Army and Navy, Kodak also makes 29 of the most complex types of optical systems for fire control—the sighting of guns—including the famous height finder for anti-aircraft.

GERMANY has enjoyed a reputation for world leadership in lens making. But—as so often happens—reputation outlived performance.

Well before Pearl Harbor, Kodak optical research was developing lenses superior to any ever made by anybody, anywhere. A major advance has been the perfecting for new, finer cameras of a revolutionary new optical glass which gave lenses greater speed—definition . . . or could more than double the "field of view" of a fire control periscope.

This glass was immediately incorporated in instruments for fire control . . .

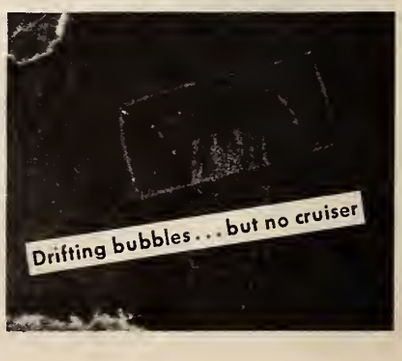
Effective fire power—hits, not "tries"—is the result of sighting through a series of lenses . . . an optical system . . . which locates, magnifies, and "ranges on" the target.

Army Ordnance experts now report: "We have examined captured German sights and periscopes and, element for element, we are turning out better material."

The effectiveness of American fire power is making history . . . Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

REMEMBER CORREGIDOR?**. . . and the last words over their radio —"Just made broadcast to arrange for surrender . . . everyone is bawling like a baby . . . I know how a mouse feels. Caught in a trap waiting for guys to come along to finish it up." Corregidor is a stern example to us at home.* ***BUY MORE WAR BONDS.

Serving human progress through photography



DO NOT REMOVE

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 117 | NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1943 | TEN CENTS

No Objection By House Seen To 1-on-5 Tax

Final Word Not Expected Until After Holidays

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19. — No serious objection is expected to be raised by House conferees to the modified tax of one cent on each five cents paid for admissions, adopted by the Senate Finance Committee, but a final decision is not anticipated before the turn of the year in view of the holiday recess of Congress.

The committee earlier last week had rejected the one-cent-for-five proposal by a vote of 9 to 8, but finally approved it near the weekend as it completed its consideration of the new tax bill and turned it over to the drafting clerks for final writing, preparatory to reporting it to the Senate.

The putting of the tax on a nickel instead of a dime basis is estimated by the Capital to reduce the take from the new levy by $30,000,000, but the Treasury will get an additional revenue of $133,000,000 anyway from the

(Continued on page 8)

Decree Drafting to Be Continued Today

Counsel for decree companies will reconvene today in a continuing effort to shape proposals for changes in the consent decree into a pattern acceptable to the Department of Justice.

A half-day conference of company counsel on Friday initiated work on what is regarded as the final stages of the attempt of consenting companies to reconcile their decree proposals with the suggestions of Assistant U.S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark. The Friday meeting was given a report on Clark's reactions to the companies'

(Continued on page 8)

Baird Will Succeed Archibald Here

Thomas C. Baird will succeed George Archibald as motion picture representative of the British Ministry of Information in the United States when the latter returns to Great Britain for a new assignment in the near future, it was learned at the weekend. Baird, at present, is assistant to Archibald.

Archibald, former joint managing

(Continued on page 8)

Ontario Suspends W. B., Columbia Exchange Licenses

By WILLIAM GLADISH

TORONTO, Dec. 19.—Chairman O. J. Silverthorne of the Ontario Government motion picture inspection department has notified Warners, Vitagraph, Ltd., and Columbia Pictures of Canada, Ltd., of the suspension of their provincial film exchange licenses pending removal of film vaults and stored films from offices in the Hermant Building, Dundas Square, Toronto, presumably because of an alleged fire risk to many other businesses tenants in the 14-story building. Vitagraph has its Canadian head office and Toronto branch offices on the third floor of the building, while Columbia occupies the fourth floor for both head office and Toronto branch offices.

There were no signs of discontinuance of business operations at the two

(Continued on page 8)

L. W. Conrow, 44, Dies Suddenly

Leon Whitney Conrow, 44, died Saturday morning at his home at Fairhaven, N. J., after a short illness. He was president of Altec Service Corp. and chairman of the board of Altec-Lansing Corp. of Hollywood.

Conrow was on the staff of Bell Telephone Laboratories for many years and joined Vitaphone Corp. when the telephone company entered the motion picture business with

(Continued on page 8)

Hope, Crosby, M.P. Daily Radio Poll Winners, Win More

Bob Hope, winner for the third consecutive year of the "Champion of Champions" award in *Motion Picture Daily's* annual Radio Poll on behalf of Fame, recently completed, placed first in the Hooper Survey announced at the weekend. Bing Crosby, winner of the Best Popular Male Vocalist and Best Master of Ceremonies awards in the *Motion Picture Daily* Radio Poll, also was among the top ranking radio artists in the latest Hooper national survey.

15-20 Millions Gave 'Dimes' in Theatres

Between 15 and 20 million theatregoers contributed to the industry's 1943 "March of Dimes" drive, it was disclosed over the weekend by Ernest Emerling, publicity director for the 1944 "Dimes" drive, Jan. 24-31, in releasing for trade press inspection copies of two special drive pressbooks which will be sent to exhibitors.

Industry collections, said Emerling, have grown from $435,000 in 1941 to $1,338,960 in 1942 and to $2,116,539 this year, with 11,000 theatres participating.

Canadian Owners Get Some Relief from Paper Cut

TORONTO, Dec. 19.—Exhibitors of Ontario, through the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario have reached an understanding with John Atkins, administrator of printing in the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, on the scope of giving them partial relief from the Government order restricting the use and production of printed material for theatre advertising purposes.

Theatres now are permitted to mail program schedules or timetables to lists of patrons to the extent of 25 lbs. of printed matter per month, providing there is nothing but the theatre's own copy on the circulars or folders. This prevents any tie-up with local

(Continued on page 8)

'U's' Shorts Sales Reach $3,400,000

Universal Pictures will end the year with an unprecedented short subject and newsreel sales gross of $3,400,000, more than $400,000 over last year, it was learned here yesterday.

Actual increase is considerably higher in view of the numerical curtailment of subjects to sell, reduced from four serials of 15 episodes each last year to three 13-episode serials this year and from four short subject series of 15 subjects each last year to four 13-subject series this year.

Industry To Honor Biggest Bond Sellers

100 Theatre Managers to Be Awarded Prizes

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Keynoting the first of a series of three important exhibitor meetings in the first leg of a swing around the nation, Charles P. Skouras, the industry's Fourth War Bond national chairman, announced here at the weekend a nationwide industry contest for the sale of bonds through the country's film theatres during the forthcoming Fourth War Loan, Jan. 18 through Feb. 15. Seventy-five industry representatives and leaders attended the meeting.

Organization plans for the competition, which will be known as "the honored 100," were outlined at the session, held at the Statler Hotel, by B. V. Sturdivant, campaign director.

The contest is open to every thea-

(Continued on page 3)

Flexible Budgets For All PRC Films

A flexibility wherein budgets for all Producers Releasing Corp. pictures may be increased while the film is in production, if they warrant it, was disclosed by Leo J. McCarthy, recently appointed sales manager of the company, on Friday.

McCarthy also revealed that the sales staff had been increased 50 per cent in the past six months, and added that a realignment of the entire sales personnel is now in the making

(Continued on page 8)

More Circuit Deals, Grainger Reports

J. R. Grainger, president of Republic Pictures, reported Friday at the closing session of the company's two-day sales conference at the New York Athletic Club, that the companys' product is showing a marked increase in playing time on all key circuits in the Eastern and Central districts.

Men from these two divisions at-

(Continued on page 8)

Personal Mention

ADOLPH ZUKOR, Paramount board chairman, and MRS. ZUKOR returned from Chicago at the weekend after attending a golden wedding anniversary observance there for MRS. ZUKOR's sister.

•

LOU GUIMOND, Eastern director of theatres for American Red Cross camp hospitals and well known in film advertising-publicity quarters, is in New York with MRS. GUIMOND on vacation from Washington headquarters.

•

LT. SOLOMON S. STRAUSBURG, vice-president of the Interboro circuit, on leave and serving in the Navy, and MRS. STRAUSBURG are the parents of a baby girl, born at Doctor's Hospital.

•

PFC. HARRY WHEELER, formerly a salesman in Paramount's Kansas City exchange, is now stationed with the Office of Dependency Benefits in Newark, N. J.

•

TED LLOYD, head of the radio department at 20th Century-Fox, and MRS. LLOYD, the former ESTHER RALSTON, are parents of a son born Friday. They have two girls.

•

A. A. SCHUBART, RKO manager of exchange operations, returned to the home office Friday from a two-month tour of exchanges.

•

TRACY BARHAM, head of Intermountain Theatres, Salt Lake City, returned to that city at the weekend from a New York visit.

•

LEONARD WEISBERG, former assistant manager of Warners' Hippodrome, Cleveland, is now a captain in the Army at Birmingham, Ala.

•

JAMES MCCARTHY, manager of the Strand, Hartford, will arrive in New York tomorrow for a vacation visit.

•

LOU BROWN, Loew Theatres publicity chief in New England, visited Hartford late last week.

•

PAT HALLORAN, Universal salesman in Minneapolis, has been inducted into the Army.

•

JAY EISENBERG, of Loew's legal staff, left over the weekend for Buffalo.

•

ROY O. WILSON, manager of Universal's Portland, Ore., office, has recently become a grandfather.

•

H. F. ANDERSON, Universal Portland, Ore., booker, has joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE and EDWARD L. ALPERSON will be in Chicago today.

•

JOE JACOBS, Columbia branch manager in Omaha, is in Los Angeles for the holidays.

(*Other Personals on page* 11)

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

RECENT cable to MOTION PICTURE DAILY from Quigley Publications' London Bureau reported on a proposal which Morris Ernst, New York lawyer, dropped onto the note pads of reporters at a press interview there attended by J. Arthur Rank. The proposal was that the American film industry recognize Britain's dearth of foreign exchange and adopt a barter basis in its future business relations with Britain, under which films, books, ideas, etc., would be swapped.

Ernst is legal representative here for Rank's Two Cities Films. He is counsel for a number of playwrights, scenarists, actors, producers and directors, among others, and, of course, is well known in liberal intellectual circles here. Insofar as we have been able to learn, however, Ernst is not and never has been identified with any operational phase of the industry. His proposal in London, for some obscure reason, recalled an incident in the reorganization of Paramount in which he figured in 1934 and which, to our best recollection, constituted Ernst's last previous identification with an operational phase of the American industry.

• •

Some of Ernst's 1934 clients were producers, directors, artists and writers. As the reorganization of Paramount neared its close and jockeying of various creditor groups for representation on the reorganized company's new board of directors was at its height, Ernst came through with a proposal which spread so much genuine amusement among the serious-minded financial groups identified with the reorganization that the tension of the period was eased for weeks afterward. In recalling it now we do not mean to ridicule Ernst's idea which, for all we know, might have been a sound one. His proposal was that inasmuch as this is a creative business, the creative element should administrate or at least have a voice in the guidance of corporate affairs, and, therefore, his artist-clients should be named to the new Paramount board of directors.

The proposal never got very far, but certainly it would have been an interesting experiment, to say the least.

• •

Now as to Ernst's barter idea as a method for business relationships between the American and British industries, we do not feel qualified to say whether it is practicable or ridiculous. But several thoughts occur to us on the subject and we wonder if they have ever occurred to Ernst. The most obvious is that American films provide approximately 85 per cent of the film fare of Great Britain's theatres. Does Ernst propose a swap of Britain's 15 per cent for Hollywood's 85 per cent? Probably not. Probably the difference would be balanced by some "books and ideas" of Britain's. So then 15 per cent of Hollywood's product is swapped for all of Britain's. But would even that be equitable? Hollywood negative costs average five to 10 times the negative cost of a British picture, and on that basis Britain wouldn't get in exchange for its entire output enough Hollywood product to make the arrangement worth the trouble.

• •

As for the financial aspect of British-American film relations, Ernst may or may not be aware that the annual amusement tax collection from British theatres is approximately 80,000,000 pounds, of which 85 per cent is attracted for the British government by American films, and remains in England. It may be said in all truthfulness that American films built the British theatre industry and maintains it, for British product never could have spawned and nurtured the British cinemas in years past and if it ever is to do it, it will be with the assistance which may eventually be given the British production industry by the American industry, and with the American dollars which British product then will merit and earn in this market.

• •

Jim Mason, Cherry Valley, O., author and exhibitor, joins with Tradewise in wishing all of our readers a very Merry Christmas.

Specific Run, Clearance Award

A specific run and a clearar award were reported at the weeke by the American Arbitration Assoc tion. The specific run award w handed down in favor of Mystic Th tre Inc., operating the Mystic, Pich Okla., at the Oklahoma City tribun by Carl Dalbey, arbitrator. T clearance decision was entered at D troit in favor of Clawson Amu ment Co., operating the Claws Clawson, Mich., in a complaint agai the five consenting companies.

The award favoring the Mys stipulated that RKO be prohibi hereafter from licensing its product Griffith circuit theatres in Picher first run by separate contracts agreements, which shall not be a p of any contract or agreement for t licensing of product in any other th tres owned and operated by Griffi Costs were assessed against RKO.

The consent award to Clawson duced the present 14-day clearance the Royal Oak and Washingt Royal, Mich., over the Clawson, to days. Clawson agreed to change present two 10 cents-plus-tax nigl to 15 cents with tax added and ma tain the regular 27 cents-plus-tax p icy on the other five days. Washin ton and Royal Oak pledged no b gain nights or give-aways policy.

McDonnell, 47, Dies Suddenly on Coa

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 19.—William M Donnell, of Watterson Rothacke staff at the Office of War Censorsh died here suddenly on Friday follo ing a heart attack. He was 47 ye old and was born at Dubuque, Ia.

McDonnell previously was an e ecutive in trade publication circu tion. He was with McGraw-Hill f seven years prior to becoming sa promotion manager of *Quigley Pu lications* in New York, from whi post he resigned in February, 1942, move his family to California to close to his daughter, Grace, who a dancer in films under the scre name of Grace McDonald.

Other survivors are McDonnel widow, a son, Ray, also a dancer, a two brothers, Harold, of Morristow N. J., and Joseph, of New Yo Burial will be at Calvary, New Yo

Kalmenson Launche 1944 WB Sales Driv

Warners' "1944 Round-Up," t season's designation for the annu Warner Bros.' sales drive, w launched yesterday by Ben Kalme son, general sales manager. The ca paign will run for 21 weeks, with $3 500 in War Bonds to be distribut as prizes to winning district a branch managers, salesmen, booke and ad salesmen.

A special drive in the Canadian te ritory will run coincidently with t U. S. drive.

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Loew Bond Sales Total $30,430,045

Loew Theatres' 1943 war effort includes war bond sales of $30,430,045 between Jan. 1 and Nov. 1; Red Cross drive collections of $195,369; United Nations collections of $144,980; March of Dimes, $219,725; United War Fund, $85,000.

The theatres also participated in recruiting drives for the WAC, SPARS, WAVES, Aviation Cadets, Marines, Nurses' Aides, Red Cross Blood Bank, Salvage Campaign, OPA cooking schools and OCD drives. As of Sept. 1, Loew's had 8,987,232 military admissions in its theatres at reduced prices.

Racket Case May Go To Jury Tomorrow

Summations in the 11-weeks-old trial of Chicago gangsters accused of extorting more than $1,000,000 from the industry under threats of labor strikes are expected to be completed in Federal District Court here today, with indications that the case will be in the hands of the jury tomorrow. Defense summations continued throughout Friday and summation for the Government by Assistant U. S. Attorney General Boris Kostelanetz may be begun today.

Otto Christiansen, counsel for John Rosselli, one of the defendants, charged in his summation on Friday that William Bioff, chief Government witness, is "an habitual liar" who might have cached a large part of the money he obtained from the industry. Christiansen followed closely the defense pattern that the money given Bioff represented bribes and not extortion, as the Government claims.

Local 244 Reelects Kaufman Business Agent

Louis Kaufman, of Newark, N. J., defendant in the $1,000,000 film extort trial, has been reelected business agent of Local 244 of motion picture projectionists union, for his fifth five-year term.

4,000 Extended Runs To Date for 'Army'

Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army" has had 4,000 extended run engagements to date and has averaged 30 per cent more playing time than previous Warner record-holders, "Casablanca" and "Yankee Doodle Dandy," the company reports. Compared with average playing time for first-run bookings, "Army" has registered from 150 to 230 per cent, it was said.

"This Is the Army" will get its Latin American premiere at Panama City on Jan. 14 at the recently completed Presidente Theatre.

Garfield Joins Warners

Sid Garfield, formerly with Paramount and Columbia, has joined Mort Blumenstock's publicity department at Warner Bros.' home office.

In addition to his associations with film companies Garfield also was formerly an independent publicist in the amusement field.

Industry to Honor Biggest Fourth Loan Bond Sellers

(*Continued from page 1*)

tre manager in the United States, Alaska and Hawaii, as the spearhead of an all out bond attack that is hoped will result in a tremendous record sale of "E" bonds to realize the fullest result of the industry's campaign slogan, "a bond for every seat." The honored hundred will be the men who sell the most "E" bonds in ratio to the number of seats in their theatres.

To illustrate: If a theatre has 500 seats and sells 500 "E" bonds, the showman has a percentage of 110, and so on up the percentage scale as a batters average. The only basis for winning is by selling the greatest number of "E" bonds in relation to the number of theatre seats. No man can win two awards.

Awards Classification

Classifications of awards are: 10 champions from cities under 5,000 population; 10 champions from cities between five and 10,000 population; 10 champions from cities between 10 and 25,000; ten champions from cities between 25 and 100,000 population, and 10 winners from cities with populations over the 100,000 mark. In addition, one champion will be selected from each state, Alaska and Hawaii.

Bond sales qualifying theatre managers range in value from $25 to $5,000. Awards for "the honored 100" will be all expense trips from their homes to Washington. In addition to the Washington trip, the honored 100 will be presented a special medallion with the winner's name engraved on it, a tribute scroll on illuminated parchment signed by the chairman of the drive, the head of the War Activities Committee theatres division and leaders in production and distribution field.

Ricketson Sounds Keynote

The motivating spirit behind the industry's efforts in the forthcoming drive was sounded in an address by Rick Ricketson, national vice-chairman, who urged a policy of a united push and attack in a concentrated campaign to strike hard at the objective from every conceivable side. Ricketson acclaimed Skouras for his leadership, character and ability and complimented the industry for having chosen a man of his character.

Following the morning session, which was brought to a close by an address by Theodore Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department and assistant to Secretary Morgenthau, the exhibitor meeting adjourned for lunch as guests of the Treasury Department, arranged by Claude Lee, Washington liaison.

The afternoon session was highlighted by addresses by Robert Mochrie, who represented Ned E. Depinet, distribution chairman; George J. Schaefer, field manager; Harry Brandt and others.

Those attending included the industry's national campaign staff as follows: Charles P. Skouras, F. H. Ricketson, B. V. Sturdivant, A. J. Krappman, Fred Stein, Seymour Peiser, Sam Shain, Si Fabian, Francis Harmon, George Schaefer. State chairmen: J. L. Cartwright, Florida; W. K. Jenkins, Georgia; Frank A. Hornig, Maryland; Harry Browning, representing Sam Pinanski, Massachusetts; Ben Amsterdam, New Jersey; Edward Alperson, New York; Myer Schine, New York; H. F. Kinsey, North Carolina; C. B. Akers, Oklahoma; David Barrist, Pennsylvania; M. A. Silver, Pennsylvania; Ray Beall, representing R. J. O'Donnell, Texas; William Crockett, Virginia; Louis Black, Delaware; Carter Barron, Washington, D. C.

Advisory Committee

Advisory committee: Harry Katz, Leonard Goldenson, John Harris, represented by Sen. Frank J. Harris; Harry Brandt, Sidney B. Lust, John J. Payette. Also, Lou Golding, J. R. Vogel, Donald Jaycocks, Herman Robbins, Sam Rosen, William White, Arthur L. Mayer, Frank La Falce, Robert Smeltzer, Abram F. Myers, Herman Gluckman, David Lipton, Tony Muto, Hardy Meakin, Julian Brylawsky, Harry Arthur, Hubert Voight, Seymour Morris, Harry Goldberg. National committee: Claude Lee, Dan Michalove.

Gamble Pays Tribute To Film Industry

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—"When the final story is written on the war finance program it will be the brightest page in the motion picture industry."

That was the tribute paid to the film industry here Friday by Theodore Gamble, national director of the War Finance Committee in an address before 75 exhibitors assembled at the first of three trade meetings preparatory to the industry's participation in the Fourth War Loan. Gamble spoke at the close of the morning session at the Statler Hotel. He said in part: "As exhibitors you participate from time to time in many worthwhile programs. This is more than just a program: You have become a vital necessity to the Treasury Department." He impressed upon the group that in becoming such a vital part of the Treasury Department's program they have acquired a much greater responsibility to meet. The challenge to the industry is one of which to be very proud for they have become "an inevitable and indispensable and a much needed part of the entire program."

Industry Needs No Help

The War Finance Department turns to every effective group of people in the country for selling bonds—but the motion picture industry is the only one that has taken a mere suggestion from the Treasury Department and turned it into a tremendous operation—without leadership or help from the Treasury Department. The War Finance Department employs a man to head every field of participation except the motion picture industry—because the motion picture industry needs no help to accomplish the excellent results turned in.

'Curie' to Duplicate 'Miniver' Procedure

It was originally planned to release "Madame Curie" around Jan. 15, but M-G-M sales executives have changed this to March 5. It will open in each key center first before playing any surrounding towns and after the first-run key-city showings succeeding runs will be dated on the importance of the locality, the company discloses.

The same plan was employed by M-G-M in the booking of "Random Harvest" and "Mrs. Miniver." These pictures were sold on individual contracts but "Curie" is being included in the sixth block.

Continuing its plan to release three pictures a month, M-G-M has split up its sixth group of 12 to be released as follows: "Thousands Cheer," "The Cross of Lorraine" and "Lost Angel" in January; "A Guy Named Joe," "Cry 'Havoc'" and "Rationing" in February; "Broadway Rhythm," "See Here, Private Hargrove" and "The Heavenly Body" in March and "Song of Russia," "Swing Fever" and "Madame Curie" in April.

World premiere for "Lost Angel" will be held Dec. 23 at the Orpheum Theatre, Tulsa, Okla.

Crescent and Schine Buy Para. Product

Crescent Amusement Co. of Nashville, with 140-odd theatres in the South, and the Schine circuit of 90 houses have bought Paramount's first and second blocks of features for 1943-44, Neil Agnew, general sales manager of the company, announced at the weekend. With the completion of these two deals, all key circuits in the Eastern division headed by Hugh Owen have purchased Paramount's product in the first two blocks.

The Crescent deal was closed by Owen and John Kirby, Atlanta district manager, with Tony Sudekum, president of the circuit, and Kermit Stengel, general manager. The Schine contract was negotiated by Owen, William Erbb, district manager and Clayton Eastman, Albany branch manager, with J. Myer Schine, president, and George Lynch, film buyer for the circuit.

Querrie Reelected by Toronto Managers

TORONTO, Dec. 19.—Toronto Suburban Theatre Managers Association at a meeting here reelected Charles Querrie, manager of the Palace, as president. Mort Margolius of the College was renamed secretary.

The association adopted a new constitution, one provision of which is that no officer shall hold a post for two consecutive years, starting in 1944. Members are managers of Famous Players or affiliated theatres here other than downtown first-run houses.

Kraska Joins Loew's Here

George Kraska, who formerly managed Boston's Fine Arts Theatre and later operated the house under lease, has joined Loew's home office advertising department and will handle out-of-town service. He replaces William Jefferson who has entered the Army.

"Our Two Big Jobs in January:
Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes."

MGM
Greer Garson
Walter Pidgeon
"MADAME CURIE"
"THOUSANDS CHEER"
STARiffic in Technicolor
Spencer Tracy
Irene Dunne
"A GUY NAMED JOE"
William Powell
Hedy Lamarr
"THE HEAVENLY BODY"
Margaret Sullavan
Joan Blondell
Ann Sothern
"CRY HAVOC"
Robert Taylor
Susan Peters
"SONG OF RUSSIA"
Kay Kyser
"SWING FEVER"
"LOST ANGEL"
Margaret O'Brien
James Craig
Marsha Hunt
Wallace Beery
Marjorie Main
"RATIONING"
"CROSS OF LORRAINE"
Jean Pierre Aumont
Gene Kelly
Sir Cedric Hardwicke
Technicolor!
"BROADWAY RHYTHM"
Ginny Simms
George Murphy
Tommy Dorsey
"SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE"
Robert Walker
Presenting My Sixth Group
VITAMIN 12
Pep and Profits

1944 Outlook for Coal Is Very Black

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Exhibitors and other commercial coal users for business heating can gain an insight into the acuteness of the nation's coal shortage promised for 1944 from a report on coal prospects issued here by the Office of War Information which warns that the United States will enter 1944 with a bituminous coal shortage of approximately 25,000,000 tons, according to figures of the Solid Fuels Administration. This official forecast assumes that 1943 requirements exceed an earlier "working estimate" of 600,000,000 tons by 5,000,000 tons and that production is more than 12,000,000 tons a week for December.

Reduced Stockpiles Seen

The deficit will appear in depleted stockpiles—coal stored in the bins of industrial users and retail dealers—which on Oct. 1 amounted to a 45-day supply. Stockpiles will have been reduced from 86,000,000 tons at the beginning of 1943 to approximately 60,000,000 tons at the beginning of 1944. This will be only a little more than a month's backlog, the OWI said.

From information supplied the OWI by the SFA, the situation is summarized as follows: The coal shortage is acute now and most factors point to an increasing deficit next year; it is not sudden but has been progressive from the first of this year; it is a delayed shortage in that it draws on stockpiles, but its effect is immediate to the consumer under the stress and dislocation of distribution; demand for 1944 will be increased by shipments to Europe to sustain military operations and to meet essential needs.

Coe Will Speak in Cleveland Jan. 10

CLEVELAND, Dec. 19.—Charles Francis Coe, vice-president of the MPPDA, will make a public address here Jan. 10 under the sponsorship of the Advertising Club, Mark Larkin of the Hays organization told industry leaders here at the weekend at a War Activities Committee meeting.

I. J. Schmertz, chairman of the meeting, solicited industry members for new ideas to put across the Fourth War Loan Drive in theatres. M-G-M's short, "Brothers in Blood" was screened and all exhibitors in the territory were urged to show it. The film has been booked in every theatre in greater Cleveland.

Truck Breakdown Report Is Ready

A report on a threatened film delivery breakdown prepared by Harry J. Grayson, attorney representing New York film carriers, was presented to H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, here at the weekend. Richey is a member of the committee designated by the War Activities Committee to work with the truckers in trying to induce the OPA to release priorities for new trucks to replace those rapidly deteriorating.

Richey is understood to have suggested several minor changes in the report before submitting it to the WAC. Grayson expects to have the final draft completed by Wednesday.

Reviews

"Swingtime Johnny"

(Universal)

STRICTLY light romantic comedy with a musical punch, "Swingtime Johnny" is good entertainment and, in an even hour, manages to get off an amusing, though simple and somewhat familiar plot and several good songs, done to near perfection by the Andrews Sisters, Harriet Hilliard and Mitch Ayres and his band.

In the story Peter Cookson is a serious-minded young businessman who turns his organ factory into a munitions plant but he is about to lose the whole works to a competing firm, thanks to a money-mad board of directors and a crooked promoter in the person of Tim Ryan. Enter the Andrews Sisters (Fatty, Maxine and La Verne), Harriet Hilliard and Mitch Ayres in overalls to save the day for the somewhat befuddled Cookson. Ryan and the directors are put on the spot when Miss Hilliard convinces Cookson that he is being taken for a ride. Cookson asserts himself and, in appreciation for the kids' saving the plant for him, stages a big party at which he very formally tells Miss Hilliard he admires, respects and possibly loves her, which is nice, because she has nursed a silent affection for him from the beginning.

The Andrews Sisters deliver a song at every turn, one of the best being "Boogie Woogie Choo-Choo," and the Ayres Boys and Miss Hilliard give out with several numbers, all of which will delight the jive-addicts. The Gay Nineties Revue, which climaxes the film, clinches the entertainment value and "Swingtime Johnny" ends on a high note. Cookson and Miss Hilliard are pleasing in the leads and Ryan also turns in a creditable performance.

Edward F. Cline directed capably, from a screenplay by Clyde Bruckman adapted from Warren Wilson's original story, and has succeeded in presenting a well-rounded-out entertainment. Wilson was associate producer.

Running time, 60 mins. "G."* HELEN MCNAMARA

"Dangerous Blondes"

(Columbia) *Hollywood, Dec. 19*

BASED on a story with punch and dialogue that can and does sparkle in the right places, "Dangerous Blondes" presents a combination of sophisticated comedy, mystery, drama and characterization that makes the piece one to be reckoned with in the category of "The Thin Man" films.

Directed by Leigh Jason for Producer Sam Bischoff from a story by Kelley Roos, the picture starts out with suspense in the first few frames and builds it up in every inch of footage from there on out.

Allyn Joslyn and Evelyn Keyes do a second William Powell-and-Myrna Loy job as the detective story writer and his beautiful blonde wife, whose concern for his safety is matched only by her curiosity as they skip through scenes of gay domesticity tinged with touches of wifely jealousy, to solve a triple murder.

Anita Louise seeks their help when she becomes suspicious of happenings at the photographic agency where she works, the head of which she is in love with despite the fact he is married to the niece of socially prominent, wealthy Mrs. Fleming. The script puts Joslyn and Miss Keyes on the scene when Mrs. Fleming is murdered, but he manages to turn the tables on Inspector Frank Craven, uncovering the murderer through a bluff. Joslyn is saved from becoming a victim himself, and so is a model and Mrs. Fleming's niece, by timely arrival of the detectives trailing him.

In strong supporting roles are Edmund Lowe, Miss Louise, Craven, Ann Savage, Michael Duane and William Demarest.

Running time, 80 minutes. "G."* JACK CARTWRIGHT

"G" denotes general classification.

Twin Cities Variety Installs New Officers

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 19.—W. A. Steffes is the new chief barker of the Twin Cities Variety Club here. He succeeds William Elson. Officers inducted at ceremonies in the Nicollet Hotel included Le Roy Miller, first assistant chief barker; A. A. Kaplan, second assistant; Max Torodor, treasurer and Benjamin Berger, secretary.

Directors who will assume office Jan. 1 are John J. Friedl, Ben Friedman, Frank McCormick, Ben Blotcky, William Elson, Charles Jackson and George Granstrom.

Holiday 'Loewdown'

A special eight-page holiday issue of the *Loewdown*, official Loew's Theatre house publication, has been prepared by Oscar A. Doob, ad-publicity head, for men from the circuit who are in the armed services. Of the 2,870 Loew employes in service, 441 are from Loew theatres in Greater New York.

'Curie' Nets VAC $9,000

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 19.—Nearly $9,000 was added to the funds of the Volunteer Army Canteen of Hollywood through the special showing of "Madame Curie" last week at Grauman's Chinese.

Chi. Neighborhood Business Off 50%

Chicago, Dec. 19.—Business in neighborhood theatres here is down from 50 to 60 per cent. Business in the Loop is way off, too, due to zero weather, influenza scare and holiday shopping.

Janitor and other menial personnel is so scarce, many neighborhood home owners are firing their own furnaces. Hoodlumism, on the upswing, is an additional headache to exhibitors here. The coal shortage is another scare with delivery spotty and numerous theatres running low on coal reserves.

Detroit Circuit Pay Raise Is Approve

DETROIT, Dec. 19.—Ushers, cashier and other service employees in 9 houses of Cooperative Theatres wer awarded pay raises today by the Wa Labor Board. The new pay sched ules, retroactive to last Oct. 25, ar outlined in a new three-year contra with Local B-179, IATSE.

In houses over 1,000 seating capac ity, cashiers will get $18 per week im mediately and $2 more after Jan. 1 Ushers will start at 35 cents per hou with raises, on a continuous servic schedule, up to 45 cents after one yea Cashiers in this category receive $1 tops and ushers 37½ cents under superseded contract.

In houses of less than 1,000 seat cashiers will earn $16 immediatel and $2 more after Jan. 1. The usher schedule runs from 32 cents to star up to 40 cents after one year of con tinuous service. Former rates pai cashiers $15 and ushers 33½ cent in these theatres. In all cases cand girls will earn 2½ cents more an chiefs of staff and doormen 5 cent more per hour than ushers with th same service record.

Para. Announces Christmas Bonu

Distribution of a Christmas bonu to Paramount employes was an nounced Friday by Barney Balabar president. Employes at exchange who have been employed by the com pany as of Dec. 1, 1943, will receiv a week's salary, the bonus not t exceed $50. A total of 1,100 ex change employes will receive thi bonus. Employes at the home offic earning up to $75 a week receive a week's salary up to $50.

Previous companies that have an nounced bonuses include Loew's, War ners, Columbia, United Artists, Uni versal and RKO Theatres.

M-G-M Managers Visits Off to Feb

The plan whereby two M-G-M branch managers will visit the hom office each week to study internal op erations and attend daily sales depart ment meetings, which was to hav been put into effect Jan. 1, has bee set back and will be inaugurated th first week in February, it was learne at the weekend.

The postponement was made becaus William F. Rodgers, general sale manager, will be out of town during January.

It is with a deep feeling of responsibility and pride

that I announce my next production,

the story of America's first flying general

"BILLY MITCHELL"

Based on Isaac Don Levine's Biography of General "Billy" Mitchell

This picture is to be produced with the cooperation

of all the members of General Mitchell's family and

the assistance of the United States Army Air Forces.

A share of the proceeds will go to the

Army Air Forces' Aid Society

SAMUEL BRONSTON

Now in release thru United Artists

"JACK LONDON"

No Objection By House Seen To 1-on-5 Tax

(Continued from page 1)

industry, or a total of approximately $300,000,000 a year. (Industry executives in New York hold that the $30,000,000 figure is highly exaggerated; they claim that the reduction would come nearer to $10,000,000.)

No chance is seen of final passage of the bill before next month. This, however, is a matter of no moment since the deadline on which the new bill could be made effective at the beginning of the year could not have been attained in any event, and the higher admission tax and other levies will be deferred until Feb. 1.

The change in committee sentiment on the admission tax was due to the efforts of exhibitor leaders, who made strong representations regarding the hardships the House rate would work on exhibitors in the more popular price classifications.

The exhibitors stressed to Congress that a flat 20 per cent tax on fractions actually resulted in a 27 or 28 per cent tax on odd amounts.

More Circuit Deals, Grainger Reports

(Continued from page 1)

tended the conference, with Eastern district sales manager Maxwell Gillis heading a contingent from that area, and Central district sales manager Sam Seplowin heading a group from his district. Canada was represented by A. W. Perry, Paul Nathanson and A. J. Laurie.

Following the meeting, Grainger left by plane for a three-week sales trip, with stopovers in Oklahoma City, Dallas, New Orleans, Chicago and Milwaukee.

Morris Goodman, Republic vice-president in charge of foreign sales, has returned from two weeks in Puerto Rico, where he made arrangements to establish the company's own distributing subsidiary to service Puerto Rico, San Domingo, Haiti, and the Virgin Islands. The office will open Jan. 1 and will be in charge of Carl Ponedel, until recently manager for United Artists.

Flexible Budgets For All PRC Films

(Continued from page 1)

and will be announced soon after Jan. 1. PRC will make 24 features, 16 Westerns, and will distribute two English-made pictures during 1944-45, according to McCarthy.

He stated that "Minstrel Man," original by Martin Mooney, will go into production Jan. 22, to be released in May.

RCA Christmas Party

Radio Corporation was host to more than 200 newspaper and trade press representatives, NBC and Blue network executives, at its annual Christmas party at the Rainbow Room in New York at the weekend.

Canadian Owners Get Some Relief from Paper Cut

Closing Order Is Changed to Request

DETROIT, Dec. 19.—Local health authorities changed a theatre closing order to a request here late last week, following arguments between lawyers for the city of Center Line and Warren Township and legal counsel for William J. Schulte, owner of Schulte Theatres.

Late last week Center Line and Warren health officials ordered the closing of schools, USO branches and theatres in their suburban area on the northeast border of Detroit. Two houses, the Motor City and Liberty, both owned by Schulte, were the only ones affected and the Schulte management protested on the grounds that the health officers lacked the authority to enforce such an order.

Schulte said that closing these two theatres would only send people to other houses in Detroit, creating, if anything, more crowded conditions than would exist in his houses over the weekend. He said his attendance is halved by flu now and did not feel that his half-filled theatres were any more dangerous to public health than other nearby houses.

Says Peak Is Past

Dr. Bruce Douglas, local health commissioner, says he believes the epidemic has passed its peak here.

Dr. John F. DeYounker, health officer of Warren Township, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that he had rescinded the theatre closing order in his jurisdiction because of the possibility that the township might be sued for losses during the period of the closing, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. He said he changed the order to a request, but added that the question of civic authority in such cases would be settled regardless of whether the theatres stayed open or not.

Baird Will Succeed Archibald Here

(Continued from page 1)

director for United Artists in England, has handled negotiations with major U. S. film distributors for release in this country of MOI films during the past year. With the major part of his assignment here completed he has been called back to London for another job, the nature of which has not been made public yet. The date of his return to that country is also indefinite.

Each major distributor here in 1943-44 season will again distribute one feature and two short subjects sent to this country and approved by the MOI.

Reissue 'Pot o' Gold'

R. M. Savini, president of Astor Pictures, has concluded arrangements with Henri Henigson, producer of Jimmy Roosevelt's "Pot o' Gold," whereby Astor takes over exclusive distribution the first of the year. The musical will be reissued in February with a new title, "Jimmy Steps Out" and new exploitation.

(Continued from page 1)

merchants for co-operative advertising.

In situations where no newspapers are available, rural exhibitors are required to apply to the administrator for a permit to use other forms of printed advertising or posters by mail or display elsewhere than on theatre premises.

24-Sheets Allowed

The continued use of 24-sheets anywhere has been allowed on the restrictive order but exhibitors using one, three or six-sheet boards in permanent locations may apply to the Prices Board for permission to continue the arrangement instead of using 24-sheets.

And there is to be no restriction on theatre display advertising in or on streetcars or public passenger conveyances and display advertising is permitted in or on theatre buildings, as heretofore.

Exhibitors are given until Dec. 31 to terminate standing orders for other paper-stock accessories and to use up supplies already printed. Heralds, throwaways, blotters, envelope stuffers, tack cards and window cards are disallowed after that date to save paper.

Decree Drafting to Be Continued Today

(Continued from page 1)

latest proposals by Joseph Hazen, vice-president of Warners, who met with Clark in Washington last week. No definitive action was taken at Friday's meeting but immediate steps were taken to revise company proposals so as to bring them more closely in line with Clark's views.

The new proposals of counsel were presented to company heads following the meeting and will be incorporated in a formal draft to be prepared at today's meeting. On completion of the draft, Hazen will convene with Clark again. The companies and Clark are apart on three major decree provisions, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Friday, and still must agree on phraseology once they have attained common ground on the proposals themselves. In between an agreement on phraseology and a completed draft, however, the distributors' proposals probably will be submitted to exhibitor representatives for their reactions by Clark.

Zelenko Back at Valencia

Bernard Zelenko, formerly manager of Loew's Valencia Theatre, Jamaica, L. I., is again in charge after being honorably discharged from the service. Edward Douglas, who followed Zelenko into that house, has been put temporarily in charge of Loew's Prospect, Flushing, L. I.

20th Christmas Party

Twentieth Century-Fox will hold its annual Christmas party on Friday, Dec. 24, at the Astor Hotel, Spyros Skouras, president, has announced.

Ontario Suspends W. B., Columbia Exchange License

(Continued from page 1)

Toronto offices late Friday. Wh questioned, a spokesman for Warne said he had no comment regarding t order or its effect.

Offices on the upper floors are o cupied by 20th Century-Fox Theatr and the Exhibitors Booking Associ tion, but these were not disturbed b cause no films are on their premis and only office staffs are employe Many other floors are filled with er ployes and other commercial firn hence the reason for the Governme order.

No Immediate Reaction

The sudden development brought immediate reaction or move becau available facilities around Toronto a very scarce through wartime conge tion and the Film Exchange Buil ing, 277 Victoria Street, which w swept by fire Nov. 17 is alrea crowded.

Further excitement was arou when an announcement came from office of Provincial Treasurer Ce Frost saying the investigation into film exchange fire had been "reopene because of developments said to volve the discovery of tampering w the passenger elevator motor in t penthouse on the roof.

The Silverthorne edict results fr the fire inquest in which the ju recommended removal of the fi companies outside of the city lim and into two-floor units at the mo Practically all other film compan are back in the Victoria street buil ing, although all premises were n restored after the fire. There is pen ing a conference of general film ma agers with Silverthorne at the Pa liament Building in January. 20t Fox and Paramount occupy their ov buildings of approved construction Bond Street and it is understood th are not affected by any order in t meantime.

L. W. Conrow, 44, Dies Suddenl

(Continued from page 1)

sound film. He became general superi tendent of electrical research produc in the late 1920's and served su cessively as installation manager, ge eral operating and general manag of ERPI'S Eastern Division until th telephone company subsidiary turn over theatre reproducing equipme servicing to Altec, then a new cor pany, in 1937, when he assumed t presidency of Altec.

Conrow is survived by his wido Helen, and a son, Leon Whitney, J Funeral services will be held tomo row at 2:30 P. M., at The Larch Fairhaven, N. J.

Three for Adults Only

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—The cens here has classified three films f adults only during November. T pictures were: Paramount's "Mirac of Morgan's Creek"; "Return of t Vampire" and Dezel's "Mistre Satan."

WHAT THE PICTURE DID FOR ME AND

WHAT I DID FOR THE PICTURE
and
WHAT WE BOTH DID

I advertised it. I ballyhoo'd it. I went to town with it And as you gentlemen an see, it paid off pretty I do that with every picture Big ones Little ones n-between ones Now you know why this house is such a consistent big grosser ome theatremen of my acquaintance shoot the bankroll only on the big ones And re satisfied to break even on weaker programs But that's bad theatre operation Every ad campaign of this theatre is geared up to go out and gather in the town's ollective eyeball and eardrum And hand it over to that blonde ticket-seller out ont So that she can take over We do the best possible job with every picture nd in these few words gentlemen lies the whole foundation of showmanship."

GIVE R BONDS for HRISTMAS

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

STANDARD ACCESSORIES • TRAILERS • SPECIAL ACCESSORIES

Innovation in L. A. Nearly Doubles Gross

Los Angeles, Dec. 19.—Pressure of prosperity produced something new in Los Angeles show business when the opening of "Sahara" in the Pantages-Hillstreet tandem revealed such demand for tickets that the houses dropped the second picture from the bill for Saturday and Sunday in order to expedite turnover. Upshot of the innovation was a Sunday take of $13,018 for the two houses, an all-time high. "Dangerous Blondes" went back on the menu Monday, the week's gross for the houses heading toward a $52,000 total compared to a $27,854 average. The innovation promises to thrive in emulation, tradesfolk say, providing evident answer to the problem of how to merge from duals to singles without sacrificing substantial revenue in the transitional period.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 15:

"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
"Mystery Broadcast" (Rep.)
CARTHAY CIRCLE—(1,516) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average, $8,407)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
"Mystery Broadcast" (Rep.)
CHINESE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average, $14,052)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
"There's Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
EGYPTIAN—(1,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average, $12,000)
"The Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
HAWAII—(1,000) (33c-44c-55c-75c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,900. (Average, $5,266)
"Sahara" (Col.)
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
HILLSTREET—(2,700) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average, $15,244)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
"Mystery Broadcast" (Rep.)
LOEW'S STATE—(2,500) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $20,752)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
"There's Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
LOS ANGELES—(2,098) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $14,300. (Average, $13,000)
"Sahara" (Col.)
"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
PANTAGES—(2,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average, $12,810)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT HOLLYWOOD—(1,407) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $10,808)
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
"The Good Fellows" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT DOWNTOWN — (3,595) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,200. (Average, $19,768)
"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
"There's Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
RITZ—(1,376) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,416)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
"Mystery Broadcast" (Rep.)
UPTOWN—(1,715) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $10,000)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
WARNER BROS. HOLLYWOOD—(3,000) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,432. (Average, $12,651)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
WARNER BROS. DOWNTOWN—(3,400) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,129. (Average, $16,094)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
WARNER BROS. WILTERN—(2,200) (45c-55c-75c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,250. (Average, $12,794)

Duchin to Loew's

Boston, Dec. 19.—Sumner Duchin nephew of band leader Eddie Duchin, has been appointed publicist at Loew's State and Orpheum here, by Joseph A. Longo, public relations director.

'Crazy House' Is Big In Boston: $26,400

Boston, Dec. 19.—Things were back to normal again here after the box office upsurge caused by Frank Sinatra last week and so averages were about as usual downtown. An expected holiday drop in business did not strike yet. "Crazy House," dualled, was tops for the week, at $26,400.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 17:

"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
METROPOLITAN—(4,367) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $23,400. (Average, $23,800)
"Jack London" (UA)
"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,000) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,800. (Average, $17,300)
"Jack London" (UA)
"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(3,200) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,400. (Average, $17,100)
"She's for Me" (Univ.)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
KEITH MEMORIAL—(2,800) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average, $20,100)
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
RKO BOSTON—(3,800) (44c-55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $26,400. (Average, $25,000) On stage: Richard Himber and orchestra with stage show.
"Hostages" (Para.)
"Harvest Melody" (PRC)
PARAMOUNT—(1,450) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,900. (Average, $8,600)
"Hostages" (Para.)
"Harvest Melody" (PRC)
FENWAY—(1,098) (44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average, $5,800)
"Sahara" (Col.)
"Once in a Lifetime" (Col.)
MAJESTIC—(1,400) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,700. (Average, $5,400)

'Children,' 'Scandals' Are Tops at $4,000

New Haven, Dec. 19.—Business stayed under par for the most part for a second week, being restricted mainly to opening day and Sunday. After a big campaign, "Where Are Your Children" and "Spotlight Scandals" grossed $4,000, over by $500 at the Bijou. Drop of the mercury to 14 degrees hurt business. Total first run business was $26,000. Average is $29,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 16:

"Where Are Your Children" (Mono.)
"Spotlight Scandals" (Mono.)
BIJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $3,500)
"The Rains Came" (20th-Fox)
"Under Two Flags" (20th-Fox)
COLLEGE—(1,565) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,200. (Average, $3,200)
"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
"Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.)
LOEW-POLI—(3,005) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $9,300)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
"She's for Me" (Univ.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,373) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $6,400)
"Government Girl" (RKO)
"Victory Through Air Power" (UA)
ROGER SHERMAN—(2,037) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average, $6,400)

Pouzzner Gets Fifth

New Haven, Dec. 19.—Morris Pouzzner, operator of three Middletown houses and also the Victory New London, has purchased the Lyceum Theatre and building here. He plans to stage legitimate shows.

Frace Joins 'U'

Minneapolis, Dec. 19.—Ernest Frace has been added to the Universal sales staff at the local exchange. He will work in South Dakota.

Adler of Milwaukee Busy Man of Late

Milwaukee, Dec. 19.—J. P. Adler, of this city operates nine Wisconsin theatres on his own, several others with partners, runs a bill-posting plant, is an active member of the local Selective Service board, holds the post of governor of the appeal board; is an executive of the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin, is prominent in the affairs of the state Rotary Club and is known as an active sportsman.

$7,600 for 'Happy', 'Tornado' Dual Bill

Omaha, Dec. 19.—Receipts fell off even further this week with only "Happy Land" and "Tornado" in a second week at the Omaha doing better-than-par business, grossing $7,600. The influenza epidemic, widespread in this area, was partly blamed. So was the two-night-a-week shopping setup which began unusually early this year.

Estimated receipts for week ending Dec. 16-17:

"The Heat's On" (Col.)
"Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.)
BRANDEIS — (1,200) (40c-55c) 6 days. Gross: $5,400. (Average, $5,500)
"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
"Tornado" (Para.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $7,600. (Average, $6,900)
"So This Is Washington" (RKO)
ORPHEUM — (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Louis Prima's band on stage. Gross: $11,900. (Average, $14,900)
"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $9,800).

'Major,' 'Gildersleeve' Dual, Gets $14,000

Buffalo, Dec. 19.—"The Iron Major" and "Gildersleeve on Broadway" were doing well at the 20th Century despite a spell of near-zero weather; they appeared headed for $14,000. "Son of Dracula" and "The Mad Ghoul," shocker-pair at the Lafayette, were heading for average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 18:

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
"Find the Blackmailer" (WB)
BUFFALO—(3,489) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,900. (Average, $16,500)
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
GREAT LAKES—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $16,400)
"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
"Yanks Ahoy" (UA)
HIPPODROME—(2,100) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $9,500)
"The Iron Major" (RKO)
"Gildersleeve on Broadway" (RKO)
TWENTIETH CENTURY—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. Average, $10,600)
"Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
LAFAYETTE—(3,000) (35c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $10,500)

Sears' Son in Train Crash

Richard Sears, son of Gradwell Sears, United Artists vice-president in charge of distribution, was among those who escaped uninjured in the Florida train wreck late last week. He was en route to New York to spend the holidays with his family, from Palm Beach, where he goes to school.

Short Subject Reviews

"Kingdom of Treasure"

(*20th-Fox*)

"Kingdom of Treasure," one of Lowell Thomas's Magic Carpet release for Fox Movietone, is a picturesque and interesting film about the Tha Expedition into the kingdom of Hyderabad, India. The cinecolor camer has caught much of the life of th people of Hyderabad, including mar of the ancient customs still prevailin as well as the modern trends. The are impressive shots of the red-cla Hyderabad army, court life at th Royal palace, and the native industries. John W. Boyle's handling the photography is excellent and Lowell Thomas's commentary is alive an interesting, making "Kingdom Treasure" an educational and entertaining short. Edmund Reek produced. Running time, 9 mins. Release date, Dec. 3.

"Way Down Yonder in The Corn"

(*Columbia*)

The Fox and the Crow are at again. This time Mr. Fox is a farmer looking for a reputable scarecrow That's where the Crow comes in. Th Crow eats all Fox's corn and a meri chase ensues. In the end they becon fast friends—very fast! This is a amusing and colorful short with nic musical background, capably directe by Bob Wickasham and produced b Dave Fleischer. Running time, 7½ mins. Release date, Nov. 25.

"Yokel Duck Makes Good"

(*20th-Fox*)

Another in the series of colorf Terrytoons, "Yokel Duck Mak Good" is the story of a valiant du who saves a little duckling from dea at the hands of a vulture. The du came into the duck pond communit as a stranger and was promptly ouste but when he saved the duckling was given a triumphal parade an welcome-home. The story is clev and the direction is good. Produce by Paul Terry. Running time, 7 min Release date, Nov. 26.

"The Cocky Bantam"

(*Columbia*)

This is a clever cartoon good f some laughs and a little thought the side. The story concerns a Fa con who trades with a Blark Mark run by a Jap spy. Falcon buys chicken but never does get to eatin it. The music by Eddie Kilfeather good and the theme treats a curre problem nicely. Produced by Dav Fleischer. Running time, 6½ min Release date, Nov. 12.

"Screen Snapshots"

(*Columbia*)

Number 4 in the current series, th latest "Screen Snapshots" release fea tures Alan Mowbray as a film exhib itor who runs old-time reels of th stars, past and present. There ar shots of Bill Hart, Zasu Pitts, Ronal Colman, Greta Garbo, Mary Pickfor and Charles Ray among others. Thi is a clever picture which will brin back memories. Ralph Staub's direc tion is good. Running time, 9 mins Release date, Nov. 19.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 19

ABE LASTFOGEL, president of USO-Camp Shows, paid tribute to the Hollywood Victory Committee and stars for their cooperation, declaring: "You have stuck to a job that has never been easy, often monotonous, but results have been worthwhile. It is gratifying to all of us to see the all-out effort that actors and actresses are making." Lastfogel was due to leave here today for the East after three months on USO-Camp Shows business.

•

Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Vanguard, has announced that Dore Schary's first production for the company will be "Double Furlough," with John Cromwell directing and Joan Fontaine and Joseph Cotten co-starred.

•

Moss Hart has arrived here to confer with Darryl Zanuck on a film production of "Winged Victory."

•

M-G-M has purchased the Fairfax Downey novel, "Richard Harding Davis," and added it to Arthur Hornblow's schedule.

•

Warners have signed Barbara Stanwyck to a seven-year contract.

•

Columbia has assigned Al Green to direct "Mr. Winkle Goes to War."

'Claudia' Still Pulls, Grosses $12,000

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 19.—"Claudia" appeared headed for a $12,000 gross at the State Theatre, with "Northern Pursuit" not far behind at the Orpheum. First taste of really cold weather in this area, combined with pre-holiday shopping, slowed grosses in most situations.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 18:

"Trail of the Lonesome Pine" (Para.-reissue)
GOPHER—(998) (35c) 7 days. Gross: $3,700. (Average, $3,800)
"True to Life" (Para.)
LYRIC—(1,250) (40c-55c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $5,200)
"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
ORPHEUM—(2,800) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average, $12,000)
"Claudia" (20th-Fox)
STATE—(2,300) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $12,000)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
WORLD—(350) (40c-50c-55c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average, $2,300)
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
CENTURY—(1,600) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,800. (Average, $7,200)
"Coastal Command" (RKO) 3 days
"Gildersleeve on Broadway" (RKO) 3 days
ASTER—(900) (20c-30c) 7 days, with a mid-week change. Gross: $2,600. (Average, $2,500)

Ratener to Cleveland

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 19. — Louis Ratener, assistant to J. Ellis Shipman, contact manager for the Warner theatre circuit, will be transferred to Warners' Cleveland territory next month. Art Piper will replace him.

Personal Mention

(*Other Personals on Page 2*)

MARTIN MOSKOWITZ, executive assistant to William J. Kupper at 20th Century-Fox, will return to his desk today after a honeymoon in Florida.

•

JACK BARNETT, 20th Century-Fox Movietone News war correspondent, has returned from North Africa and Italy. After a brief vacation with his family in Miami, he is expected to return to Chicago, where he was formerly stationed.

•

PETER PERAKOS, owner of the Palace, New Britain, and the Eastwood, East Hartford, now has five sons in the armed forces with the induction this week of DR. GEORGE PERAKOS. Sons STEVE, SPERI, JOHN and PETER are already in service.

•

ELLIOT MCMANUS, 20th Century-Fox assistant manager in Panama, left here at the weekend for a one-week visit in Mexico City before going to Panama to assume his new post.

•

BENEDICT BOGEAUS, producing for United Artists, and MRS. BOGEAUS (MIMI FORSYTHE), are due in New York today from Hollywood.

•

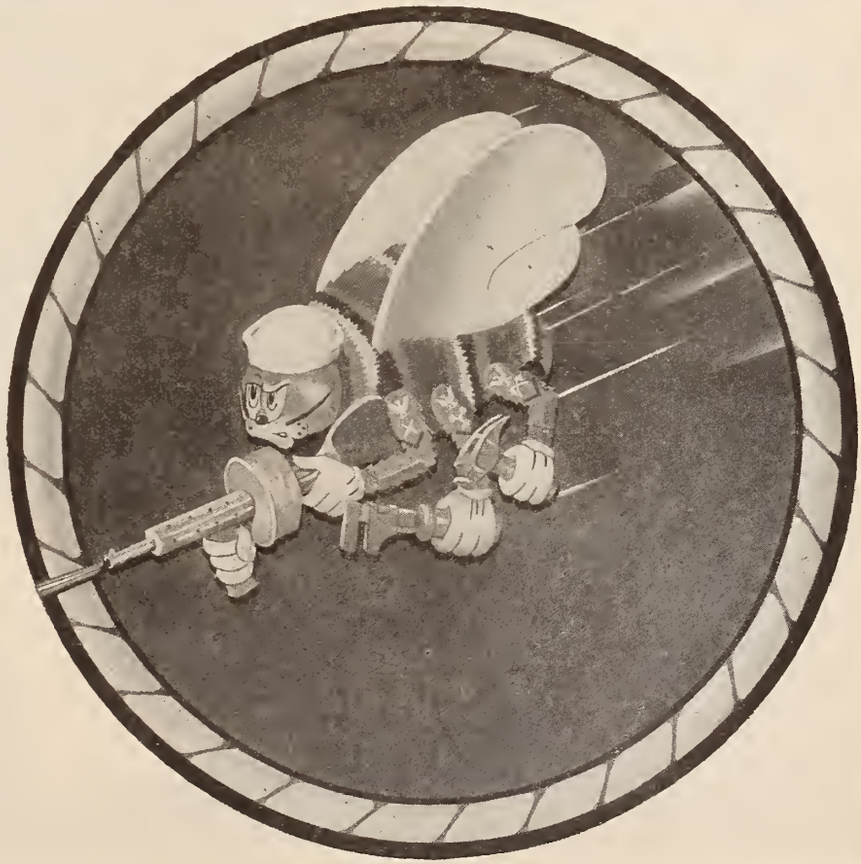
CHARLES KLEIN, of the Black Hill circuit in Colorado, is in town.

Holiday Buying Hits St. Louis; 'Happy' Tops with $15,000

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 19. — The pre-Christmas slump hit first-runs here early this year. Holiday shopping, plus a local epidemic of flu and colds has kept attendance below par. "Happy Land" at the Fox is out in front with $15,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 15:

"Destroyer" (Col.)
"The Return of the Vampire" (Col.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,162) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $16,900)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
"Campus Rhythm" (Mono.)
AMBASSADOR — (3,154) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $13,500)
"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
"Mystery Broadcast" (Rep.)
FOX—(5,038) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average, $16,500)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"There's Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM — (1,900) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $6,900)
"Old Acquaintance" (W. B.)
"True to Life" (Para.)
MISSOURI—(3,154) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average, $8,000)
"Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $6,000)
"Sweet Rosie O'Grady" (20th-Fox)
"The Seventh Victim" (RKO)
ST. LOUIS — (4,000) (35c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $5,000)



BOB (Champion-of-Champions) HOPE

BING (Ace-Singer-and-M.C.) CROSBY

Our two big jobs in January: Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 118 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1943 | TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE

Balaban Sees Doubled Effort In Bond Drive

Lauds Skouras at Chicago Exhibitor Conference

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—John Balaban, head of Balaban and Katz Theatres, today applauded the use of the slogan, "A Bond for Every Seat," for the industry's participation in the Fourth War Loan Drive, Jan. 18-Feb. 15. Balaban stated that the utilization of this slogan will provide the industry with a direct and most effective target for which to aim and is of tremendous value.

John Balaban

Balaban paid tribute to Charles

(Continued on page 6)

Two 4th Loan Meets Slated Here Today

Edward L. Alperson, metropolitan New York chairman for the motion picture industry's participation in the Fourth War Loan drive, will hold a meeting of borough and county chairmen in his office in the RKO building today at 10:30 a. m. The committee includes Harry Brandt, Manhattan; Sam Rinzler, Brooklyn; Fred Schwartz, Queens; Russ Emde, Bronx and Westchester, and Louis Goldberg, Staten Island.

Also, at 3 p. m. today in the Paramount board room, Harry Mandel,

(Continued on page 6)

Extortion Case Will Go to Jury Tomorrow

Following the completion of summations by the defense yesterday in the $1,000,000 extortion trial being held in Federal Court here, Judge John Bright told the jury that they would probably get the case tomorrow, after summation for the prosecution by Boris Kostelanetz, prosecutor, and a legal charge by the jurist. Kostelanetz told the court yesterday that he would probably need

(Continued on page 7)

Broadway's Grosses 'Way Off, but Biggest Holiday Ever Seen

Broadway grosses during the past week were off, as expected for the last shopping week before Christmas, but the lull points to a quiet before a big rush of patrons which managers expect will shatter records during Christmas-New Year's week.

"Madame Curie" and a holiday stage show at Radio City Music Hall is headed for an estimated $108,000 for its first week, which is not record-shattering but is seen as an indication of bigger things to come. "Desert Song" at the Hollywood received excellent reviews and is expected to gross $29,000 for its first week. "Crazy House" at the Criterion should end its first stanza with an estimated $23,000.

"Happy Land" and a stage show

(Continued on page 7)

Non-Deferrables Under WMC Plans

Abolishment of the list of non-deferrable occupations as provided in the father-draft bill recently signed by the President, does not in any way exempt workers in those occupations from the provisions of War Manpower Commission area stabilization programs, according to Mrs. Anna M. Rosenberg, New York regional director of the commission. Most jobs

(Continued on page 6)

Complain to OPA Over Price Tilt

Philadelphia, Dec. 20.—The local OPA declares that it was concerned only with prices of commodities and had no interest in admissions to theatres. This statement was made in answer to complaints made to the OPA over Warners' Earle Theatre increased admissions for the appearance of Frank Sinatra. Instead of 45, 57 and 75 cents, the Sinatra appearance is calling for an admission scale of 65, 75 and 85 cents. Complaints were primarily over the increased admissions for morning matinees from 45 to 65 cents. Theatregoers were presumably the complainants.

Decree Negotiations Suspend for Holidays

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—All further consideration of the revised consent decree halted this week when Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark left Washington, not to return until the end of the month. Robert L. Wright, assistant to the Attorney General in charge of the film unit, also is away from his office, ill with influenza.

Clark's departure from the city bore out an earlier statement by him that the decree negotiations would be suspended over the holidays, giving

(Continued on page 6)

"Destination Tokyo"

[Warner]

TOKYO was its destination on celluloid. Box-office business of impressive size is the unquestioned destination of this new package of excitement and wallop from Warners. "Destination Tokyo" has what is required without straining to get there. This attraction breaks down into important integral parts of the following sure-fire proportions:

It is one of the few dealing with the Pacific enemy which Hollywood thus far has turned out. In its essentially original field, therefore, the picture unquestionably will attract because its area is largely unexplored.

Told is a story of great heroism. How much of the daring exploit of the U.S.S. *Copperfin is* factual and how much originated in Steve Fisher's original story is not established, but it makes no difference because it's good. The exploit is the landing of one naval officer and two submarine men on the mainland of Japan to check factory, military and naval installations and to short wave the information to the *Hornet,* which by history established, let loose the Doolittle squadrons that bombed Tokyo for the first time and, hopefully, not the last.

The perils of the journey from San Francisco to a lonely meeting place in the Aleutians and thereafter to Tokyo Bay, how the *Copperfin* rode through the mine fields and the submarine net aided by unsuspect-

(Continued on page 6)

MPTOA Warns Of 30 or 40% Tax Next Year

Theatres Must Prepare To Fight: Kuykendall

The present fight to forestall the imposition of excessive Federal admission taxes is "only the beginning" and an Administration effort to have a 30 or 40 per cent tax is expected later, Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA president, asserts in an organizational bulletin released here yesterday.

Ed Kuykendall

"The Administration appears to be determined to sock the movies with at least a 30 per cent tax on admissions," Kuykendall

(Continued on page 7)

'Flying Squadrons' To Meet for 'Dimes'

Officials of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis will conduct a series of Coast-to-Coast exhibitor-distributor meetings in connection with the 1944 March of Dimes drive, Jan. 24-30. A "flying squadron" will appear at various conferences in all sections of the country. The "squadron" will include exhibitors Harry Brandt, Oscar Doob, Edward L. Alperson, Arthur Mayer, S. H. Fabian and Dr. John L. Lavan of the foundation.

J. H. Thompson of the MPTO of Georgia, with his co-chairman, Hugh

(Continued on page 7)

Basson Gets Detroit Workers to Remain

DETROIT, Dec. 20.—Backroom employees of major film exchanges here, who returned originally to their jobs for a ten-day period after a weekend strike, when pay increases promised by distributors were not forthcoming, have been persuaded by Joseph D. Basson, IATSE representative of New York headquarters, to continue at their posts.

Assurance was given by Basson that the distributors were willing to pay

(Continued on page 7)

Personal Mention

GEORGE J. SCHAEFER anticipates returning to Hollywood after the first of the year.

•

MAURICE WOLF, M-G-M district manager in Boston; MRS. WOLF and BEVERLY LUNDIN, who is engaged to be married to their son, NORTON WOLF, are visiting the latter in North Carolina, where he is stationed with the Army.

•

SGT. LEO PILLOT, formerly with Columbia and now with the Army in Denver, will be married Thursday at the Savoy Plaza here to RITA J. FRIEDMAN of Pawtucket, R. I., and New York.

•

GEORGE WELTNER, Paramount foreign department assistant manager, returned yesterday from a month's trip in Mexico, Cuba and Central America.

•

LOU JOFFE, RKO Theatres lawyer, and his wife, PEGGY FOLDES, editor of the circuit's house organ, will leave Thursday for a two-week vacation in Palm Beach.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, Warner assistant general sales manager, and JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager, returned here yesterday from Gloversville, N. Y.

•

LARRY KENT, executive assistant to SPYROS SKOURAS, returned to New York yesterday after a two weeks' stay in Tucson, Arizona.

•

MIKE POLLER, assistant to ROBERT MOCHRIE at RKO, returned to his desk yesterday, recovered from a recent operation.

•

NEIL F. AGNEW, Paramount's general sales manager, will return today or tomorrow from Dallas.

•

GEORGE CARRINGTON, president of Altec-Lansing Corp., Hollywood, is in New York.

•

RUTGERS NEILSON, RKO-Radio publicity manager, observed his 51st birthday at the weekend.

•

BLANCHE LIVINGSTON, RKO Theatres publicist, is confined to her home with a cold.

•

ED SCHREIBER, WAC publicity head, returned from the Coast yesterday.

•

LOU METZGER, WAC official, will be in California for the next six weeks.

•

MARJORIE MORROW, Warners' Eastern talent head, is on crutches because of a sprained ankle.

•

HANK LINET of Universal left yesterday for Boston and Washington and will return Thursday.

(More Personals on Page 3)

Funeral Services For Conrow Today

Honorary pallbearers at the funeral of L. W. Conrow, late president of Altec Service Corp., being held today at his residence, The Larches, Fair Haven, N. J., will include his former associates: G. L. Carrington, R. C. Tripp, W. J. Alford, T. H. Blodgett, D. C. Collins, H. M. Bessey, E. Z. Walters, S. W. Hand, B. Sanford and Philip C. Kemp; and close friends, Judge John Warren, Middletown, N. J.; Harold James, James H. R. Stephenson, Lawrence Souville, Theodore Parsons, Arthur Wessell and Alfred Mathiesen, all of Red Bank, N. J., and Fred G. Adams, of Charlottesville, Va.

Services at the residence will be conducted by Rev. Dr. Charles P. Johnson of All Saints Memorial Church, Navesink, N. J., at 2:30 p.m. today, with interment at Woodbine Cemetery, Oceanport, N. J. Altec's home offices in New York will be closed all day.

Conrow died suddenly at his home on Saturday morning after a short illness. He was 44 years old.

McDonnell Burial To Be in Queens

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 20.—The family of William McDonnell, of Watterson Rothacker's staff at the Office of War Censorship, who died here at the weekend, will leave here tomorrow, taking remains East for burial in the family plot in Calvary Cemetery in Queens, L. I.

A rosary service was held here last evening at the Cunningham and O'Connor mortuary and a requiem mass was celebrated this morning at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Beverly Hills.

He is survived by his widow, a daughter who dances under the screen name of Grace McDonald, a son, Ray, also a dancer, and two brothers.

Troops Abroad See Latest Films: McCrea

Joel McCrea, just returned from a tour of South America and African bases, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY today, "Our boys are getting the latest pictures overseas. They have a definite place in the morale of our troops. I saw pictures with them in Africa which hadn't yet been released here. The more people we can send over to visit them the better for all concerned.

"They look forward to seeing anyone connected with pictures and HVC-USO Camp Shows are getting things organized so more screen people will be able to go. It's important that everyone in business give all the time possible making these overseas trips," said McCrea.

Walter Truettner Dies

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 20.—Walter G. Truettner, 58, one of the first local neighborhood theatre operators, died here recently. He is survived by his widow, a son, a sister and a brother.

Penny Shortage a Headache to Loew's

Loew's in New York are trying to do something about the newest wartime headache—the penny shortage. C. C. Moskowitz, Loew executive, is placing small placards on all box-offices explaining the shortage and asking patrons to "please try to have correct change."

Similar legends are going into the margins of Loew's New York directory newspaper ads. One of the situations that aggravate the penny shortage, it is explained, is that the great number of uniformed men and women, attending films at cut prices, all require penny change because the cut price is 25c plus 3c tax.

Billy Rose Buys Ziegfeld for $630,000

New York Supreme Court Justice Bernard Botein yesterday approved the sale of the Zeigfeld Theatre at 54th St. and 6th Ave. to Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe, Inc., for a cash bid of $630,000, which topped the cash bid of Loew's, Inc., present lessee of the theatre of $536,500.

The house was sold to Rose subject to a lease held by Loew's which does not expire until Aug. 31, 1944, as well as unpaid installments levied against the building in the Sixth Ave. Elevated condemnation proceedings.

The sealed bids for the Zeigfeld, which were opened yesterday by Botein, were filed on the application of the Continental Bank and Trust Co., representing stockholders of the property.

Bijou Theatre Lost In $100,000 Blaze

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 20.—The Bijou Theatre, owned by Eastern Theaters, Inc., Atlanta, Ga., was destroyed by fire at 4 a.m. Sunday morning. Loss on the building, constructed in 1905, and contents was estimated at $100,000.

Emmett Rogers, city manager for Eastern, which also operates the local Tivoli, State and Rialto Theatres, has announced that the theatre will be rebuilt as soon as the War Production Board will allow. The theatre was insured, but Rogers stated that only the Atlanta office would know the extent of the coverage.

Alley to Replace Lieb in Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Jack Lieb, head cameraman for "News of the Day" here, will leave for the European war theatre on Dec. 29, replacing Norman Alley, who has been a war correspondent in Africa and Italy.

Alley will come here to replace Lieb as head cameraman in "News of the Day's" offices.

Coming Events

Dec. 21—"Free movie day," War Activities Committee, Minneapolis.

Dec. 22—Association Motion Picture Advertisers meeting, Hotel Edison, New York.

Dec. 27—Philadelphia Tent No. 1, Variety Club, to receive plaque for charity work, Bellevue-Stratton Hotel, Philadelphia.

Jan. 10—Charles Francis Coe to speak under sponsorship of the Advertising Club of Cleveland.

Jan. 12—Max Reinhardt memorial program, Hollywood.

Jan. 18-Feb. 15—Fourth War Loan Drive.

Jan. 24-30—"March of Dimes" campaign.

Feb. 5.—Annual dance, Press Photographers' Association of New York, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Camacho Is Honored By Mexican Industry

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 20.—President Manuel Avila Camacho has been awarded a gold medal by the Mexican motion picture industry for the aid he has rendered to it. A delegation composed of producers, directors and labor made the award at ceremonies in the National Palace, the Government's administrative building.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Greer Garson - Walter Pidgeon
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MADAME CURIE"
Great CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Claudette COLBERT Fred MACMURRAY
"NO TIME FOR LOVE"
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
Woody HERMAN and band
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
BUY MORE AND MORE WAR BONDS

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th—Daily, 2:45, 8:45. Mats. (except Sats., Suns., Hols.) 75c, $1.10. Eves., $1.10—$2.20. Extra shows Sats., Suns., Hols.—Cl 6-7429
B'WAY & 47th Continuous performances. Popular priced run. Doors open 9 a. m.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ
On Screen World Premiere Showing
ANDREWS SISTERS
"SWINGTIME JOHNNY"
In Person
JAMES BARTON
AMY ARNELL
Extra!
NICK KENNY

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Personal Mention

EDWARD SAUNDERS, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, and EDWIN AARON, the company's circuit sales manager, are confined to their homes because of illness.

•

DR. PAUL NATHANSON, son of the late N. L. NATHANSON, former Canadian circuit executive, and MRS. PAUL NATHANSON, have returned to Toronto following a honeymoon to Vancouver and Hollywood.

•

MORRIS OLETSKY, Republic Baltimore representative, and MRS. OLETSKY are parents of a baby daughter born last week at John Hopkins Hospital in that city.

•

MORRIS WOLF, Warner circuit attorney in Philadelphia, was named honorary president of the Philadelphia Federation of Jewish Charities at a recent election of that group.

•

HARRY J. SCHAD, owner of the Astor and Strand, Reading, Pa., was recently reelected to the board of directors of the Reading Fair Association.

•

KEITH WILSON, former manager of Ontario theatres, is doing public relations work with the "Meet the Army" show touring the provinces.

•

I. EPSTEIN, general manager of the Amsterdam circuit in South Jersey, has been named territory chairman for the Fourth War Loan drive.

•

J. J. FITZGIBBONS, president of the Famous Players-Canadian circuit, despite a touch of the flu, has completed a tour of FP-C houses.

•

ROGER FERRI, editor of the 20th Century-Fox house organ, was a Chicago visitor at the weekend.

Stone Gets Dismissal, One Year in Prison

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 20.—The San Bernardino Air Service Command has announced that Grant H. Stone, former cinematographer for Technicolor, has been sentenced to dismissal from Army service and one year's confinement at hard. labor, having been found guilty by a general court-martial of illegally selling motion picture film while he was commanding an Air Corps depot on Hollywood Blvd.

Under War Department regulations, the sentence of the courtmartial, which was held Dec. 6, must go to President Roosevelt for final approval. Stone entered the Army Air Corps as a captain in August, 1942.

Legion to Honor Sears

BOSTON, Dec. 20.—Major Dick Sears, veteran newsreel cameraman, has returned to his home here after receiving an honorable discharge from the Army. He will be the guest of the American Legion, Vernon McCaulay Post, early in January, at a reception in their new club house and later at a dinner at the Hotel Statler. Comdr. Harry Browning and Past Comdr. Harry Smith are in charge of arrangements.

Review

"Gung Ho"

(Universal-Wanger)

COMING to the screen at a time when Allied landing operations on enemy shores are uppermost in daily newspaper headlines, this filming of training and technique of American raiders fills the general public demand for definite, detailed information on a vital subject. As information, documentation and demonstration "Gung Ho" attains towering stature. Perhaps intentionally it subordinates the fictional elements commonly relied upon for entertainment values. By and large it figures a pay-off with dividends in the present market.

Randolph Scott, Alan Curtis, J. Carrol Naish, Noah Beery, Jr., Sam Levene and many other dependables enact the members of the raider battalion (not referred to in the film as Carlson's Raiders, but simulated under Lt. Col. Evans F. Carlson's supervision), who took Makin Island from the Japs. Grace McDonald, the single feminine member of the cast, gives the slight romantic facet of the tale sparkling treatment.

Lucien Hubbard's screenplay, based on Lt. W. S. Lefrancis' story, picks up the tale of the battalion when the members enlist and follows the group through training, into the submarines which transported the 200 raiders to Makin Island, thence through storming that stronghold and back into the submersibles, where the picture ends. It is a direct-line script, marred to a considerable extent by the dialogue which seems to come from the pages of a book instead of from the lips of a Marine, and compresses the maximum data into the footage, much of it accompanied by exciting action. Direction by Ray Enright hews as closely to the line as a Marine to his orders.

Producer Walter Wanger gave the production the benefit of his long experience in every department. He utilized it, also, for an utterance of a "message" such as has characterized most of his works. In the course of the film he causes his players to mention democracy, to condemn racial prejudice and to voice the principles of democracy generally. In the final scene he causes his hero to address the camera and express the hope that "social order" for which the soldiers are fighting will be preserved in the post war world.

Running time, 88 mins. "G."* Release date, Dec. 31.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

Skouras' 'Cause' Will Continue on WINS

"This Is Our Cause," weekly half-hour program broadcast over Station WINS every Sunday by Skouras Theatres' "War Effort Department," will continue during 1944. Nick John Matsoukas, director of the department, has announced renewal of the contract with the station for another 52 weeks, effective Sunday, Jan. 9.

Since its inception last January, the program has given opportunity to broadcast messages to some 50 organizations, including governmental war groups and relief agencies. The program will retain Foster Williams as announcer and Henry Sylvern as musical director.

Legion of Decency Classifies 9 Films

The National Legion of Decency this week classified "Song of Russia," "Three Russian Girls," "Rookies in Burma," "Marshal of Gunsmoke" and "Spider Woman" in Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage; "The Gang's All Here," "Swingtime Johnny" and "Woman of the Town," in Class A-II, unobjectionable for adults; and "Desert Song" in Class B, objectionable in part because of a suggestive sequence.

AFM Convenes June 5

June 5, 1944 has been set for the opening week's convention of the American Federation of Musicians, at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago.

NBC Commentators See Long War Ahead

NBC commentators Merrill Mueller, who recently returned from Algiers and H. V. Kaltenborn, who has returned from three weeks in the South Pacific war zone, both emphasize that a long and difficult task lies ahead in defeating the Germans and Japs at a luncheon at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria here yesterday.

Mueller explained that the U. S. is behind schedule in the Italian campaign which is only a "shoe-string offensive" which looks big because of the heroism of the American soldiers. Kaltenborn indicated that the wide deployment of our troops and equipment has made it difficult for us to concentrate our military might in any one spot, and he doubts whether the war will be over by the end of 1945 as he previously believed.

20th Leases Astor For 'Lifeboat' Run

Twentieth Century-Fox has leased the Astor Theatre from Loew's for 10 weeks starting the first week in January, it was learned over the weekend. Picture tentatively scheduled for the Astor is Alfred Hitchcock's production of "Lifeboat." There is a possibility that "Song of Bernadette," scheduled for a run at the Rivoli, may be switched to the Astor, if "For Whom the Bell Tolls" continues at that theatre after January.

Short Subject Review

'Upbeat in Music'

(March of Time-20th-Fox)

This month's March of Time issue No. 5, is a resume of the role music is playing among men of the armed forces. There are brief glimpses of musical personalities in every field, from boogie-woogie to symphonic, with a score of names, from Duke Ellington to Serge Koussevitzky, with selections from the Hit Parade show to the Metropolitan opera. Preparation and delivery of "Hit Kits" of sheet music, "V-disc" records and musical instruments for exclusive Army use, is shown. Considerable footage is devoted to James C. Petrillo, AFM head, stating his side of the case in his recent move to collect tariff on all recordings. Within limited footage the film manages to cover a vast field fairly comprehensively. Recording of the classical bits is not satisfactory, the Marian Anderson sequence being especially unworthy. Running time, 16½ mins.

Joseph McCarthy, Lyricist, 58, Dies

Joseph McCarthy, 58, lyricist and author of musical shows, died at the weekend at his home here after a long illness. Requiem mass will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral this morning and burial will be in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Westchester.

Author of hundreds of popular songs and such musical comedies as "Rio Rita," "Kid Boots" and "Irene," McCarthy since 1930 had divided his attention between motion picture fields and the stage.

He is survived by his widow, Dorothy; a son, Corp. Thomas Joseph, Jr., and a daughter, Mrs. Walter Penor, Jr., of Hartford, Conn.

Chas. Waldron Dies; Made, Lost Fortune

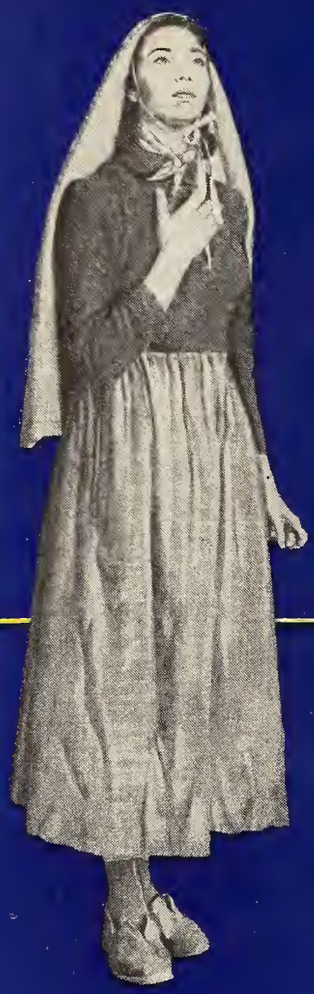
BOSTON, Dec. 20.—Charles H. Waldron, 78, died recently at his home in Somerville. During his career as theatre owner he made and lost a fortune of some $1,500,000. At one time he had 47 theatres, including the noted Waldron's Casino in Scollay Square here.

Although Waldron entered the film business many years ago he always believed that films would never surpass vaudeville and burlesque and it was this conviction which led to his financial downfall.

Lichtman and Rubin Clearance Due Soon

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 20.—Al Lichtman, vice-president of Loew's, whose departure for Europe was delayed due to the failure of transportation clearance from the State Department, is expected to get it any day now, and will leave as soon as it is obtained.

J. Robert Rubin, Loew's vice-president and general counsel, is expected to join him in New York for the trip to discuss product with Sir Alexander Korda in England.



20th Century-Fo

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"Simply overpowering! Magnificent throughout!"—Mrs. H. Norman Spohr

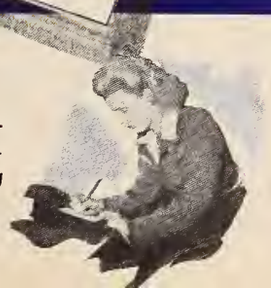
resents . . . THE SEASON'S EVENT!

DUAL WORLD PREMIERE
Christmas Day
FRANZ WERFEL'S
"THE SONG OF BERNADETTE"
Directed by HENRY KING • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG
UNITED ARTISTS Theatre • CARTHAY CIRCLE Theatre
Hollywood

will live for-
er!"—Mr.
anley H. Bates

"Words fail me in describing it!"
—Mrs. Harry M. Daugherty

"The picture far excels the novel!"—
Mr. W. S. Fleming



"They ought to give it the Academy Award!"
—Miss Joan Dunke

Decree Negotiations Suspend for Holidays

(Continued from page 1)

both sides time to consider each other's proposals. The Government's requirements are understood to have been laid down last week at the meeting with Joseph Hazen, Warners vice-president, who has been acting as liaison between the distributors and the Department.

With additional time given for another rewriting of the distributors' proposals prior to their submission to exhibitor leaders for comment, it is expected that the draft to be received by Clark after the turn of the year will cover in some way all of the major points which have been raised. As outlined last week by Clark, these include the treatment of the distributors' own theatres, acquisitions and creation of regional arbitration appeal boards. In view of the present program to recess the negotiations until next month, it becomes apparent that no decree will be readied for submission to the court for some weeks. However, neither the Department nor the distributors are evincing any desire for haste.

Counsel for decree companies continued their work placing their new proposals in the form of a draft yesterday. It was reported at the end of the day that several additional meetings will have to be held before the work is complete, but at the same time the belief was expressed that the new proposals would be ready before the end of the week.

"Destination Tokyo"

(Continued from page 1)

ing Japanese men-of-war and how it accomplished its objective in final safety resolve into a gripping story which consolidates into a smashing tribute to the mettle and the fibre of the little sung men of the submarine service.

There are highlights. One is the de-capping of an unexploded bomb perilously lodged in the hull of the tin fish. Another is an appendectomy performed undersea by the pharmacist's mate. A third is the stealthy two-way game of stalking the prey—the sub on the one hand and Nip destroyers in reverse.

What the *Copperfin's* crew thinks as depth charges shatter their narrow world and how they react to the immediacy of death under water become drama of intensity. There is comedy for relief, of course, but the overtones and the undertones are those of constant peril.

Aside from impact created by engines of war matching skill and luck one against the other, there is sterling human support by an excellent cast. Cary Grant plays the submarine commander and plays it with restraint and expertness; this, certainly must rank high among his best performances. John Garfield, as Wolf, the torpedo man, is tailored for his role. As Pills, the pharmacist's mate who performs the operation on Robert Hutton, William Prince does very well; he is a newcomer holding forth much promise for the future. Others, all of them good, include Dane Clark, Alan Hale, John Ridgely and Warner Anderson.

Delmar Daves, director, understandingly and with virility translated the script of Delmar Daves, writer, in partnership with Albert Maltz. Over all hovered Jerry Wald as the producer.

Running time, 135 minutes. Release date, Jan. 1, 1944. "G."*

RED KANN

*"G" denotes general classification.

Wilfred Vincent Dies

DE PERE, Wis., Dec. 20.—Wilfred R. Vincent, 65, owner and operator of film houses for 31 years, has died.

Two 4th Loan Meets Slated Here Today

(Continued from page 1)

WAC industry public relations chairman of the metropolitan New York exchange area, and Edward Dowden, New York City public relations chairman, will discuss plans for publicizing and advertising the Fourth War Loan drive with their committee.

The Metropolitan committee consists of Ernest Emerling, John A. Cassidy, Al Naroff, Al Zimbalist, Blanche Livingston, Peggy Foldes, Paula Gould, Irving Windish, Jerry Sager, Jack McInerney, Fred Lynch, William Slater, Phil Laufer, Homer Harmon, Janice Rentchler, Sid Kain, Vincent Liguori, Nick Matsoukas, Ira Morais, Sam Coolick, Clement Perry, Joe Lee, Sol Handwerger, Theodore Trust, Irving Ludwig, Myron Segal, Mannie Frisch, Murray Ashman, Peter McCarty, Ray Malone, Ralph Severs and Edward Goth.

Non-Deferrables Under WMC Plans

(Continued from page 1)

in the motion picture industry are considered non-deferrable.

"While the deferment of such workers is no longer prohibited," Mrs. Rosenberg explained, "they still must comply with WMC rules and regulations when changing or seeking jobs.

"Workers now in essential industry in changing to a job on the former non-deferrable list must secure a statement of availability, just as they would have to do in changing to any other job," explained Mrs. Rosenberg. In the case of a mechanic in a war production plant who wants to return to his former job as manager of a theatre, not only must he secure a statement of availability, but in addition, because most theatres are not considered as essential or a "locally needed" activity, the exhibitor owner may not employ him without United States Employment Service approval.

Balaban Sees Doubled Effort In Bond Drive

(Continued from page 1)

P. Skouras, national industry chairman of the drive for his leadership in the industry drive. He predicted that exhibitors throughout the country will double their efforts for the Fourth War Loan.

Balaban spoke at the Midwest regional conference of the industry's Fourth War Loan drive campaign committee at the Hotel Blackstone, which was attended by more than 50 theatre owners, representing circuit and independent theatres throughout Illinois, Missouri, Kentucky, Kansas, Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, Wyoming, Colorado and Iowa.

Today's meeting was one of three regional conferences scheduled throughout the country preparatory to the industry's full scale participation in the forthcoming drive.

Speakers at the morning session included Charles Skouras, "Rick" Ricketson, vice chairman; E. V. Sturdivant, campaign director; Francis Harmon; Jack Kirsch, of Chicago, and Jules Reubens, who presided. A. J. Krappmann, assistant national campaign director, read a message from Theodore R. Gamble, war finance director of the Treasury Department, in which Gamble paid tribute to the industry's patriotic services.

Leave for San Francisco

Following today's meeting Skouras, Ricketson, Sturdivant, Seymour Peiser, Krappmann and Fred Stein left for San Francisco. Another exhibitor meeting is to be held there on Thursday.

Sturdivant announced that Nick Dipson has been appointed state exhibitor chairman for West Virginia.

Present at today's meeting beside those mentioned were Sam Shain, publicist, and the following Midwestern WAC war bond chairmen: Dale McFarland, Iowa; H. E. Jameyson, Kansas; Elmer Rhoden, Missouri; William Skirball, Ohio; Arthur Frudenfeld, Ohio; Harold Fitzgerald, Wisconsin; Tom Berta, Wyoming; John Friedl, Minnesota; Jules Rubens, Illinois, and R. J. Garland, Colorado.

Also the following members of the bond committee: Louis Ansell, Dave Idzal, John Balaban, Edwin Silverman, J. E. Coston, and Bob Mochrie (representing Ned Depinet).

Other guests included: Nat Wolf, Harry Wareham, Fred Wehrenberg, Jack Kirsh, Carl Buermelle, David Arthur, James Arthur, Albert Stetson, Lee Kaufman, M. L. Plessner, Al Poos, Thomas J. Canavan, M. S. Schulter, Henry Riegel, Harry Crawford, Tony Peluso, Dick Fitzmaurice, Jack Keegan, Archie Herzoff, Herbert Cohn, W. K. Hollander and Claud Morris.

Claude Lee to Headquarter In Washington for 4th Loan

Claude Lee, Paramount public relations head, who has been named Treasury Department liaison for the motion picture industry during the Fourth War Loan, will set up offices in the Treasury Department Building, Washington, shortly, to take over important duties in connection with the campaign.

TO THE 600 RADIO EDITORS AND COLUMNISTS

who voted

1. Lowell Thomas
2. Walter Winchell
3. George Putnam

me the third most popular newscaster in the United States and Canada in the 8th annual poll of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, conducted on behalf of "Fame."

My Sincere Thanks,

George F. Putnam

Master of Ceremonies, THE ARMY HOUR, voted in this poll the foremost government war program.

★ ★ ★

Fifteen commercial news broadcasts weekly. NBC, 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m., EWT.

★ ★ ★

Appears in Universal's "We've Never Been Licked."

★ ★ ★

Currently heard on Fox Movietone News.

MPTOA Warns Of 30 or 40% Tax Next Year

(Continued from page 1)

declares. "There is some talk (in Washington) of making it 40 per cent next time. The Treasury Department was frustrated in its plan for a much heavier general tax program, but within a year (possibly not until after the next election) there is no question but what Congress will be under renewed and heavier pressure to pass a much bigger tax bill. Without a doubt we will be in it again. This is only the beginning of our fight if we are going to escape heavy-handed, discriminatory and unfair special taxes."

Kuykendall warns exhibitors that they must begin to prepare now for the new fight to come and urges every theatre owner to get acquainted with his Congressmen now in order to be in a position to make a personal presentation to him later of the consequences to theatre business of heavier admission taxes. He also advises exhibitors to begin working now to correct the mistaken belief of Representatives and Senators that any tax imposed upon admissions is passed along to the public and absorbed by the ticket buyers without any adverse effect on theatre attendance.

The bulletin asserts that, while the industry will survive the new tax of one cent on each five cents or fraction thereof, "a lot of little theatres now operating won't be in business a year from now." The little theatres operating at bare subsistence levels will be the victims, he declares, even though the higher tax will be felt by the entire industry. It means, he says, that the first 20 cents of every dollar taken in will go for tax, and theatres will have to operate on the other 80 cents. This will have an immediate effect on film rentals and, particularly, percentage contracts, Kuykendall declares.

'Flying Squadrons' To Meet for 'Dimes'

(Continued from page 1)

G. Martin, is arranging the first of the meetings, a five-state conference in Atlanta, at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 4. Exhibitors from Florida, Georgia, Alabama, North and South Carolina will attend, also film exchange representatives from that area. The Governor of Georgia will be a speaker, and there will be a demonstration of the Sister Kenny method of treating infantile paralysis.

In the five-state area are some 1,535 theatres, 600 of which reported collections in the 1943 March of Dimes. State delegations to the Atlanta meeting will be headed by the March of Dimes chairman of each state: M. C. Talley, Florida; Roy F. Branson, North and South Carolina, and R. M. Kennedy for Alabama.

Peter Cusack of the National Foundation had paid strong tribute to "the enthusiastic response of exhibitors to the 1944 drive."

Basson Gets Detroit Workers to Remain

(Continued from page 1)

the increase, as they had stated earlier, but these must be approved by the War Labor Board. Applications for approval are still before the WLB, and company attorneys are urging the government agency to render an early decision. Similar walkouts by employees of the New Orleans and Atlanta exchanges were forestalled, it was learned, when the local existing situation was explained to them by IATSE executives.

Extortion Case Will Go to Jury Tomorrow

(Continued from page 1)

all day today and possibly one hour tomorrow for summation.

When the jury returns its verdict later in the week, the probe of racketeering within the industry, in progress for almost three years, will not have ended, it is reliably believed. The Federal Grand Jury will resume its investigation after Jan. 1.

Senate Will Get 20% Tax Measure Today

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The Senate Finance Committee tomorrow will report the new tax bill to the Senate as Congress closes for the year, not to return until Jan. 10.

With all cause for hasty action eliminated by inability to pass the legislation to become effective Jan. 1, indications are that further efforts to eliminate the increase in the admission tax may be made when the bill comes up on the Senate floor.

B'way Grosses In Pre-Holiday Slack

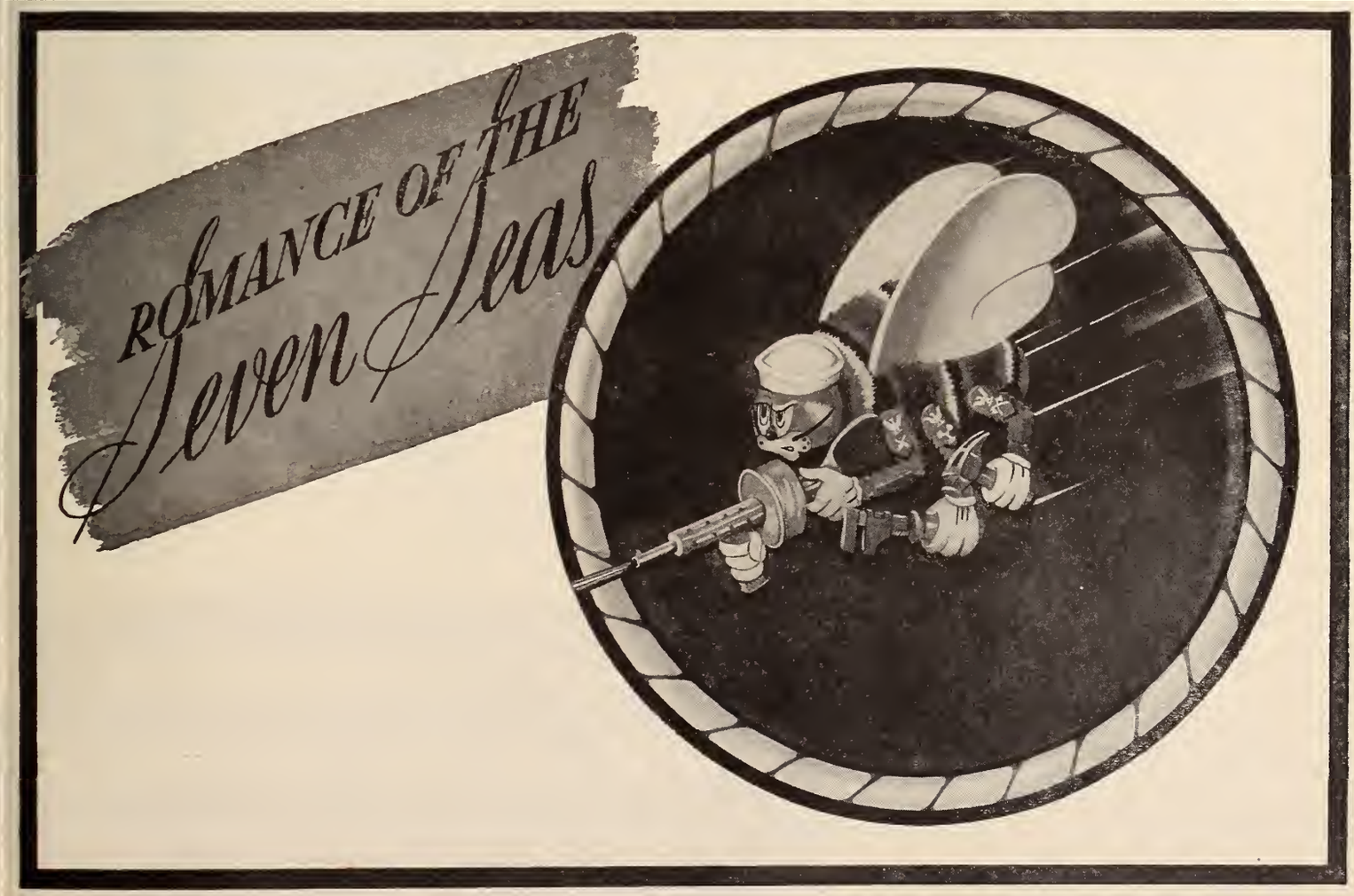
(Continued from page 1)

featuring Frank Fay will end its second and last week at the Roxy tonight with a gross in the neighborhood of $49,000. "Girl Crazy" will close its third and final week at the Capitol tomorrow with a stage show featuring Raymond Scott and his band at an estimated $43,000 gross. "No Time for Love" in its third and final week at the Paramount with Woody Herman and his band on the stage should do about $40,000. "Northern Pursuit" and a stage show at the Strand headed by Glen Gray and his band will do an estimated $29,000 in the fourth week.

"North Star" is expected to get sixth week grosses of $28,000 and $11,000 at the Palace and Victoria respectively. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" in the tenth week of a continuous run at the Rivoli is headed for a $28,000 gross. "Cry Havoc" grossed a modest $12,000 estimated in the fourth week at the Astor and remains. "Pistol Packin' Mama" at the Globe grossed an estimated $9,000. "The Mad Ghoul" should do about $6,000 in its second and final week at the Rialto.

Broadway 1st Runs List Holiday Shows

Holiday attractions for Broadway houses were listed by theatre managers yesterday. "The Gang's All Here" and Jimmy Dorsey and his band and Bill Robinson on the stage will open tomorrow at the Roxy. "Riding High" and Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra will open tomorrow at the Paramount.



A Remarkable Picture about Remarkable Americans!

...the picture that will stir the heart... the picture that will make you stand up and cheer ...the picture that will make you proud you've played it!

Walter Wanger
presents
GUNG HO!
starring
RANDOLPH SCOTT
with
Noah Beery, Jr. • Alan Curtis
Peter Coe • David Bruce
Sam Levene • J. Carrol Naish
Richard Lane • Milburn Stone
and Grace McDonald

Screen Play by Lucien Hubbard
Based on the factual story "GUNG HO"
by Lt. W. S. Le Francois, U.S.M.C.
Additional Dialogue by Joseph Hoffman

Directed by RAY ENRIGHT
Produced by WALTER WANGER

Gung Ho! THE GLORY STORY OF THE MARINE RAIDERS!
a Universal Picture

The story of CARLSON'S MAKIN ISLAND RAIDERS ...made with the co-operation of the U.S. Marine Corps!

THE PRESENT WITH A FUTURE.
WAR BONDS FOR CHRISTMAS.

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 119 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1943 | TEN CENTS

RKO Pension Plan Adopted By Directors

Odlum Says Provisions Cover All Employes

Establishment of a pension or retirement plan for all RKO employees was announced yesterday by Floyd B. Odlum, chairman of the RKO board, following meeting of the board of directors at which general features of the plan were approved. It is expected that details will be approved and announced to employees before the end of this year.

Floyd Odlum

A statement by Odlum describing the plan follows: "The plan is designed

(Continued on page 8)

Waive Suspension of Col., W. B. Licenses

TORONTO, Dec. 21.—Following a meeting today between distributors and representatives of the Ontario Government, announcement was made that the forthcoming suspension of film exchange licenses of Columbia Pictures of Canada and Warner Bros. had been waived, with special provisions which were undisclosed, to enable the companies to occupy their premises in the Hermant Building in

(Continued on page 8)

Slight Case of Mistaken Identity

Hartford, Dec. 21.—Hartford newspapers carried the story that Nicholas M. Schenck, head of Loew's, here to accompany his niece to the Ethel Walker School, thought he would visit one of his Loew circuit's houses, and found himself visiting with E. M. Loew independent circuit manager George Landers instead.

Exhibitors Get WAC Instructions to Aid In 4th Loan Drive

The War Activities Committee yesterday distributed instructions to exhibitors throughout the country telling them how to sell more bonds during the forthcoming Fourth War Loan drive, Jan. 18 to Feb. 15. Pointing out that the goal of the entire campaign is the sale of $14,000,000 in "E" series bonds, the WAC requests theatremen to "showmanize" the entire campaign.

Asking exhibitors to contact the local War Finance Committee and volunteer their services, the WAC suggests a meeting of all employes in each theatre to ask for individual suggestions to put the drive over, as well as giving a quota of bonds to each employe to sell outside of the theatre.

Four bond drive films are being shipped to National Screen exchanges.

(Continued on page 4)

Producing Artists Sets 4 for Filming

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 21.—Product plans of the new David Loew-Arthur Lyons Producing Artists, which will release through United Artists, were disclosed here today as Lyons left by train for New York. The purchase of four story properties, including one of three films to be made starring Jack Benny, with emphasis on musicals and comedies, was also revealed. Stars, directors, producers, writers

(Continued on page 8)

Big Box Office Slump This Week

Reports from *Motion Picture Daily's* correspondents in the field, both in this country and in Canada indicate that in most instances theatres have been hit by one of the severest pre-Christmas slumps in receipts in years, aided and abetted in some places by warnings of health authorities to refrain from public assembly to avoid furthering the cold and flu epidemic.

First-run business especially is off, dropping appreciably far below house averages.

Studio Unions to Demand Back Pay

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21.—Demands that any wage boosts received be made retroactive to October will be made by studio union heads when negotiations on the basic contracts are reopened. The unions will meet some time in January to prepare for conferences with Pat Casey and the majors, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned today. The demands will be made on the basis that contracts were originally scheduled to be reopened in that month.

Meeting of the union heads of the basic agreement group and the

(Continued on page 8)

"Song of Bernadette"

[20th-Fox]

Hollywood, Dec. 21

FROM deep in the experience of mankind and high in the realm of the spiritual comes now and here a film of character and the power to command the presence and acclaim of all peoples of everywhere. It is a supremely simple recording of the facts in the Miracle of Lourdes, the establishment of the shrine on the site of the Miracle, the scoffing and the healing which occurred at that time and place, and the life and death of the girl to whom "through poverty and sorrow" it was given to see "The Lady" unseen by others and to implement her grace. It is one of the great pictures of all times, in any and all of the meanings of the term.

Producer William Perlberg, whose past achievements are dwarfed by this faithful filming of the Franz Werfel book, attunes his audience to his subject with the screened foreword: "For those who believe in God, no explanation is necessary. For those who do not believe in God, no explanation is possible."

In the two hours and thirty-six minutes of narrative which follows he strikes no single false note, violates never a cadence or phrasing in an accounting of incidents which together shape a song of life and spirit compelling and clear as, perhaps, no camera has recorded heretofore. It is not a song explicitly for those who believe in God, in any of the

(Continued on page 4)

Rank Intends To Release 10 To 15 in U.S.

Will Not Form His Own Company Here: Ernst

By MILT LIVINGSTON

J. Arthur Rank, British film industry leader, expects to place 10 to 15 features made by his producing companies in distribution in this market annually, Morris Ernst, American legal representative for Rank, stated here yesterday. Ernst arrived in New York late last week from London, where he spent several weeks conferring with Rank.

Ernst said that Rank has no intention of establishing his own distribution organization in this country to market the 10 to 15 films a year which he believes his British companies can produce on a basis which

(Continued on page 8)

Congress Adjourns, Taxes 'Up in Air'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—The first session of the 78th Congress formally adjourned today with taxes and several other controversial issues still up in the air.

As the Senate met for a final brief session before quitting until Jan. 10, the Finance Committee went through the motions of reporting the tax bill but was given until midnight, Dec. 22,

(Continued on page 8)

Buys His Product From Fox Holes

Cincinnati, Dec. 21.—Stanley Jacques, RKO Cincinnati branch manager, reported today the first known instance wherein an exhibitor now in the Army overseas still buys product for his theatres. Max H. Goldberg, owner of the Pastime and Falmouth Theatres in nearby Falmouth, Ky., who is in the Army stationed somewhere in Europe, signs contracts for product from the fighting front because he is reluctant to turn over power of attorney to another person. The contracts take one month to get overseas and one month to return signed, Jacques revealed.

Personal Mention

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK is vacationing with his family in Miami Beach.

•

JERRY NORWOOD, of the Loew's construction department, is visiting Waterbury and Bridgeport theatres of the circuit from the home office, accompanied by HARRY SHAW, division manager.

•

EDWARD MACKEY of Paramount's Albany exchange, has enlisted in the Navy and is stationed at Sampson Naval Training Station, Sampson, N. Y.

•

JOSEPH A. MCCONVILLE, Columbia vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, returned yesterday from a six-week tour of Central and South America.

•

STAN GOSNELL, manager of the Uptown, Toronto, has been granted a month's stay from U. S. Army induction.

•

HARRY KAHN, RKO representative in Baltimore, is recovering from an operation at Sinai Hospital in that city.

•

ARTHUR SILVERSTONE, 20th Century-Fox foreign department executive, is scheduled to leave for London early in January.

•

CHARLES REAGAN, HUGH OWEN, PAUL RAIBURN, G. B. J. FRAWLEY and AL WILKIE are on the sick list at Paramount.

•

HARRY FISHMAN, operator of the Community, Fairfield, Conn., will take up residence in New Haven this week.

•

WILLIAM BECKLEY, manager of the Strand, Des Moines, has resigned because of ill health.

•

LT. MYRON BLANK, former Tri-States circuit executive in Des Moines, is now in the Navy at Miami.

•

FRANCIS S. HARMON, WAC coordinator, is expected here from Chicago today.

•

WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal general sales manager, will leave for a Florida vacation early next week.

•

WILLIAM MCCORMICK, of the M-G-M publicity department, is home ill.

•

ROGER MAHAN, owner of the Plaza, Waterbury, Conn., is convalescing from a recent operation.

•

EARLE W. SWEIGERT, Paramount Philadelphia district manager, was a New York visitor yesterday.

•

BERT M. STEARN returned yesterday to Cleveland.

•

JULES RIEFF, Columbia auditor, is a New Haven visitor from New York.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

New York, Dec. 21

AFTER the war, the full story probably will be told. For reasons held to be obvious, although the deed is long an accomplished fact, there is nothing but disinclination on the part of Warners to discuss source material of "Destination Tokyo."

So far as the onlooker can dope it, the story appears to be a combination of the fictional and the factual with emphasis on the former in view of information to the contrary. The skilfully developed climax shows American bombers vaulting off the deck of the *Hornet* for their factual attack on Tokyo, their objectives simplified by data short-waved by American operatives on the Japanese mainland.

■

There have been no published accounts verifying any successful invasion of Tokyo Bay by a United States submarine or the landing of three naval men there for checking-up purposes. There has been published, and supported by pictures, the account of a sub which maneuvered close enough to shore to photograph Fujiyama. This has been incorporated in "Destination, Tokyo." So, too, have almost literal translations of scattered incidents made available by the Navy Department from time to time.

The job of telescoping that which is publicly known and historically recorded with presumed dramatic imaginings of a writer behind a typewriter turns out to be an adroit piece of construction. How much was drawn from presently secret archives and permitted to assume the guise of fiction is speculation. It would remain unclarified even if the whole inside were known.

The enemy gets no information here.

■

It is interesting to note the political conscience of the Warner studio asserts itself once more in this attraction. One of several stretches of dialogue keeps it in continued display. A tense highlight finds it required to remove an unexploded bomb caught in the forward mechanism of the submarine on which the action is focalized. The business of removing the fuse head is delicate and dangerous. Finally, it is done.

Flipping the bomb's nose in his hand, Cary Grant looks it over, observes it was made in the U.S.A., turns to his assembled, and vastly relieved, crew and bitingly observes: "The appeasers' contribution to the war effort."

Socko!

■

Lacking clarification and, therefore, continuing the mysteries and the doubts until a few days ago in Hollywood, at least, was the purpose behind that Washington ukase restricting producers from use of atrocity scenes when the perpetrators were Japanese. Never explained, the best answer seemed to trace to a desire to avoid supplying the Sons of Heaven an excuse to take it out on American prisoners. Why the S. of H. required justification for a policy already pursued similarly was never made clear.

Since then, however, there has been the Cairo conference and its scathingly determined decision Japan must return her stolen provinces and islands to their former peoples. No kid gloves were employed on that occasion. The enemy was given it between the optics with no pussyfooting about reactions.

Why Hollywood should be surrounded with a wall impeding its dramatic equipment is less clear now than before.

■ ■

Not once, but three times, did the Loew organization make a pitch for the Walter Reade circuit. That many times did the Department of Justice refuse clearance.

■ ■

Bob Goldstein, eastern representative of International Pictures, Inc., which is yet to produce its first, points out with pride:

"The only company in the history of the industry that never made a flop."

■ ■

The hills fringing Hollywood on the north have their merits, and they are considerable.

The mountains of steel and concrete fringing Central Park on the south have their merits, and they are considerable, too.

It was in the full brownout twinkle the other night. "Not bad," we observed to the lady on our right.

"You wouldn't be kidding, would you?" she observed.

'Send Defendants to Jail,' U.S. Demands

Assistant U. S. Attorney Genera Boris Kostelanetz, winding up the 11-week $1,000,000 film extortion trial of six Capone mob gangsters and a Newark IATSE business agent, yesterday pleaded with a Federal Grand Jury to send the defendants to prison with a verdict of guilty.

The special prosecutor took the whole day to sum up his evidence against the defendants. Judge John Bright announced that he would give the case to the jury this morning after a two-hour charge on the law. If found guilty the defendants face prison terms up to 10 years each and maximum fines of $25,000. The defendants are Paul Ricca, Louis Campagna, Phil D'Andrea, Frank Diamond, John Rosselli, Charles Gioe, all members of the Capone mob and Louis Kaufman, business agent of Local 244, Newark.

Brown to Discuss PCA Product with UA Here

Harry Joe Brown, producer-director of Producers Corp. of America, will arrive here tomorrow to discuss the new company's 1944 product with Edward C. Raftery, United Artists' president, and Gradwell Sears, Arthur Kelly and other U. A. officials.

Sid Schlager, head of PCA, is also here for the conferences. PCA has a five-picture deal with U. A., budgeted at $4,000,000, with one to be filmed in Technicolor. First production will be "Knickerbocker Holiday." First of the five to go before the cameras will probably be Mark Twain's "The Gilded Age," starring Charles Coburn. Bradbury Foote and Kar Brown are working on the script.

Maj. Clark Robinson Killed in Plane Crash

Word has been received here of the death in a plane crash on Dec 12 in Assam, India, of Major Clark Robinson, 47, former Broadway film theatre production director, scenic designer and stage producer. He was on duty in the India-Burma section with the U. S. Army at the time of his death.

Robinson was production director at the Capitol, then the Roxy, in association with S. L. Rothafel, and at Radio City Music Hall when it first opened. He later produced plays, including "Roberta."

SAG Reaffirms Its Position on 'Canteen'

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21.—Following a board meeting here Screen Actors Guild today issued a statement reaffirming the position taken a week ago forbidding actors to accept "substantially less" than the established rate of compensation for their services, as applied to Warners' "Hollywood Canteen," on which shooting stopped when the Guild intervened. Warners said the studio would not issue an answering statement tonight; production will remain shut down for the present.

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"Hey Leo, there will be extra cops at the Capitol tomorrow for the World Premiere!"

a guy named **SANTA CLAUS** presents

a guy named **SPENCER TRACY**

a gal named **IRENE DUNNE**

IN VICTOR FLEMING'S PRODUCTION OF THE M-G-MARVELOUS ROMANCE

"a guy Named Joe"

with a cast named Terrific:

Van Johnson • Ward Bond • James Gleason • Lionel Barrymore • Barry Nelson • Esther Williams
Screen Play by Dalton Trumbo • Adaptation by Frederick Hazlitt Brennan • Directed by VICTOR FLEMING
Produced by EVERETT RISKIN • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

It's in M-G-M's "Vitamin 12" Group!

"Our Two Big Jobs in January:

Exhibitors Get WAC Instructions to Aid In 4th Loan Drive

(Continued from page 1)

They include: a film bulletin starring Ann Sothern; a 125-foot trailer starring either Ginger Rogers, Irene Dunne or Barbara Stanwyck, to be used during the first two weeks; a 125-foot trailer with James Cagney and Edward Arnold to be exhibited during the last two weeks and another 125-foot trailer starring Bob Hope. Accessories, including free posters from the Treasury Department, will be available through National Screen exchanges. Exhibitors are urged to dress up marquees, fronts and lobbies.

'Stark Realism' to Aid Films' Drive

"The Price of Rendova," described by the WAC as "the grimmest short subject yet to be distributed by the committee," will serve as an advance "salesman" for the industry's participation in the fourth loan drive. The film will be released Jan. 6, with 25-feet of bond-selling tag-footage added.

Made by the U. S. Army Signal Corps, "The Price of Rendova" is said to show—"with no punches pulled"—the cost in men and material necessary to take the tiny island of Rendova in the South Pacific.

"Distribution of this film is a reflection of the new Government policy to show the war as it really is with American casualties shown in all their starkness on the screen," said the WAC.

N.Y. 'Free Movie Day' For Bonds Considered

The "Honored Hundred Managers" national contest for war bond sales in the fourth loan will be augmented by the special local prizes in the Metropolitan New York area, according to a plan formulated at a meeting yesterday in local chairman Edward L. Alperson's office which was attended by borough and county chairmen Fred Schwartz, Queens; Sam Rinzler, Brooklyn; Louis Goldberg, Staten Island and co-Brooklyn chairman, Russ Emde; Bronx and Westchester, Al Naroff representing Harry Brandt, Manhattan, and Harry Mandel, New York public relations chairman.

Special awards are for the three managers in the area whose percentages of bond sales, after reaching their respective quotas in keeping with the theme of the drive—"a bond for every seat," are the highest. The prizes will be $100, $75 and $50 in bonds. In addition, the various boroughs and counties are to be divided into districts by the chairmen, and captains appointed for each district. A prize of $100 will be presented to the captain whose district or group of theatres under his surveillance not only meet their quota 100 per cent, but whose percentage exceeds all other districts in the "over the quota" mark.

At the meeting ways and means of exploiting the fourth loan were discussed, including the possibility of having a free movie day to open the drive on Tuesday, Jan. 18.

In addition to Alperson and his chairmen, John Price Jones, Douglas Craik, Harry W. Brown and Frank Vreeland of the Treasury Department were present. Also, Sid Kain of Loew's, Charles B. McDonald, W. B. England and John A. Cassidy, all of RKO.

PRESS AGENT PLANTER

Aggressive, draft exempt, with flair for meeting people, writing and planting publicity, wants connection with company seeking better newspaper, syndicate and magazine breaks. His publicity experience is backed by more than 15 years on New York papers.

Box 224, Motion Picture Daily.

"Song of Bernadette"

(Continued from page 1)

ways of believing, nor explicitly for those who do not. But it is a song, majestic in its simplicity, for both of those and for all the others who do or do not believe in the power of faith. It is, apart from and beyond all this, a song and a picture about plain people, their problems and their pains, their prides and their prejudices, their living and their dying, their hearts and their souls.

THE scene is Lourdes, France, in 1858, and subsequently George Seaton's masterly screenplay takes Bernadette, finely portrayed by Jennifer Jones, quickly to the scene of her vision. It follows her through the ensuing events in her life, the questionings, the scornings, the multiplicity of confusions in which she alone is unconfused, with fidelity to facts, to character and—for the facts are themselves dramatic—to the tenets of entertainment in its finest sense.

It is a script for other craftsmen to study. It wastes no words, and each line spoken advances the narrative. It paints no character all black, none altogether white, but all human. It champions no creed, condemns none, and argues for no philosophy save, indirectly and by force of fact, that of faith. It is the year's best job of screenplay writing.

The cast contains no glittering array of marquee might with which a showman may beguile the passer-by, but it does contain a corps of capable players who, under Henry King's inspired direction, achieve a composite distinction above and beyond the skill of any handful of headliners flanked by secondaries to attain. Among the thirty-nine who participate in the dialogue, Charles Bickford as the Dean of Lourdes, William Eythe as the youth who relinquishes Bernadette to her destiny, Gladys Cooper as her stern superior, Lee J. Cobb as the man of science loath to credit or contradict the miracle, and Vincent Price, Roman Bohnen, Sig Rumann, Charles Waldron, Anne Revere and Mary Anderson rate special mention which detracts in no wise from the credit due their associates.

BALANCING these many splendid performances, one with the other, calling now upon one, now upon another, for a value here, a contrasting value there, like an organist marshalling the resources of his instrument, director King breaks new ground for his profession.

Its lack of name power is no barrier to "The Song of Bernadette" as a commercial property. It is not the kind of picture that needs a star or stars to carry it. It is the kind of picture that stirs the people who see it and sends them away to tell other people to go and be stirred by it. It is the kind of property that commands its market.

Running time, 156 mins. Release date not set. "G."*

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

*"G" denotes general classification.

WAC Publicists Meet On Bonds and 'Dimes'

At an afternoon meeting of the WAC public relations committee here Harry Mandel reported on what transpired at the Alperson committee meeting. In addition, the entire loan campaign was discussed. Ernest Emerling, in charge of public relations for the "March of Dimes" talked on that drive.

Present at the afternoon meeting were: Irving H. Ludwig, Sam Coolick, Ira Morais, Sid Kain, Vincent Liguori, Sol Handwerger, Bob Paskow, Ray Malone, Mike Siegel, Al Zimbalist, Teddy Trust, William Slater, Edward Kestenbaum, Edward Goth, Al Naroff, Paula Gould, Jerry Sager and John A. Cassidy.

Funeral Services for McDonnell Monday

Funeral services will be held here Monday for William McDonnell, formerly of Watterson Rothacker's staff of the Office of Censorship, Hollywood, and former sales promotion manager for Quigley Publications, who died in Hollywood last weekend. Burial will be in the family plot in Calvary Cemetery, Queens, L. I. Services were held in Hollywood yesterday.

The family of the deceased, while in New York, will stay at the Sherry Netherlands.

Rites for Mrs. McKay

PLAINFIELD, N. J., Dec. 21.—Funeral services were held yesterday for Mrs. Arthur B. McKay, sister-in-law of Willard McKay, New York film attorney, at Runyon Funeral Chapel here. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery. Mrs. McKay is survived by her husband, Arthur, and a son, Robert.

George Peck Passes

DES MOINES, Dec. 21.—George B. Peck, 70, former manager of the Orpheum here, died recently at Tampa, Fla. Remains were brought to his former home at Cedar Rapids for burial. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Blanche Ewing Peck.

Diverts Admissions To War Fund Drive

Wildwood, N. J., Dec. 21.—In a most dramatic appeal, William C. Hunt, of the Shore and Casino theatres here, announces that he will keep both houses closed Friday as a reminder to the public of the War Fund Drive. Hunt said evening performances will be suspended so that patrons can donate admissions to the drive. A committee will be stationed in the lobbies to collect contributions.

Both of Hunt's sons, formerly with him in the operation of his circuit, are overseas. Guy Hunt is a lieutenant in the Navy and Bud Hunt, former general manager of the circuit, is an overseas director for the American Red Cross in Palestine.

Paramount Trade Showings Jan. 3-

Five pictures in Paramount's thi block for 1943-44 will be tradeshov in most cities on Monday, Jan. 3 a Tuesday, Jan. 4, Neil Agnew, gener sales manager, announced here yeste day. "Standing Room Only," "T Uninvited" and "Henry Aldrich, B Scout" will be shown to exhibitors Jan. 3 and "The Miracle of Morgai Creek" and "Timber Queen" Jan. 4.

In New York, "Morgan's Cree will be the only one of the block sho on Jan. 4. The other four pictur will be screened on Jan. 3. In Dall and Denver, "Morgan's Creek" will shown Tuesday, Dec. 28.

'Tokyo' Premiere at New London Toda

"Destination Tokyo," Warner fi dealing with submarine operations the Pacific, will be previewed at t New London (Conn.) submarine ba today by newspaper and tra press representatives and submari trainees, returned heroes and other i vited guests.

Newspaper and trade press rep sentatives will have lunch aboard fleet-type submarine, then spend t afternoon inspecting the submari base, attending classes for officers a enlisted men, and at 5 P.M. they w be given a buffet at the Officers' Cl Premiere of the picture is set for P.M.

Seek Ban on 'Horror'

BUFFALO, Dec. 21.—The Erie Cou ty Grand Jurors association has re ommended the drawing up of a fil code to eliminate "pictures containi scenes of extreme cruelty and horr believed to be contributing to chi delinquency." They will also forwa a similar recommendation to rad stations.

Harry Larner Wounde

Corp. Henry Larner, first memb of the Paramount home office pu licity department to join the servi has been seriously wounded in acti with the American Field Service the Italian front, Paramount has r ported here. Corp. Larner volunteer a year and a half ago.

Baltimore Papers Cut All Ad Space

BALTIMORE, Dec. 21.—The *Sun* has announced that curtailment of the newsprint supply will make necessary drastic changes in the size and make-up of its papers. "Care will be taken to insure a fair allotment of space to each type of advertiser," the announcement said, but "advertising space will be materially curtailed."

The *Sun* now will usually contain only 14 pages, seldom over 22. The *Evening Sun* will often contain only 20 pages, rarely more than 32. Saturdays it will be limited to eight. Condensation on various sections of the *Sunday Sun* will also be made.

George Whiting, 61, Lyricist, Dies Here

George Whiting, 61, writer of popular songs, including "My Blue Heaven," "Believe It, Beloved" and others, died at his home in the Bronx this week. Whiting's works have been featured in several films. Recently he had been editing the script of "Can You Top This?" current radio show.

Surviving are a widow and four daughters.

Howard Back to Warners

BRIDGEPORT, Dec. 21.—Murray Howard, former manager of the Merritt here, has been honorably discharged from the Army and has been reemployed by Warner Bros. He has not as yet been given a new definite assignment.

Review

"Moonlight in Vermont"

(*Universal*)

Hollywood, Dec. 21

ANOTHER of Universal's light musicals sprinkled with comedy and sufficient story to carry the action along and provide good excuse for Gloria Jean, Ray Malone, newcomer from Broadway; Vivian Austin and Betty McCabe to display their vocal and dancing wares.

The plot of "Moonlight in Vermont" is woven around the farm labor shortage. Gloria is sent off to drama school in New York where Vivian plots to discredit her and get her sent home because she is jealous of Malone's interest in the country girl. When the students learn she cannot return to study because of the farm shortage, they, together with the drama school head, go to Vermont to harvest the crops. They stage a big show at the "Farm Festival," where Gloria's pet cow wins first prize of $500; so she can return to her drama and voice studies.

While her voice is not exceptionally strong, Gloria Jean handles her lead role capably, as do Malone, Miss McCabe and Vivian Austin, who provides an adroit feminine menace. George Dolenz shines as the eccentric school head, while Fay Helm proves an effective romantic lure for him. Others whose support adds to the entertainment values of the picture are Patsy O'Connor, Sidney Miller, Billy Benedict, Mira McKinney, Virginia Brissac and Russell Simpson. Edward Lilley directed for Associate Producer Bernard W. Burton from an original screenplay by Eugene Conrad. "Lover," sung by Gloria, and "Be a Good, Good Girl," sung by Gloria and a chorus, are pleasing.

Running time, 62 minutes. "G."* Release date, Dec. 24.

"G" denotes general classification.

Stars to Visit England

LONDON, Dec. 21.—James Cagney, Paulette Goddard, Ray Milland, Ann Sheridan, Fred Astaire, Bing Crosby and Mickey Rooney are among the Hollywood screen stars who are expected to arrive in Britain within the next few months to entertain U. S. Army troops, it was announced here today by American headquarters.

Schoenfeld to Morris

Joe Schoenfeld will join the William Morris Agency's literary department. After four weeks in the New York office, Schoenfeld will move to the Hollywood office, where he will take up permanent duties. An associate editor of *Variety* for 10 years, he was formerly with Hearst newspapers in New York and Chicago.

Griffith Theatres Sign for Republic

Republic Pictures has closed with the 142 Griffith Oklahoma and Texas theatres for its entire 1943-44 program.

Republic president J. R. Grainger, Dallas branch manager Lloyd Rust and Oklahoma City branch manager Glen Alt represented Republic, while the Griffith Circuit was represented by Horace Falls and H. O. Stark.

AMPA Luncheon Today

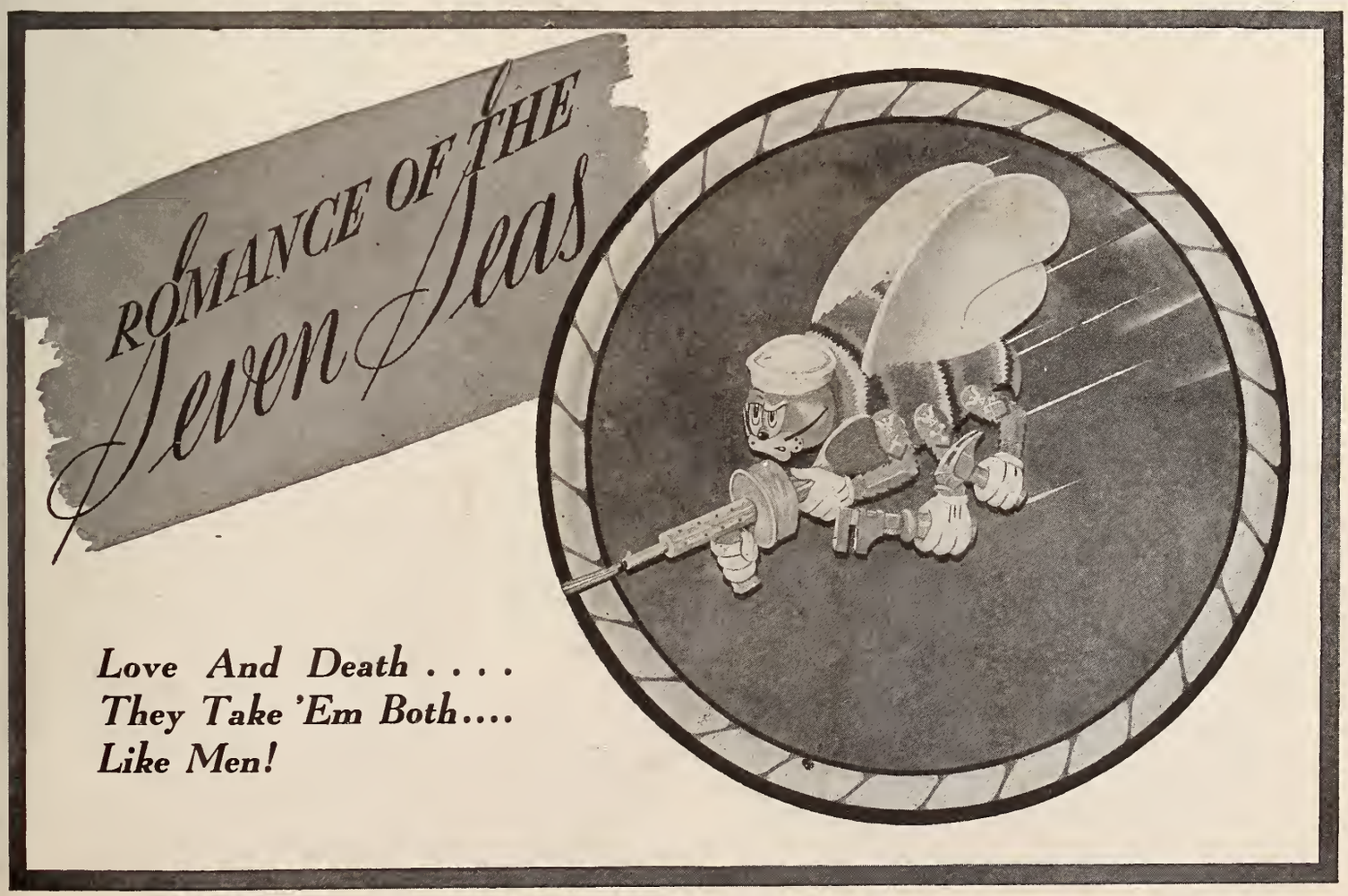
Editors and reporters of the trade press will be guests of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers today at the first luncheon meeting since the re-election of President Vincent Trotta. The luncheon, to be held in the Hotel Edison, will be a Christmas and New Year's party. The first edition of AMPA's new publication, "The New AMPA Spark," and gifts will be distributed.

Two Canadian Dividends

TORONTO, Dec. 21.—Famous Players has declared a 50-cent dividend on common stock payable Dec. 31, bringing payments for the year to $1.25. Hamilton United Theatres has also announced a dividend of 1¼ percent on preferred shares at the year end.

Meadow Gets 55th St.

Noel Meadow, former newspaperman and publicity agent, has acquired the 55th Street Playhouse here, second house to come under his management in three months. The other is the Stanley at Times Square.



"IN OLD OKLAHOMA"
"FIGHTING SEABEES"
"THE MONSTER"
"PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA"
"HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER"
"NOBODY"
"CASANOVA IN BURLESQUE"
"MY BEST GAL"
"BRAZIL"
"MAN FROM FRISCO"
"ROSIE THE RIVETER"
"ATLANTIC CITY"

SEASON'S GREETINGS
from
REPUBLIC PICTURES CORPORATION
to our
FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS OF THE
MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY
•
OUR HEARTFELT THANKS
for the
WONDERFUL YEAR YOU GAVE US IN
1943
and our
SINCERE WISHES FOR A GRAND
1944 FOR YOU ALL

RKO Pension Plan Adopted By Directors

(Continued from page 1)

to reward employees for their past and future services by providing pension benefits in addition to federal social security benefits. The plan will include all present regular employees between the ages of 30 and 64 if they have already completed three years of service or as soon as such services has been completed. New employees will likewise be included if between 30 and 60 years of age. It is planned to provide retirement benefits outside the plan for employees now over 64 years of age. Employees in the armed forces of the United States will be included, with full credit for the time spent in the armed forces, if they return to RKO.

Pension Primary Aim

"The primary purpose of the plan is to provide, after the normal retirement age, a monthly pension, the amount of which will be determined by length of service and compensation. The normal retirement age will be 65 years, except in the case of employees now over 55 years of age whose normal retirement age will be covered by special provisions. Minimum benefits after normal retirement age will be fixed amounts monthly, including primary federal social security benefits. The plan will also include benefits in the case of death prior to attainment of the normal retirement age.

"There will be no contributions by employees to the cost of the plan. Annual payments will be made by the employer corporations to a special trust fund which will be self-administered. The plan will, of course, be submitted to the Treasury Department for the requisite approval, and is subject to such approval.

"It is believed that this is the first pension or retirement plan in the motion picture industry of general application to all employees."

Congress Adjourns, Tax 'Up in Air'

(Continued from page 1)

actually to file its report. At a late hour this afternoon, the committee still was in session, giving the measure a final review and working on the report.

With the committee supporting a rate of one cent on each five cents paid for admissions, its approval by the Senate is expected to be secured without difficulty, although a final attempt may be made to have the increase over the present rate eliminated entirely. Either way, the final fate of the levy will have to be decided by a conference committee since it will differ from the House provision for a tax of two cents on each 10 cents paid.

While Congress will reconvene for the new session Jan. 10 it is probable the tax bill will not be taken up for a few days. Normally, no legislation is acted upon on the first day of a session, the President's annual message usually is received on the second day, and the budget and budget message on the third, after which Congress gets down to business.

Rank Intends to Release 10 to 15 in This Country

(Continued from page 1)

will merit major playing time in the United States. He reported that instead, Rank is exploring the possibilities of a distribution tieup with an established American company, or with several of them, either with or without the purchase of an interest in such companies.

In this connection Ernst mentioned Universal, in which Rank already holds a sizeable investment, and also referred to United Artists, RKO, Columbia, Republic and Monogram. High officials of United Artists and RKO have denied previous reports from London that Rank was negotiating for an interest in those companies, but there has been no denial that a distribution arrangement might be effected with one or more of Rank's producing companies for product suitable for the American market.

Distribution Not Feasible

Ernst declared that it is not feasible now for large American companies to undertake distribution of British films here when they are experiencing difficulties in marketing some of their own films because of the situation created by extended runs. The situation with the smaller companies is different, according to Ernst, and it is with these companies that Rank and his Two Cities Films, Ltd., represented here by Dr. Alexander Galperson, hope to make releasing arrangements.

Several companies are understood to have made overtures to have Rank buy in and distribute his films through their facilities in this country. Barrington Gaines, commissioned by Rank to make a study of American distribution, is scheduled to arrive here next week.

According to Ernst, two importan factors have altered the course of British-American film relations. They are the dominating position in British industry achieved by Rank and the improved type of films produced by Filippo Del Guidice of Rank's Two Cities. Ernst said Del Guidice's pictures have the Hollywood formula and are grossing heavily. British producers are ready to hire one of the best dialogue men in America to act as consultant in order to adapt their films to the American idiom, Ernst added. They also stand prepared to engage a top American exploitation figure to help sell their films to the American public.

New Priority System Seen

Ernst predicted that the British government might be obliged to adopt a new priority system on imports after the war to protect its dollar exchange. He said American producers will be able to send many more pictures to England for distribution there if English producers are able to earn, say, $10,000,000 in the American market with their films. Ernst explained that American companies will take $60,000,000 in revenue out of England this year. The normal amount, which represented 50 per cent of their world market, is about $35,000,000, he said.

Warner Bros., in Ernst's opinion, is the one U. S. company that appears to have the right formula in making and distributing 12 pictures in England for England and the world market. The M-G-M-Sir Alexander Korda move is also in this direction.

Ernst revealed that about 20 American actors and technicians are signing with Two Cities Films to make pictures under the company's profit-sharing arrangements.

Producing Artists Sets 4 for Filming

(Continued from page 1)

and composers will participate in the profits of pictures they make.

The four properties acquired by Producing Artists are: "Love Is Where You Find It," an original comedy by Fritz Rotter and Charles O'Neal, with Jerome Kern writing the musical score. Production is to start March 15, the first PA film for United Artists release; "High Spirits," an original musical comedy being considered as the first Jack Benny starrer; "Singing City," a novel by Dan Totheroh, and "The Blackbirder," by Dorothy Hughes, writer of the recent "Fallen Sparrow," who will also write the screenplay.

Rogers Buys 'Angel'

Charles R. Rogers has acquired the film rights to "Angel On My Shoulder," an unproduced play by Harry Segall, for $60,000. The picture will be released by United Artists.

Waive Suspension Of Col., W.B. Licenses

(Continued from page 1)

which many other enterprises are chemists. Chairman O. J. Silverthorne of the government's inspection branch was ill at home and could give no information regarding the development, but it is understood that additional precautions were agreed upon since the film companies are unable to find a different building for the handling and storage of films under present conditions. Asked about the decision, Wolfe Cohen, general manager for Warners, said, "We do not have to move."

Studio Unions to Demand Back Pay

(Continued from page 1)

IATSE, postponed because of the Bioff extortion trial in New York, is now scheduled to be held immediately following an American Federation of Labor executive board meeting early in January at Miami, and will involve discussion of plans for reopening negotiations on wages, hours and working conditions under contracts still in force, with virtually every studio union seeking wage boosts. Thousands of Hollywood studio workers would be affected.

Loew's Meeting Changed

Loew's, Inc., annual stockholders' meeting, usually held at the home offices in February of each year, is scheduled to be held in the first week of March, it was learned yesterday.

ATTEND THE
San Francisco
TRADE SHOWING
of
GINGER ROGERS
in the unforgettable picture of the year—
Tender Comrade
RKO RADIO PICTURE
★
MONDAY, JANUARY 10th
11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.
RKO PROJECTION ROOM
251 HYDE STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

DO NOT REMOVE

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 120 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1943 | TEN CENTS

All Defendants In Extortion Trial Guilty

Jury Deliberates Here For 10 Hours

A Federal Court jury of nine women and three men, after deliberating for 10 hours following 11 weeks of trial, last night found the seven defendants guilty in the $1,000,000 film industry extortion case. Each defendant, six of whom are members of the Al Capone gang in Chicago, the other being the business agent of a Newark, N. J., labor union, faces a possible prison term of 10 years and a fine of $10,000.

The defendants are Louis Compagna, Paul De Lucia, Phil D'Andrea, Francis Maritote, alias Frank Diamond; Charles Gioe, John Rosselli, all

(Continued on page 6)

M. Silverstone Signs 5-Year Pact with Fox

Spyros. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, announced yesterday that the company has signed a five-year contract with Murray Silverstone, to head the foreign department. Silverstone is a vice-president of the company.

Murray Silverstone

He became associated with 20th-Fox in April, of this year. Of his 25 years' association with the industry, 22 were with United Artists. He started with UA as a salesman and

(Continued on page 6)

Industry to Honor Moss for Charities

Paul Moss, New York City license commissioner, will be guest of honor at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor, Jan. 12 to be given by the New York film-amusement industry on behalf of the Federation of Jewish Charities. Committee chairmen in charge of arrangements are David Weinstock of Raybond Theatres, and Leo Brecher of Brecher Theatres.

5 in First British Block from Rank For U.S. Market

Arrival here from London this week of Dr. Alexander Galperson, representative of J. Arthur Rank's Two Cities Films, apparently signals the launching of Rank's program to attempt to secure American distribution of 10 to 15 of the British film magnate's productions annually.

Dr. Galperson will immediately seek distribution channels here for Two Cities' "Demi-Paradise," featuring Laurence Olivier, with a Russian background; "The Lamp Still Burns," nursing story with the London 'blitz' as background; "The Gentle Sex," "Flemish Farm" and "This Happy Breed," Noel Coward Technicolor production. United Artists han-

(Continued on page 6)

DeLapp, 'U.' Studio Publicity Head, Killed

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22. — Terrill (Terry) De Lapp, 39, publicity director for Universal Studio, was killed late last night by an automobile while crossing Sunset Boulevard near his home.

Born in Pasadena, De Lapp attended the University of Southern California, majoring in journalism. He was at one time aviation editor

(Continued on page 6)

WPB MAY ABANDON RAW FILM CONTROL

Home Offices Closed Half Day Tomorrow

Nearly all home offices here will close tomorrow afternoon, giving employes an extended holiday week-end.

RKO will close at noon, along with United Artists and Monogram; 20th-Fox will close at 12:30 and Columbia, Warners, M-G-M, Paramount and Universal will close at 1 P. M.

Sig Schlager Forms American Film Corp.

Formation of American Film Corp., an independent production company, was announced here yesterday by Sig Schlager, president, who also heads Producers Corporation of America. The new company is slated to make four films in 1944. Schlager is currently negotiating for the rights to two properties for AFC.

In addition, AFC will enter into

(Continued on page 6)

Hopper to Coast to Talk To Studio Heads

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—All controls on the consumption of raw stock by producers and distributors may be abandoned by the War Production Board within the next three to six months, it was learned here tonight.

The supply situation during the past few months has shown a steady improvement and there now is plenty of motion picture film, but WPB officials will continue the present allocations through the first quarter of the coming year while they make a complete study of the situation with a view to determining whether it is a permanent or temporary condition.

Harold Hopper, chief of the motion picture section, who is in charge of

(Continued on page 6)

Skouras Names State Publicity Loan Heads

Charles P. Skouras, national chairman for the industry's participation in the Fourth War Loan, Jan. 18-Feb. 15, has selected state publicity chairmen to complete the nation-wide bond-selling team for the industry. The chairmen follow: Richard Kennedy, Ala.; A. G. Pickett, Ariz.; Ed Rowley, Jr., Ark.; Mort Goodman, Cal., (Southern); Fay S. Reeder, Cal., (Northern); Harold Rice, Col.; Lou Brown, Conn.; Edgar Doob, Del.; J. L. Cartwright, Fla.; William Brady,

(Continued on page 6)

Warners Cancel 'Hollywood Canteen'

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22.—Warners announced today that it had been compelled by a decision of the Screen Actors Guild to abandon completely production of "Hollywood Canteen" which has been shooting for three and a half weeks. The company explained its action by revealing that the guild had not announced its salary ruling until Dec. 7, after "Canteen" had been in production since Nov. 15. There

(Continued on page 6)

MPTOA Prepares Three Schedules on Tax Proposals for Theatre Owners

MOTION Picture Theatre Owners of America has prepared for exhibitors schedules of admission charges under each of the three proposals for increasing the Federal ticket tax: the Treasury's 30 per cent proposal, the 20 per cent passed by the House and the one-cent-on-each-five which the Senate Finance Committee has recommended—all action meanwhile marking time during the holiday recess until Jan. 10. The schedules follow:

Treasury Recommendation (3c on each 10c)			*House Bill (2c on each 10c)*			*Senate Finance Committee (1c on each 5c)*		
Adm. Price	Tax	Total Charge	Adm. Price	Tax	Total Charge	Adm. Price	Tax	Total Charge
10c	3c	13c	10c	2c	12c	10c	2c	12c
15c	6c	21c	15c	4c	19c	15c	3c	18c
20c	6c	26c	20c	4c	24c	20c	4c	24c
25c	9c	34c	25c	6c	31c	25c	5c	30c
30c	9c	39c	30c	6c	36c	30c	6c	36c
35c	12c	47c	35c	8c	43c	35c	7c	42c
40c	12c	52c	40c	8c	48c	40c	8c	48c
45c	15c	60c	45c	10c	55c	45c	9c	54c
50c	15c	65c	50c	10c	60c	50c	10c	60c
Total Tax Per Year $490,000,000			Total Tax Per Year $327,000,000			Total Tax Per Year $297,000,000		

Total tax collected this year $163,000,000.

Personal Mention

J. ROBERT RUBIN, M-G-M vice-president, is expected to leave today for a week's stay in Syracuse.

•

ARCHIE HERZOFF and DAVE ARLEN, of the B & K circuit publicity department, are working five hours each night in a Chicago war plant making tank parts.

•

MRS. IRVING BLUMBERG, wife of IRVING BLUMBERG, head of advertising and publicity for the Warner circuit in Philadelphia, is seriously ill at the Temple Hospital in that city.

•

ALEX G. STIEFEL, manager of the Roxy, Philadelphia, and MRS. STIEFEL are parents of a baby son born at the Presbyterian Hospital in that city last weekend.

•

MOE WELLS, Chicago exhibitor, writes songs on the side. Latest is "Ain't You Got No Time for Love," sung by GRACE MCDONALD in Universal's new "She's for Me."

•

S. BARRET MCCORMICK, RKO advertising and publicity director, and MRS. MCCORMICK left yesterday for Hollywood, with a stopover in Denver to spend the holidays with his parents.

•

GEORGE F. DEMBOW had a birthday yesterday. As usual, it was observed with the annual luncheon twosome: George and his brother, Sam.

•

FREDRIC MARCH and his wife, FLORENCE ELDRIDGE, are vacationing near Hartford, following an overseas USO tour.

•

CHARLES BOASBERG, RKO Eastern Central division manager, left here yesterday to spend one week with his family in Cleveland.

•

DAVE STRUMPF, RKO art director, and GLADYS KLEINMAN, assistant editor of that company's house organ, have birthdays on Christmas day.

•

SAL POPOLIZIO, formerly with 20th Century-Fox in New Haven, is now a corporal with the Army stationed in England.

•

E. K. O'SHEA, M-G-M sales executive, still in the hospital, is reported improving.

•

LEOPOLD FRIEDMAN, Loew's, Inc., general counsel, left last night for Toronto.

•

DON PRINCE, RKO exploiteer from Boston, is a Hartford visitor.

•

LEON BAMBERGER, of RKO, celebrated another birthday yesterday.

•

HARRY OLSHAN, Columbia salesman in New Haven, is on vacation.

Press and Navy at W.B. 'Tokyo' Debut

NEW LONDON, Conn., Dec. 22.—Submarine heroes back from active duty, together with student officers and enlisted men and the officers in charge of the U. S. submarine base here, were guests of Warner Bros. tonight at the world premiere of "Destination Tokyo," starring Cary Grant and John Garfield, at the Base Theater.

A press delegation from New York, Boston and elsewhere attended. Among those invited were: Bob Considine, *N. Y. Daily Mirror*; Earl Wilson, *N. Y. Post*; Otis L. Guernsey, Jr., *N. Y. Herald Tribune*; Alton Cook, *N. Y. World-Telegram*; Robert K. Shellby, *Christian Science Monitor*; Pete Ellis, United Press; Clayton Irwin, Associated Press; Anthony Pugliese, International News; L. L. Stevenson, Bell Syndicate; Marguerite Young, Newspaper Enterprise Association; Zeke Cook, *Newsweek*; Mabel Schubert, *Time*; Jean Speiser, *Life*; G. E. Blackford, *N. Y. Journal-American*; Stanley Eames, *Boston Herald*; Paul McMahon, *Milwaukee Journal*; Wayne Adams, *Chicago Sun*; Alvin Goldstein, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*; Jesse Zunser, *Cue*; Milt Livingston, MOTION PICTURE DAILY; Chester B. Bahn, *Film Daily*; William G. Formby, *Boxoffice*; Harold Bone, *Variety*; Mel Konecoff, *The Exhibitor*, and local correspondents of other papers.

The Warner home office delegation included Larry Golob, Irving Yergin, John Fitzgerald, Abe Kronenberg, Sid Garfield and Don Gillette.

Preceding the premiere, the visiting party was shown around the submarine base where they attended classes, inspected submarines, in one of which they had lunch, and were guests at a buffet later in the officers' club.

Para. Pep Club Party On for Tomorrow

More than 500 employees of the Paramount home office and New York exchange will attend the annual Christmas party of the Paramount Pep Club in the home office recreation room tomorrow. Many former Paramount employees in the service will be present.

Christmas carols will be sung and a luncheon will follow, after which there will be dancing and entertainment. Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, will provide the theatre's stage show, headed by Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra.

Babette Brandt to Marry

Babbette Brandt, daughter of Harry Brandt, theatre circuit owner, will be married on Sunday to Pfc. Allan Fromme, former phychology professor now in the Army, at Congregation Rodeph Sholem on Central Park West.

Many industry figures have been invited both to the wedding ceremony and the reception which will follow at the Hotel Pierre.

Vancouver Theatres Get Free Electricity

Vancouver, Dec. 22.—A high "bonus" to theatres, especially to Famous-Players and Odeon circuits, will result from the decision of the board of British Columbia Electric—giving all users of electric power a month's free power on the mainland, which includes the Vancouver district, and two months' free electricity on Vancouver Island, including Victoria. Seems B. C. has been making heavy profits lately.

Ampa Pays Tribute To the Trade Press

A Christmas-New Year's luncheon for trade press editors and reporters was given by the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers yesterday at the Hotel Edison. Over 50 attended.

Vincent Trotta, AMPA president, lauded the trade press as "true friends of the organization." A message commending the Paramount Theatre for donating the house for an AMPA midnight benefit performance on Oct. 22, was ordered sent to Robert J. Weitman, managing director of the theatre. Silent tribute was paid to the memory of Joseph Gallagher, former member who died recently.

Among those present were: Paul Lazarus, Jr., Red Kann, Sherwin Kane, Rutgers Neilson, Arnold Stolz, James Zabin, 'Hap' Hadley, Mel Gold, Joel Swenson, Al Finestone, Leon Bamberger, Hortense Schorr, Paul Benjamin, Phil Williams, Belle Goldstein, Margaret Wayburn, Raymond Cavanaugh, Charles Alicoate, Martin Starr, Jacques Kopfstein, Phil Laufer, Floyd Stone, Arthur Jeffrey, Joseph Shea, Robert Wile, William Ornstein, James Jerauld, Fred Stengel, Al Steen, E. W. Baremore, Lou Pollack, Marvin Kersch, Evelyn Coleman, Jack Harrison, Henderson Richey, Gertrude Merriam, Chester Friedman, Jack Fuld and Edward McNamee.

RKO Managers Give Party to McDonald

Charles McDonald, former RKO theatres division manager in Manhattan and the lower Bronx who recently assumed new duties in the home office, was given a party by house managers of his former division at Cavanaugh's Restaurant on 23rd St. this week.

Among those present were: Harold Daly, George Dunne, Ray Connor, George Baldwin, Lee Koken, Al Arnstein, Martin Rosen, Rudy Kramer, John Thompson, Phil Nimeroh, Rodney White, Clayton Pruit, Michael Edelstein, Sam Taub, Herb Heintz, Helene McGinnis and Beatrice Bien.

ITOA Meets Here

The Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York held a meeting yesterday at the Hotel Astor. Harry Brandt presided as usual. Discussions embraced film rentals, admission taxes and the manpower situation.

Coast Flashes

WALTER WANGER has returned from Washington, where he obtained permission to exploit "Gung Ho" as a story of Carlson's Raid on Makin Island.

•

"Take It or Leave It," a musical written around the radio show and title, is announced for production by 20th-Fox. Bryan Foy will produce. Sequences from top musicals made by the studio will be inserted.

•

Central Casting employment figures for November show that studios paid $395,051 for 28,473 placements and extras of all classes, the third largest monthly total for the year.

•

David E. Rose, Paramount's managing director in Great Britain, has arrived here for conferences with studio heads on plans for forthcoming product.

•

Pfc. Richard De Mille, son of Cecil B. De Mille, and Rosalind J. Shaffer, ballet dancer, will be married here Dec. 30.

•

Henry Ginsberg, manager of Paramount studio operations, is confined to his home with influenza.

•

Paramount has elevated Marjorie Reynolds to stardom.

•

Donald Ogden Stewart has been signed to a term contract by M-G-M.

•

Jules White has returned here after three weeks in New York.

•

Trem Carr, Monogram production head, is ill with influenza.

Wexco Named RKO District Manager

Edward L. Alperson, general manager of RKO Theatres has promoted Sigurd Wexco from manager of the Midway Theatre, Forest Hills, L. I., to a division manager in the Louis Goldberg district.

Commencing Monday Goldberg's zone will be divided as follows: under division manager John Hearns, the Palace, 81st Street, 58th Street, 23rd Street, Colonial, Jefferson, Albee, Bushwick, Orpheum, Madison, Greenpoint and Republic; and under Sigurd Wexco, Strand and Columbia, Far Rockaway; Keith's Fushing and Richmond Hill; Alden, Jamaica; Midway, Forest Hills; Prospect, Shore Road, Dyker, Tilyou and Kenmore theatres.

Steiner Signed by PCA

Ralph Steiner, producer of documentary films and recently associated with Office of War Information film production, has been signed as a director by Producers Corp. of America, it was announced yesterday. Steiner will leave for the Coast Jan. 7 on his new work. His first assignment is expected to be "The Gilded Age," to be produced by Harry Joe Brown for PCA.

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N NEW YORK THEY'RE
SINGING WARNERS'
Beautiful Desert Song!
(IN TECHNICOLOR)

NOW HAVING A SENSATIONAL PRE-RELEASE AT N.Y. HOLLYWOOD!

ARRING
ENNIS MORGAN ★ IRENE MANNING

BRUCE CABOT · GENE LOCKHART
Directed by ROBERT FLOREY · Produced by ROBERT BUCKNER
Based Upon a Play by Lawrence Schwab, Otto Harbach,
Oscar Hammerstein 2nd, Sigmund Romberg, & Frank Mandel

Our Two Big Jobs in January: Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes

50 Shooting As Hollywood Slump Starts

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22.—Production dropped off this week with 50 pictures in work compared to 52 the week before, but the usual holiday slump will see an upward zoom the first of the year. Eight pictures finished during the week and only six started, to bring the number shooting to 50, while 11 finished, ten started, 52 were shooting during the previous week. The production scene:

Columbia

Started: "Heroes of the Sagebrush" with Charles Starrett, Constance Worth, Dub Taylor, Jimmy Wakely.

Shooting: "Jam Session," "At Night We Dream," "Address Unknown," "Once Upon a Time," "Two-Man Submarine."

Finished: "Sailor's Holiday," "Nine Girls."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Meet Me in St. Louis," "The Seventh Cross," "Three Men in White," "Dragon Seed," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-ed."

Monogram

Started: "Block Busters," with the East Side Kids.

Shooting: "Partners of the Trail," "The Roaring West," "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore."

Paramount

Started: "And Now Tomorrow," with Loretta Young, Alan Ladd, Susan Hayward, Barry Sullivan, Cecil Kellaway, Beulah Bondi, Grant Mitchell and others.

Shooting: "Road to Utopia," "Gambler's Choice," "National Barn Dance," "Incendiary," "Till We Meet Again," "The Hitler Gang," "Rainbow Island," "I Love a Soldier."

Finished: "You Can't Ration Love."

RKO-Radio

Shooting: "Marine Raiders," "Seven Days Ashore," "Are These Our Children?" "Show Business," "Action Arabia."

Republic

Started: "Outlaw Busters" with Wild Bill Elliott, Gabby Hayes, Ann Jefferies. "The Laramie Trail" with Smiley Burnette, Bob Livingston, Linda Brent.

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Wilson," "Greenwich Vilage," "The Purple Heart," "Home in Indiana."

Finished: "Four Jills in a Jeep."

United Artists

(Arnold)

Finished: "It Happened Tomorow."

(Rogers)

Shooting: "Song of the Open Road."

(Edward Small)

Shooting: "Up in Mabel's Room."

(Vanguard)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

Universal

Shooting: "The Merry Monahans," "Weird Woman," "Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly?" "Christmas Holiday."

Finished: "Gypsy Wildcat," "Slightly Terrific."

Warners

Started: "Cinderella Jones," with Joan Leslie, Robert Alda, William Prince, Julie Bishop, Edward Everett Horton, S. Z. Sakall, Tom Tully, Charles Dingle and others.

Shooting: "Make Your Own Bed," "The Horn Blows at Midnight," "Mask of Dimitrios," "Hollywood Canteen," "Mr. Skeffington," "My, Reputation."

Finished: "Between Two Worlds."

Critics' Quotes . . .

"MADAME CURIE" (M-G-M)

GEORGE LEE BLACKFORD, *N. Y. Journal-American*— . . . "Madame Curie," M-G-M film biography of the discoverer of radium, must definitely be listed among the top pictures of the rapidly closing year. . . . It has great depth, uncommon simplicity and fine emotional values . . . distinction and high quality. . . . Mervyn LeRoy, director, must be accorded a lion's share of the honors that the picture will reap.

HOWARD BARNES, *N. Y. Herald Tribune*— . . . This production is an eminent example of screen biography. . . . A brilliant cast and Mervyn LeRoy's articulate direction have made it a human and absorbing drama. . . . Not particularly festive especially for youngsters, but it has more than a fair share of cinematic appeal and quality.

ALTON COOK, *N. Y. World-Telegram*— . . . An earnest and important picture, beautifully played and staged, but too long and too dull. . . . The playing of Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon is one phase of Madame Curie likely to receive all the accolades its makers hoped for . . . the pair of great stars lovingly lavishes an intensity of spirit on the two leading roles.

BOSLEY CROWTHER, *N. Y. Times*— . . . The story of the Curies, a French scientist and his famous little wife has been told impressively and with fine cinematic restraint in this M-G-M biographical film. . . . Director Mervyn LeRoy, and Paul Osborn and Paul Rameau, the writers have handled the whole process of experiment in a manner which is nothing short of grand . . . Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon are ideal in the leading roles.

KATE CAMERON, *N. Y. Daily News*— . . . Just short of being a great film. . . . Through the careful auspices of M-G-M, the exemplary direction of Mervyn LeRoy and the fine acting of Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon, the real and extraordinary story of the Curies has been faithfully and interestingly brought to the screen.

ARCHER WINSTON, *N. Y. Post* — A good picture, accurately and elegantly produced, inspiring in its tribute to science and the scientific spirit and touching in its human aspects. Though not gaited for record-breaking popularity, it should please people fond of "better" films. . .

EILEEN CREELMAN, *N. Y. Sun*—"Madame Curie" is a film as sober and as hard-working as the two scientists of whom it tells. . . . Its concentration on the two principal characters makes it more educational than entertaining; but it has, without drama, an interesting description of the work that preceded the discovery of radium. . . .

LEE MORTIMER, *N. Y. Daily Mirror*— . . . This great human document has but one major fault as a photoplay. . . . It is overboard in length.

JOHN McMANUS, Newspaper *PM*— . . . In form, casting and controversial level, this is a typical M-G-M job of tenderizing solid matter into holiday-matinee movie fare.

Paramount Lists Branch Changes

Changes in Paramount exchanges have been made as follows: John C. Wright, Cleveland office salesman, transferred to Cincinnati, switching places with William Twig; Truman Hendrix has joined the St. Louis sales staff.

Howard Chrisholm, Dallas office booker has been transferred to Washington, D. C. and Thomas Kennedy has joined the Philadelphia exchange as student booker, succeeding Michael Rutnik. In Portland, Ore., Lou Stang, head booker, has appointed his wife as his assistant.

Iowa Theatre Destroyed

SHENANDOAH, Ia., Dec. 22. — The Iowa Theatre here, owned by Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Holdridge, was destroyed by an explosion and fire.

Managers in New Group in Canada

TORONTO, Dec. 22.—B. & F. Theatre managers here have formed an organization to promote social activities and good will among employes of the circuit.

Elected officers were: Tom Waterfield, Eastwood Theatre, chairman; Ted Smith, York, secretary; Leo Bloom, Century, treasurer, and Gilbert Sterling, Pylon, sergeant-at-arms.

Canadian Films to 7,000

OTTAWA, Dec. 22.—Over 7,000 theatres in the United States are now being serviced with films about Canada by the National Film Board, B. A. Proulx, in charge of distribution for NFB discloses.

Set 'Desert' Radio Drive

A radio merchandising campaign, similar to those provided on "Air Force," "This Is the Army" and "Princess O'Rourke," has been prepared by Warners for the "Desert Song," which goes into general release in February. Campaign consists of three spot announcements, all on one record, narrated against a background of orchestral-choral effects on music from the picture, with local playdate mention.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Dec. 2

MORE than 150 screen personal ties will plane, train and bu out of Hollywood the day afte Christmas to devote the next five da to entertaining servicemen in hosp tals, camps and various posts throug out the nation. The last of the "Holiday Tour Routes" set up by th War Department have been filled. I addition, five special routes have bee laid out for other players and te Southern California routes have bee added, the Hollywood Victory Com mittee and USO-Camp Shows an nounces here.

Late additions to the list of Yule tide performers include Irene Dunn Joan Crawford, Philip Terry, Or Massen, Madeline LeBeau, Fre Astaire, Anne Gwynne, Jack Hale Jean Wallace, Claire Carleto Charles Butterworth, Lynne Carve Lorraine Miller, Joan Bennett, Wa ter Wanger, Leo Carrillo, Nan Kelly, Al Pearce and Gang, Conni Haines, Burns and Allen, Frank Mo gan, Rochester, Lena Horne, Rit Cordray, Ann Hughes and The Gre Gildersleeve.

*

Lieut. Col. Jock Lawrence, forme studio publicity director, in a lette to the HVC extolled the importanc of motion pictures to the people o areas released from Nazi dominatio Speaking of the liberated peoples o Italy, Sicily and North Africa, Law rence said, "They welcomed the firs pictures we rushed in as much as the did the freedom we brought them."

*

Norman Taurog has been as signed to direct "Church of th Good Thief" at M-G-M. It is a stor of the famous Dannemora Prisoı Church built by convicts. . . . Lou Costello, reclassified 2-A by his draft board, has a six months' de ferment because of his recent ill ness and will appear in "Harun Scarum" with his partner, Bud Ab bott, next Spring at M-G-M. . . . Th National Barn Dance Troup, now at work in a picture of that titl at Paramount, broadcast on a Coast-to-Coast hookup from the se recently. Jean Heather, Charles Quigley, Robert Benchley and Ma bel Paige, appearing in the picture took part in the radio show . . . Producer Edward Small has re placed publicity man Saul Oppen heim, resigned, with Sanford Abra hams, formerly press book editoı on Lou Lifton's staff at Monogram

'Star' on Continuous Run

"The North Star," an RKO Radio release, will start continuous performances tomorrow at the New Victoria Theatre, when it will go into its eighth week after playing on a reserved seat basis. Showings at the RKO Palace will remain continuous.

Wolper to Universal

BOSTON, Dec. 22. — Harry Wolper, who recently resigned from M-G-M here has joined the Universal exchange as salesman.

Allied Gets 60th

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—Illinois Allied's booking and buying circuit here signed its 60th house in this area.

Gang' Escapes Flu, Grosses $19,500

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22.—Christmas shopping and the flu continue to contribute to the box office slump here. Exceptions to the general lethargy, however, are the Fox, where "The Gang's All Here," which looks like $19,500, and Loew's Orpheum, with two revivals, which will hit $8,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 22:

"The Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE — (3,162) (30c-40c-50c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average, $16,900)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
"The Eagle" (reissue)
AMBASSADOR—(3,154) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, $13,500)
"The Gang's All Here" (20th-Fox)
"Adventure in Iraq" (WB)
FOX—(5,038) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average, $16,500)
"It Happened One Night" (Col.) (reissue)
"Lost Horizon" (Col.) (reissue)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c-55c). Gross: $8,000. (Average, $6,900)
"Henry Aldrich Haunts a House" (Para.)
"Minesweeper" (Para.)
MISSOURI—(3,514) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average, $8,000)
"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
"True to Life" (Para.)
SHUBERT—(1,900) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average, $6,000)
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"So This Is Washington" (RKO)
ST. LOUIS—(4,000) (35c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $5,000)

Sampson Joins RKO

DETROIT, Dec. 22. — George Sampson has joined the RKO sales staff working out of the local exchange.

Tokyo Was Morton's Real Destination

Comdr. "Mush" Morton, whose famous submarine, Wahoo, furnished exploits featured in "Destination Tokyo," served as technical adviser on the film. He was ordered to duty before the picture was completed.

When he left Hollywood, he asked Warners to let him see the film as soon as it was finished. After cutting the studio sent the commander a note inviting him to a showing. But Comdr. Morton probably never will see the picture he helped make possible.

He had been reported missing in action the other day.

'Lodger' Tradeshow' Set

Trade showings of "The Lodger," a 20th-Fox release, will be held at all the company's exchanges on Tuesday, January 4, 1944, with the exception at St. Louis and Portland, where it will be screened in outside projection theatres. The film has already been shown in Washington.

Sinatra Ill; House Closes

PHILADELPHIA Dec. 22.—Illness of Frank Sinatra headlining the stage show at Warner's Earle made it necessary for the house to close down entirely for the early morning and matinee performances today, reopening at six for the evening show.

Women to Aid 'Dime' Drive in Theatres

Thousands of women volunteers will be made available to help theatres with their audience collections during the March of Dimes campaign, Jan. 24-30, by the women's division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, it was reported here yesterday. Foundation headquarters is sending bulletins to women chairmen throughout the country telling them that helping local theatres is their primary job in the campaign.

Mary Pickford will head the women's division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis now being formed, Basil O'Connor, president, has announced here.

Miss Pickford will appoint state chairmen and committees will be formed in all communities before the opening of the campaign.

Bob Hope, screen and radio comedian, has been appointed chairman of the servicemen's division for the campaign, O'Connor also announced yesterday.

H. F. Kincey Named

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Dec. 22.—H. F. Kincey, general manager of the Wilby-Kincey circuit, has been named to the board of directors of the American Trust Co. here. He is also War Activities Committee chairman for North and South Carolina.

Short Subject Reviews

"Ozark Sportsmen"

(*Paramount*)

This brings to the screen a picturization of the famous "Ozark Float Trips" run by Jim Owen, famous fisherman. Shots of fishing trips on the White River in Missouri were taken by Paramount's "Sportlight" cameramen. The beautiful Ozark mountains and surrounding country provide background. "Ozark Sportmen" is interesting and educational. Direction is good and so is the commentary. Running time, 9 mins.

"Fuss and Feathers"

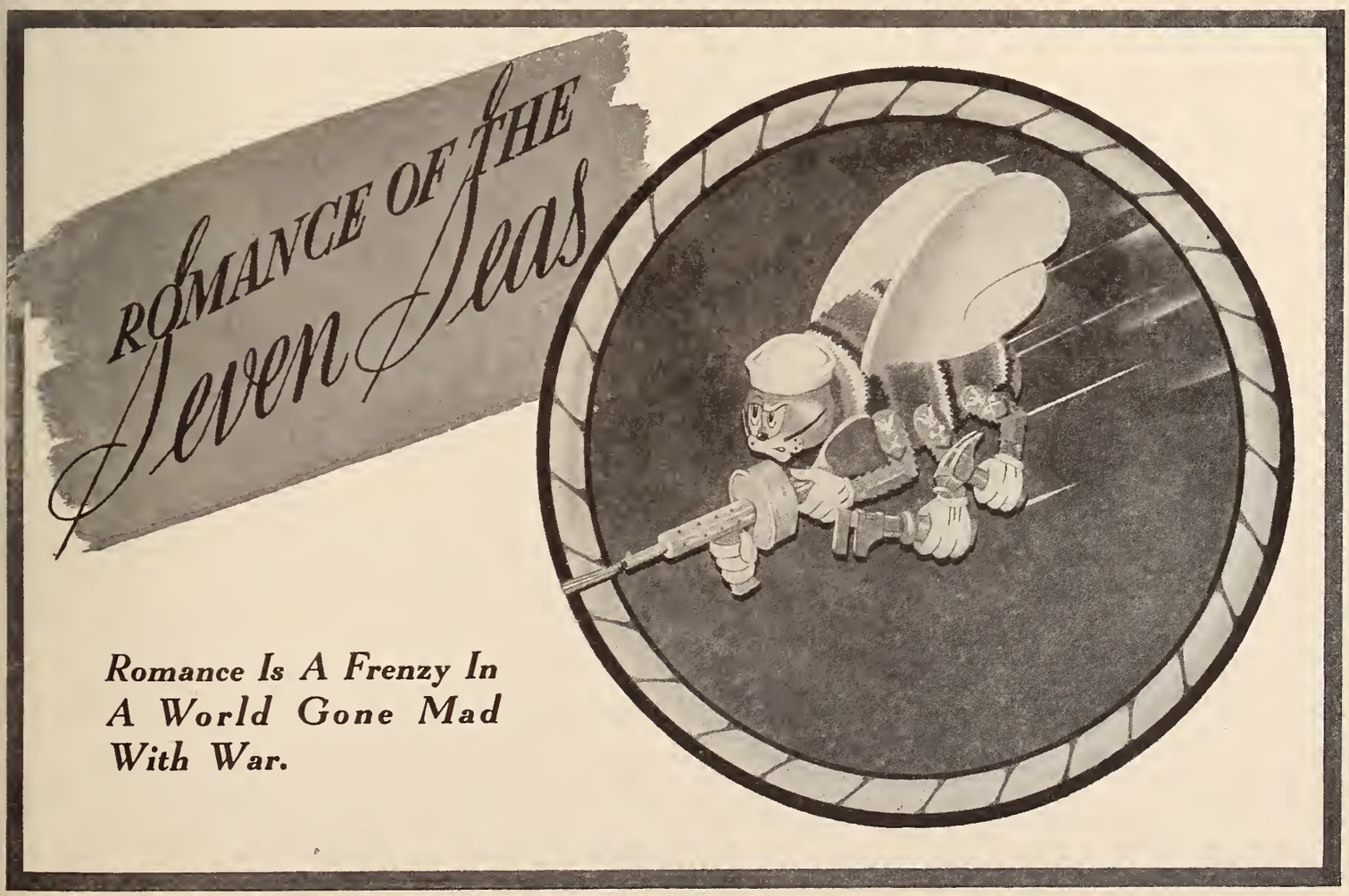
(*20th-Fox*)

Lew Lehr investigates the realm of the birds in this "Dribble Puss Parade" release. Lehr's commentary is amusing as usual and he has selected some seldom-seen birds for his study. Featured is Jimmie, the Raven, a domesticated pet who helps with the dishes.

L. deFrancesco's musical score is good. This is entertaining. Produced by Edmund Reek and supervised by Jack Darrock. Running time, 9 mins.

'Tokyo' Prints Now 325

Warner's has ordered 325 prints for "Destination Tokyo," which will start pre-release engagements this weekend, the company has announced Holiday bookings now exceed 300, it wsa said.



All Defendants In Extortion Trial Guilty

(*Continued from page* 1)

of Chicago; and Louis Kaufman, business agent of the Newark local of the IATSE projectionists union.

Judge Bright set December 30 as the date of sentencing and continued all of the defendants in $100,000 bail each until then, with the exception of Kaufman, whose bail is $25,000. This was over the objections of Boris Kostelanetz, special Federal prosecutor, who asked that the defendants be remanded to jail pending imposition of their sentence.

Kostelanetz pointed out that despite selective service and other laws, convicted persons are inclined to flee the jurisdiction of courts after their conviction and said the defendants might be inclined to run away if permitted their freedom on bail.

Asks Freedom on Bail

James D. C. Murray, chief defense counsel, said that the defendants by their conduct during the trial have indicated that they would not disappear if granted freedom on bail and urged that they be released pending imposition of sentence.

Judge Bright said that he had made up his mind to remand the defendants to jail in the event of their conviction but said, after the conviction, that the decision was a difficult one.

"I'm inclined to let them go home for Christmas and to continue them in bail," he said.

Arguments on motions to set aside the verdict were adjourned until the day of sentencing.

Judge Bright Charges Jury

The case went to the jury at 11:50 a. m. yseterday after an hour's legal charge by Federal Judge John Bright.

The jury of nine women and three men were instructed by the Court to vote separate verdicts for each of the seven defendants.

"We are not here to teach anyone a lesson or to settle the perennial dispute between capital and labor," Judge Bright said in his charge to the jury. "We will leave to other tribunals the correction of some of the extraordinary transactions related here during this trial.

"Your job is to keep your feet on the ground and decide if a crime has been committed as charged in the indictment.

"There is a simple question to be decided here," he said. "Was there a conspiracy between William Bioff, George E. Browne and Nick Circella and these defendants? If there was not they cannot be convicted. If there was they should be convicted."

Judge Bright, in discussing the statute of limitations, told the jury that it was difficult for a conspirator to disavow his part in a conspiracy, or for any of the defendants to take refuge in the statute of limitations.

Chicago Union Trial Is Set for Jan. 20

CHICAGO, Dec. 22. — The suit of members of Local 110, IATSE, against deposed union officials and exhibitors for an alleged conspiracy said to have resulted in lowered wage scales and loss of thousands of dollars in wages to projectionists has been set for Jan. 20.

Publicity Chairmen For 4th Loan Drive Named by Skouras

(*Continued from page* 1)

Ga.; Nevin McCord, Idaho; William Hollander, Ill.; William Elder, Ind.; Dale McFarland, Iowa; Mel Miller, Kansas; Cliff Beuchel, Ky.; Maurice Barr, La.; Connie Russell, Maine.

Also, Frank Hornig, Md.; Harry Browning, Mass.; Alice Gorham, Mich.; Chas. Winchell, Minn.; Clarence Greenblatt, Miss.; Les Kaufman, Missouri; A. M. Russell, Montana; Ted Emerson, Neb.; Edward Fahey, N. H.; Joe Murdock, N. J. (Southern); Robert Paskow, N. J. (Northern); George Tucker, N. Mex.; Harry Mandel, N. Y. (metropolitan); Seymour Morris, N. Y. (upstate); Roy Smart, N. C.

Also Mike Cooper, N. D.; Russ Bovim, Ohio.; Robert Busch, Okla.; M. M. Mesher, Oregon; James Ashcraft, Pa.; James Totman, Pa., (Western); Sam Sugge, S. C.; Fred Larkin, S. D.; Charles Amos, Tenn.; Robert Kelly, Texas; Helen Garrity, Utah; Frank A. Vennett, Vt.; George Peters, Va.; Frank LaFalce, Wash., D. C.; Vic Gauntlett, Wash.; Cecil Tipton, W. Va.; Ed Hickey, Wis.; Jack McGee, Wyo.

Skouras' Staff to Meet With 'Frisco Exhibitors

Following meetings with exhibitors in Washington and Chicago, Charles P. Skouras and his executive staff for the Fourth War Loan drive, will attend their final regional meeting with exhibitors at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco today. They will confer with over 50 theatre men to discuss campaign plans and problems of the War Loan drive.

Attending the San Francisco meeting in addition to Skouras will be: Frank H. Ricketson, vice-chairman for the industry; B. V. Sturdivant, campaign director; Fred Stein and A. J. Krappmann, assistant campaign directors, and Seymour Peiser, publicity director for the Fourth War Loan.

Following the meeting, Skouras and his staff will return to Los Angeles to discuss last minute details before moving to the New York offices of the War Activities Committee where they will remain until the conclusion of the drive.

In Chicago, Skouras will confer with local leaders Monday morning. Ned Depinet, RKO president, will represent distributors.

De Lapp, 'U' Studio Publicity Head, Killed

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the *Los Angeles Times* and became city editor of that paper. He later was associated with Paramount Pictures for six years as director of West Coast publicity. Subsequently he headed his own company, Terry De Lapp and Associates, until 1942, when he joined Universal.

He is survived by his widow, Adelaide, a son by a first marriage, Terrill, Jr., his mother, Mrs. Mary De Lapp, and two brothers, William C. and Virgil.

5 in First British Block from Rank

(*Continued from page* 1)

dled Coward's "In Which We Serve," a Two Cities film.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported yesterday on Rank's plans for sending 10 to 15 features here annually, for distribution through one or more U. S. distributors in deals which might eventuate into his purchase of part interest. Morris Ernst, New York attorney and Rank representative in this country, in an interview had mentioned possibly Universal, RKO, Republic, Columbia or Monogram as potential Rank outlets here, or without purchase of interests in them. Rank already holds a sizeable investment in Universal.

In addition to Dr. Galperson and Ernst, possibilities for Rank gaining a foothold in this market——and for which he has repeatedly expressed an intention in London——will also be explored by Barrington Gaines, likewise a Rank emissary who is due in New York shortly from London. While here, Gaines also will make appraisals of several companies which have invited Rank to make investments in them, according to report.

Warners Cancels 'Hollywood Canteen'

(*Continued from page* 1)

was no previous notice or intimation from the guild of such action, the company stated, although the picture had been in preparation and production for over four months prior to Nov. 15.

The studio pointed out that the guild ruling requires that an actor or actress be paid full salary for appearance in the film or their guarantee per picture no matter how limited the services required. This means, the company said, that the sum of $150,000 would have to be paid some actors for one hour's work. It is doubtful, Warners declared, whether the Wage Stabilization Board would approve such compensation.

Jesse Lasky, who was the "Canteen" producer, will resume active preparation of "The Life of John James Audubon."

M. Silverstone Signs 5-Year Pact with Fox

(*Continued from page* 1)

became chairman of the British and European subsidiaries of that firm. Subsequently he took charge of its world-wide operations.

In making the announcement, Skouras stated: "Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of sales, and I consider Silverstone one of the most able executives in the motion picture industry. His relationship with us since he joined the company has been of the finest and we are indeed fortunate in having him as head of our foreign distribution."

Sig Schlager Forms American Film Corp.

(*Continued from page* 1)

Broadway play production. The company's theatrical activities will be announced after Jan. 1. PCA recently signed a five-picture deal with United Artists.

WPB May Lift All Controls On Raw Stock

(*Continued from page* 1)

administration of the allocation ord left for California tonight to conf with industry officials and is expec to go deeply into the raw stock sit tion as well as other material supp matters. He will not return to Was ington until after Jan. 1.

The possibilities of lifting the all cation order have been under consi eration for some time, it was disclose but officials have not felt it advisab to take any action until it is certa that an adequate supply of raw sto can be consistently maintained. A the present time, Hopper said, the su ply situation is definitely on the u grade.

Military Demand for Film Great

Following our entry into the wa military demand for motion pictu film increased so greatly that it b came apparent the film produce could not meet both military and civi ian requirements, and in 1942 pr ducers and distributors were order to cut their consumption first by fro 10 to 24 per cent of 1941 amounts a later by 12 to 25 per cent. Specif allocations for individual compani were put into effect at the beginnin of 1943 and have since been mai tained with but minor changes.

In recent months military requir ments have slackened off somewha due to completion of large numbe of training films for which heav amounts of raw stock were requis tioned in the early days of the wa and production has been maintaine practically at plant capacity.

WPB officials are making no prom ises of relaxation of the L-178 orde but indicate that they hope to be abl to lift the allocations in the near fu ture; however, no decision has bee reached as to whether action shall b taken April 1 or July 1.

Richey, Grayson Mee On Delivery Repor

Another meeting on a threatene film delivery breakdown here was hel yesterday at M-G-M's home offic between Henderson M. Richey, exhi bitor relations head, and Harry J Grayson, attorney representing Ne York film carriers. Richey, who is member of a committee designated b the War Activities Committee t work with the carriers to induce th OPA to release priorities for ne trucks to replace those now in us will meet with other members of th WAC committee early next week.

Percy Hemus Passes

Percy Hemus, 65, screen, stage an radio actor, died yesterday in the firs aid room of Radio City, just befor he was scheduled to go on the air i a National Broadcasting Compan serial.

Edward Marsh Passes

CHICAGO, Dec. 22. — Edward M Marsh, former assistant manager a the Berwyn here and the Sioux Cit Bijou, died here last night following a stroke. He was 67.

OUT TOMORROW

The results and details of the annual exhibitor poll of the ten Best Money-Making Stars of 1943 will be published in the current issue of

MOTION PICTURE HERALD

'Butler's Sister' Is Best in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Dec. 22.—Two re-issues, three hold-overs and two new pictures added up to the usual pre-Christmas slump. "The Butler's Sister," with $17,000, looks to be the closest to average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 23:

"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
ALLEN—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,500).
"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,500).
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (40c-50c-60c), 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000).
"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (40c-60c) 7 days, 3d week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,600).
"Crime School" (WB)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75c & 85c Sundays and holidays), 7 days. Stage: Jan Garber orchestra. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $22,000).
"Tartu" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $17,500).
"Northwest Passage" (M-G-M)
"Go West" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c), 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,500).

Salamis Appointed

TORONTO, Dec. 22.—B. C. Salamis, owner of the Fairyland and Laval theatres here and secretary of the Greek War Relief Fund, has been appointed Canadian representative of the Greek Red Cross in Foreign Countries, which has headquarters in London. He will act as liaison between the Greek Red Cross and the Canadian Red Cross.

Review

"Smart Guy"

(*Monogram*)

"SMART GUY" is aimed to especially please the kids and sentimentalists. But it has a well-worn plot and is barely adequately directed and the players have to try hard to rise above all the elements.

The story concerns Rick Vallin, big-time gambler, who becomes innocently involved in a murder. In order to sway the public to his side he adopts an orphaned boy and appears with him everywhere as a "loving daddy." Unintentionally Vallin becomes attached to the boy, played by Bobby Larson and when he is forced to leave town Bobby stows away in his car. They arrive at a remote mountain resort operated by pretty and talented Wanda McKay. From then on Vallin is influenced by the sweet disposition and "straight-shooting" Miss McKay, who convinces him he owes it to Bobby to "face the music." So he surrenders to the law and goes back to the city to be tried, leaving Miss McKay and Bobby to wait for him.

Vallin turns in a comparatively good performance against almost insurmountable odds. Miss McKay and Bobby Larson also deserve credit for rising above the stereotyped story. Veda Ann Borg and Mary Gordon do well in supporting roles. Lambert Hillyer directed from a screenplay by Charles R. Marion and John W. Krafft. John T. Coyle produced.

Running time, 63 mins. Release date, Dec. 18. "G."*

HELEN McNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

Warner Circuit Changes

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 22.—Roy Sullender, manager of Warners' Palace here, will be transferred to the Uptown, the circuit's key uptown house, next week. He succeeds Ben Blumberg, who will be inducted into the Army. Alfred Lowenthal is acting as temporary manager. Other circuit changes include the promotion of Russell Gackenback, relief manager of the Grand in Wilmington, to manager.

All-Women House Staff

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Dec. 22.—Jack Austin, city manager, for Kincey Theatres has set up Charlotte's first all-girl theatre management and which is also one of the first in the country. Mrs. Ruby Thomas, formerly assistant manager at the Carolina Theatre here, has been named manager of the State. Her two feminine assistants are Frances Caton and Mrs. Dorothy Glendham.

'Lady', 'The Ghost' Are Tops at $18,00

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 22.—The pr Christmas lull continues, with the f adding an influence to keep down th grosses, though affecting suburba houses far more than first runs. Lea ing this week is "A Lady Takes Chance," with "The Ghost Ship," the Orpheum, with an estimated $1 000, to be held over.

Estimated receipts for the we ending Dec. 22-23:

"Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gros $7,000. (Average, $5,500)
"The Cross of Lorraine" (M-G-M)
"Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.)
MIDLAND—(3,600) (35c-50c) 7 da Gross: $10,000. (Average, $14,000)
"True to Life" (Para.)
NEWMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2 week. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $11,00
"A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"The Ghost Ship" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 day Gross: $18,000. (Average, $10,000)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
"Here Comes Kelly" (Mono.)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) 7 days. Sta show. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $9,400)
"Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (40c-60c) 7 day Gross: $4,750. (Average, $5,600)
"Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 day Gross: $1,100. (Average, $1,450)

Dale Killed in Action

TORONTO, Dec. 22.—Jack Dale, so of Ralph Dale, chief Odeon circu booker, was killed during an RCA air raid over Germany recently, ac cording to word received at the Odeo home office here.

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First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 121 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1943 | TEN CENTS

Vacuum Tube Shortage Held Less Critical

Eberson Sees All Needs Filled in 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The threat of a critical shortage of vacuum tubes which has hung over the heads of exhibitors during the past year is rapidly being dissipated and there are definite indications that no difficulties will be encountered in meeting all needs in 1944, it was disclosed today by John Eberson, consultant to the recreation division of the Office of Civilian Requirements.

Eberson said that several factors were contributing to the improved situation, including better production, some of which he could not discuss. There were indications in other quarters, however, that these factors might include a possible leveling off of military requirements as well as changes in War Production Board controls which would give theatres a better standing.

Major problem of the stepped-up 1944 tube program, Eberson explained, will be the necessity of providing not only for new military equipment but also replacements for equipment which had been in use for varying periods.

(Continued on page 6)

Army Attendance Is 240,000,000 in Year

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23. — Current attendance at the rate of 240,000,000 a year at motion picture theatres run by the Army Motion Picture Service at camps in the United States, Alaska, Bermuda and Newfoundland indicates a box office revenue of approximately $35,000,000 per year, according to present estimates.

Total attendance from Jan. 1 to

(Continued on page 4)

Republic Can Use 'Oklahoma' for Year

Federal Judge Samuel Mandelbaum yesterday dismissed the suit brought by the Theatre Guild, Inc., Oscar Hammerstein, 2nd, and Richard Rodgers, producer, author and composer, respectively, of the stage musical, "Oklahoma," to enjoin Republic Pictures from using the name "Oklahoma" in its feature, "In Old Oklahoma."

The court dismissed the action after

(Continued on page 6)

Grable, Hope, Abbott and Costello Are No. 1 Favorites

BETTY GRABLE, BOB HOPE, ABBOTT & COSTELLO, BING CROSBY, GARY COOPER, GREER GARSON, HUMPHREY BOGART, JAMES CAGNEY, MICKEY ROONEY, CLARK GABLE. These, in the order named, are the biggest money-making stars of 1943 as selected by exhibitors of the country in *Motion Picture Herald's* annual poll.

They were selected for actual box office performances unlike those in other polls who are selected by press critics' preferences. The ten represent the combined vote of both circuit and independent exhibitors.

Circuits alone picked Betty Grable, Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Abbott & Costello, Gary Cooper, Greer Garson, Humphrey Bogart, James Cagney, Mickey Rooney, Clark Gable. Independents alone voted for Betty Grable, Abbott & Costello, Bob Hope, Gary Cooper, Bing Crosby, James Cagney, Greer Garson, Humphrey Bogart, Mickey Rooney, Clark Gable.

The box office champion for 1943 and the service men's favorite pin-up girl are one and the same—Betty

(Continued on page 6)

FBI to Continue Film Extort Probe

The Federal Court conviction of six members of the Capone gang and a Newark, N. J., IATSE business agent of conspiracy to extort more than $1,000,000 from the film industry does not end the Government's investigation of racketeering within the industry.

This was revealed yesterday when it was ascertained that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is "knee-deep" in a search for the "other parties unknown to the grand jurors" who are cited in the indictment against the Capone mob. The special Federal grand jury which for more than two years has been probing the ills of the industry will also resume its functions soon after Jan. 1.

There is strong likelihood that some

(Continued on page 4)

Tax Collections on Admissions to Hit New High in 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Definite indications that Federal admission tax collections for 1943 will far exceed the U. S. Treasury estimate of $163,500,000 were seen in the monthly report of the Internal Revenue Bureau released today, showing that receipts for the first 11 months of this year aggregated $152,681,903. Total for a corresponding period last year was $130,449,362.

U. S. Treasury recommendations calling for a Federal ticket tax of three cents on every 10 cents would

(Continued on page 6)

Coast Exhibitors Pledge Bond Goal

California circuits and independents yesterday pledged 100 per cent fulfillment of the industry's Fourth War Loan goal, "A Bond for Every Seat," the War Activities here reported yesterday. The pledge was made to Charles P. Skouras, national chairman, at the conclusion of a pre-campaign exhibitor meeting at San Francisco's Hotel St. Francis.

Speakers at the meeting included Skouras, B. V. Sturdivant, national campaign director; A. J. Krappmann

(Continued on page 6)

Marine Tarawa Films Will Be Exhibited

Official Marine Corps films of their landing at Tarawa will be distributed through Universal exchanges, Francis S. Harmon, War Activities Committee coordinator, announced here yesterday.

The film bureau of the U. S. Office of War Information requested that a two-reel version be made and shown

(Continued on page 5)

20% House Tax a Burden, Says Senate

Finance Committee Aided Low-Bracket Owners

By BERTRAM F. LINZ

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Imposition of the new admission tax on one-cent-on-five-cent basis was adopted in a move to protect exhibitors in the lower price brackets, it was disclosed today in the Senate Finance Committee's report on the tax bill.

Revision of the House provision for a tax of two cents on each 10 cents paid for admissions to the rate of one cent on each five, it was shown, will reduce the estimated additional revenue by $29,000,000 a year but will make a total of $198,000,000 to be contributed annually through box offices of the country's theatres.

"While your committee felt that admissions should bear an additional levy," it was stated in the report, "it

(Continued on page 6)

New Decree Draft to Be Ready Next Week

Representatives of the five decree companies have been holding meetings here this week to discuss revisions of the draft that will be submitted to Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark in Washington late next week.

Decree negotiations were suspended until Clark returns to Washington from his home in Texas. Counsel for the decree companies working on the new proposals had expected to

(Continued on page 5)

Rank Denies Deal By Ostrer and Smith

LONDON, Dec. 23. — Gainsborough Pictures' board of directors has rebuked Maurice Ostrer, company production head, for an unauthorized announcement that Sam Smith, chairman of British Lion, will supply $2,000,000, backed by an equal amount from Ostrer, to finance a production arrangement by Gainsborough with distribution through British Lion.

The announcement was immediately denied by J. Arthur Rank, who is in

(Continued on page 5)

Merry Christmas

Personal Mention

CHARLES (CHERRY NOSE) GIOE, PAUL (THE WAITER) DE LUCIA, PHIL D'ANDREA, FRANCIS (THE IMMUNE) MARITOTE, also FRANK DIAMOND, and JOHN ROSSELLI, have left New York to spend Christmas at their firesides in Chicago. LOUIS KAUFMAN has also gone to his fireside, in Newark, for the same purpose. All are due back in New York Dec. 30.

•

WILL HAYS will leave New York for the Coast Jan. 10 for an extended visit.

•

M. J. COMER, Monogram salesman in Des Moines, is in Minneapolis for Christmas. Other Des Moines film salesmen out of the city for the holiday are: HOWARD DUNN, of M-G-M, who is in Los Angeles; WILLIAM BRIMMER, of Republic, who is in Milwaukee, and WILLIAM JOHNSON, of Columbia, who is in New York.

•

JOHN HICKS III, son of JOHN W. HICKS, JR., Paramount head of foreign distribution, has returned to a California base after spending a furlough in New York with his parents.

•

E. M. SAUNDERS and EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M sales executives, returned to their desks yesterday, after being confined to their homes with the flu.

•

ARTHUR KELLY, United Artists vice-president, will leave today to spend the holiday on his farm in Redding, Conn.

•

E. K. O'SHEA, M-G-M Eastern and Southern sales manager, will leave the hospital for his home today, after a siege of pneumonia.

•

WILLIAM STUDDERT, manager of the Tower, Chicago, has reported to Great Lakes Naval Training Station for boot training.

•

C. CAMPBELL CRAWFORD, Detroit correspondent for Quigley Publications, is visiting in New York.

•

BEN BOGEAUS, United Artists producer, will leave for the Coast Monday.

•

ARTHUR LYONS, vice-president of Producing Artists, will arrive from the Coast today.

•

HARRY KOSINER, Edward Small Productions Eastern representative, is home ill with the flu.

•

MEL EVIDON, Columbia manager in Des Moines, will spend Christmas in Minneapolis.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia assistant sales manager, was in Washington yesterday.

•

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox advertising manager, is ill with the grippe.

Warners' 'Tokyo' Is Shown in Sub

MARE ISLAND, Calif., Dec. 23.—First showing of a talking picture in a submarine took place here yesterday when Warners screened "Destination Tokyo," to an audience of submarine heroes, crew members, officers and newspaper men in an improvised theatre in the forward torpedo room of a submarine.

'Lately' Contest Won By Robert Goodfried

First prize of $250 in the United Artists $500 company exploitation contest sponsored by Cagney Productions in connection with the exhibition of "Johnny Come Lately" goes to Robert Goodfried, exploitation man in the Washington territory, William Cagney, president of the company, announced yesterday.

Five additional prizes of $50 each were won by: Max Abramson, South; Wallace Heim, Midwest; Lew Maren, California; Henry C. Morris, Southwestern, and Bert Shopenn, New England.

Theatre Guild Will Be Film Partner

Lawrence Langner, president of the Theatre Guild, who returned from California early this week after conferring with independent producers on the Guild's contemplated entrance into film production, revealed here that the Guild will enter into a partnership with some independent producer when it starts its activities.

No definite decision has been reached yet as to with whom the Guild will start, Langner said.

Decision Delayed In Empire Action

Final court decision in the action brought by several members of Empire State Motion Picture Operators Union to prevent the union's officers from continuing to carry out provisions of the recent merger with Local 306, IATSE, is not expected for about a month.

Bert Caley Dies

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 23.—Bert Caley, connected with theatres here for the past 50 years, died yesterday. He had been a stage hand at the Regent and Temple and at one time was manager of the Piccadilly. He also served for a time as treasurer of the stage hands union.

Merge Headquarters

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23.—The Greater Cincinnati Independent Exhibitors League, F. W. Huss, Jr., president, and the Indignant Exhibitors Forum, Willis Vance, chairman, have established joint headquarters in the Keith Theatre building here. Miss Ann Wellman is in charge of the office.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 23

DISCHARGED veterans of World War II who are members of the Screen Actors Guild will be given preference in the hiring of bit players and extras during the remaining shooting time on Paramount's "The Hitler Gang," director John Farrow announced today.

•

Christian Science services for Terrill De Lapp, Universal studio publicity director who was killed in an automobile accident Tuesday night, will be held Monday at the Pierce Bros. Hollywood Chapel. Burial will take place in the family plot in Pomona. Pall bearers will be John Joseph, William Pierce, L. D. Hotchkiss, William Holden, Louis Vincenti, and Sgt. Read Kendall.

•

Setting a goal of $50,000 for the Coast Industry's campaign in behalf of the Infantile Paralysis Fund, representatives of all guilds, studios and allied film industries will meet here on Dec. 30 at a luncheon with state chairman Joseph Schenck and industry chairman Greer Garson.

•

Paul Verdayne, Paramount managing director in Singapore, now a Jap prisoner, is well although he has lost "quite a lot of weight," a letter forwarded by the Red Cross from Singapore to his wife, reveals.

•

David Hepstead has signed Clifford Odets to direct "None but the Lonely Heart" at RKO with Cary Grant starred. Odets also wrote the screenplay.

•

Lieut. Floyd Henry, former Paramount manager for the Philippines, also a Jap prisoner, has sent a card here, the company announced here.

•

Paramount today purchased "Make Way for the O'Sullivans," an original modern love story, with Joseph Sistrom producing.

•

With Bob Hope and Loretta Young bedded with influenza, production has closed down on "Road to Utopia" and "And Now Tomorrow" at Paramount.

•

David O. Selznick has assumed the direction of "Since You Went Away" due to the illness of director John Cromwell.

•

Harry Brand, 20th-Fox studio publicity director, is ill with influenza.

Goldberg to Capital

Harry Goldberg, advertising-publicity director for Warners Theatres, left last night for Washington, where he will confer today with officials of the American Red Cross regarding the circuit's part in the forthcoming drive.

All America Opens Here

All America News, newsreel with headquarters in Chicago, has opened an office here at 119 West 57th Street, in charge of Charles Krantz.

Clark Replaces Allen In OWI Post Jan. 1

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Dowsley Clark, Mid-West newspaperman for 25 years, has been named chief of the news bureau of the Office of War Information to succeed Charles L. Allen, Palmer Hoyt, director of domestic operations, announced yesterday. The appointment is effective Jan. 1.

Clark has worked on several Minnesota and Wisconsin papers and is a former managing editor of the Minneapolis *Tribune*. Since 1941, he has been regional director of the OWI in Minneapolis and Chicago, and lately was assistant to the regional WPB director in Chicago.

Dinner for Ruden

Michael Ruden, partner of the Rapf and Ruden New York-New Jersey circuit, was given a bachelor luncheon yesterday at the Hotel Astor on his forthcoming marriage. Circuit heads and sales executives attended.

NEW YORK THEATRES

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Great CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW
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"RIDING HIGH"
A Paramount Picture
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'THOUSANDS CHEER'
30 STARS! 3 BIG BANDS!
In Person
GEORGIE AULD and ORCH.
PHIL BRITO
Extra! JOHNNY BURKE

ALICE FAYE · CARMEN MIRANDA · PHIL BAKER
BENNY GOODMAN AND HIS ORCH.
The Gang's All Here
in TECHNICOLOR!
20th
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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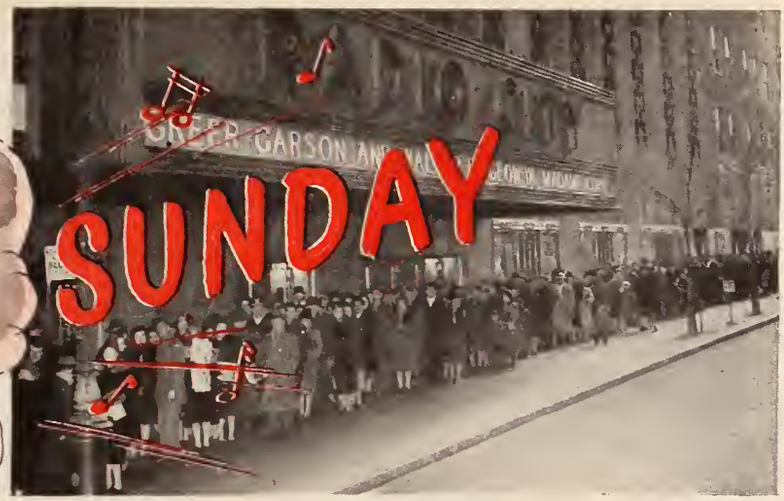


"Nothing short of grand. Audiences tingle with excitement."
— Crowther, Times

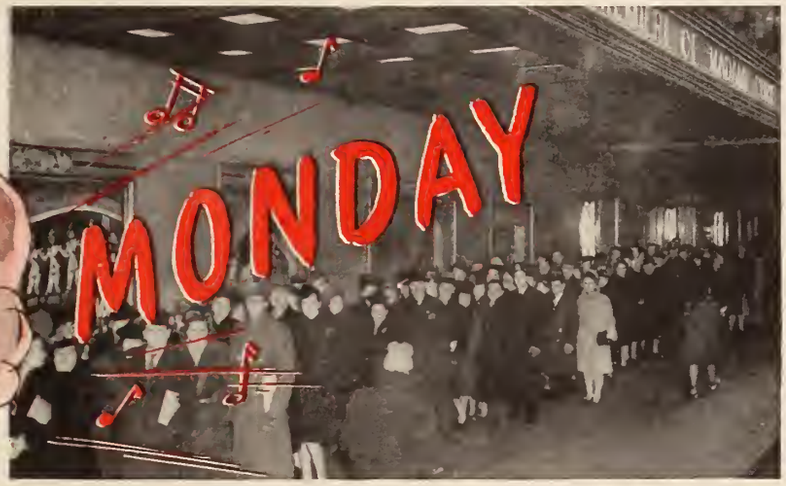
"Inescapable excitement. Utterly engrossing . . . A great event." *— Barnes, Herald Tribune*

"Rich in high drama. Great human document."
— Mortimer, Daily Mirror

Inspiring in its tribute...Touching in its human aspects."
— Winsten, Post

WELCOME "MADAME CURIE" TO RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL!

(Another paying guest from M-G-M has come for a long visit!)



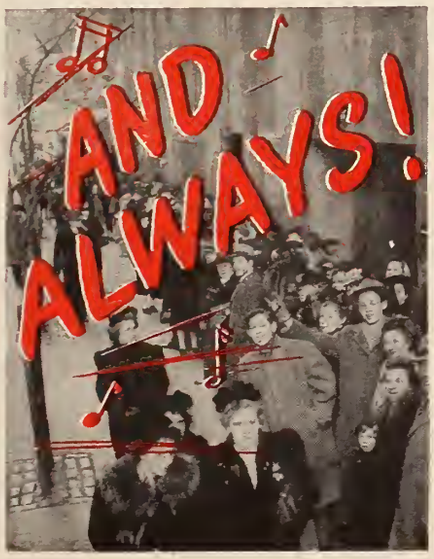
"Extraordinary story. Absorbing." *— Cameron, Daily News*

"Certain of terrific boxoffice success. One of the major things of the year. A 'must' for anybody."
— Mishkin, Morning Telegraph

"Must definitely be listed among the top pictures of the year."
— Blackford, Journal-American

"Achieves a poetic quality. An important picture, beautifully played." *— Cook, World-Telegram*

AND THE BIGGEST ADVANCE SALE IN THE HISTORY OF THE HOUSE!



Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer presents

GREER GARSON
WALTER PIDGEON

in

"MADAME CURIE"

Directed by MERVYN LeROY • *Produced by* SIDNEY FRANKLIN

Henry Travers
Robert Walker
Dame May Whitty
Elsa Basserman
Van Johnson
Albert Basserman
Margaret O'Brien
C. Aubrey Smith
Victor Francen
Reginald Owen

Screen Play by Paul Osborn and Paul H. Rameau • Based on the Book "Madame Curie" by Eve Curie

"Our Two Big Jobs in January:
Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes!"

Army Attendance Is 240,000,000 in Year

(Continued from page 1)

Dec. 10 of this year was 207,000,000 with a gross of $30,500,000 at box offices. The lower figures for 1943 are due to the fact that there were far fewer men in the Army at the beginning of the year than now.

The Army service is now operating 1,162 houses with a capacity of 786,000, and is adding 56 theatres to bring the total capacity to 817,000. Since shows are run only in the evenings and when the men have free time, it was pointed out, the turnover of camp theatres is tremendous. At present, the service gets 101 prints of each film, circuiting them to reach all camps within 30 days.

Figures thus far compiled indicate the three films ranking highest with Army men will be "Guadalcanal Diary," "Crash Dive" and "Airforce," all with service backgrounds.

St. Louis Variety Club Names Arthur

ST. LOIS, Dec. 23.—James H. Arthur, president of Fanchon & Marco, has been elected chief barker of the Variety Club here. He succeeds Harry Crawford, also of F. & M. Others named were: Herbert Washburn, National Screen, first assistant chief barker; Sam Levin of the Esquire and Norside Theatres, second assistant chief barker; Albert Stetson, property master and Joseph C. Ansell, dough guy.

Members of the crew are: David Arthur, Thomas Canavan, Ralph McGowan, Fred Wehrenberg, Clarence Hill and Les Kauffman. Levin and Crawford were elected canvassmen, with David Arthur and Kauffman as alternates. The new officers will be installed Jan. 7 at the Hotel Coronado.

A new project of the St. Louis Club is its work in preventing juvenile delinquency. The club has taken over the responsibility for providing equipment and entertainment for the teenage centers now being established in St. Louis.

Army Orders 153 DeVry Projectors

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—With film industry and other non-essential civilian new projectors frozen, DeVry here has received an order from the Army Signal Corps for 153 new sound projectors to be used abroad. Deliveries will start in January.

The company also has an order for 2,500 synthetic gunnery trainers, utilizing complete 35 mm. motion picture mechanisms to simulate actual combat conditions with flight films.

Sheran, Smiley Switch

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23.—Harry Sheran, M-G-M salesman at Columbus, has been transferred here to replace Tom Smiley, who is taking over the Columbus territory. Sheran was at one time office manager at the local M-G-M branch.

Goldberg Joins PRC

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Harry Goldberg has been appointed office manager of the PRC-Capitol exchange here and will continue, in addition, his duties as city sales manager.

Reviews

"A Guy Named Joe"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

THE United States Army Air Force consists of much more than a lot of P-38's and B-25's. This story shows it has a soul, spirited by the men who have given their lives to make history and "right guys named Joe" who are daily risking their lives to make our future safer. It is the story of USAAF pilots that M-G-M relates in this heartwarming film which combines tender romance with daredevil gallantry.

Starred in "A Guy Named Joe" are Spencer Tracy and Irene Dunne. Producer was Everett Riskin. Director Victor Fleming has handled the difficult task of fusing the real and fanciful elements of the story in fine style. This film has everything that indicates top grosses.

The entire cast which includes Van Johnson, Ward Bond, James Gleason, Barry Nelson and Lionel Barrymore contribute nobly to endowing the action with a homey quality that is bound to appeal to the customers.

To Dalton Trumbo goes full credit for a neat appealing screenplay based on Major Frederick Hazlitt Brennan's adaptation of an original story by Major Chandler Sprague and David Boehm. It presents Tracy as a cocky, daredevil pilot of the U. S. flying forces in England. Guys like Tracy have found it difficult to follow orders, and to save their skins, Tracy and his pal, Bond, are transferred by Gleason to a less hectic theatre of operations in Scotland to do reconnaissance work. This separates Tracy from Miss Dunne, a U. S. ferry pilot. Though they have taken each other for granted for a long time, Tracy and Dunne are deeply in love with each other. The depth of their loves becomes apparent when Tracy loses his life in putting a German carrier out of action. However, Tracy's duties are not ended. In spirit he returns to help mould future pilots. Johnson is his special problem and it takes plenty of patience before the young scion of a wealthy family really is ready to take his place in the New Guinea fight. Miss Dunne has never recovered from the loss of Tracy. The similarity between Johnson and Tracy softens her up, and she lets herself get sentimental about him. But the memory of Tracy is too vivid until she sacrifices her own neck to save Johnson's. She is finally released from the bond that has existed between Tracy and herself.

Tracy's performance as the cocky pilot who is flesh for one-half of the film and a harried observing ghost for the other half, is tops. Miss Dunne is swell as the lovely plane ferrying pilot.

Running time, 120 mins. "G."* Release date, early February.

MILT LIVINGSTON

"Sing a Jingle"

(Universal)

WAR manufacturing has given Universal another "swing shift" musical. It is "Sing a Jingle." Like "Swingtime Johnny," "Hers to Hold" and the rest of the "assembly line" musicals, "Sing a Jingle" is light, romantic entertainment with a dash of comedy. It has a slight variation of plot.

Exhibitors will have little difficulty putting over the suave and talented Allan Jones. He sings and sings—and he can sing. The story makes him an idol of America's swing addicts. He is rejected by the Army because of an old knee ailment incurred in a big football game during college days. Anxious to serve in the war in some way he hires out to a defense plant as an unknown and there falls for the boss' daughter, a class-conscious, headstrong glamour-girl with a delight for the lighter things in life. She also has a desire for Edward Norris, a rich one, who can give them to her. Jones and his side kick, Gus Schilling, are living at the girl's house, because of a housing shortage, and there she learns to love the machinist with the voice, but not before they pass nasty remarks at each other. Jones then helps the girl put over a big bond drive, finally revealing himself to be Ray King, the "idol of the air-waves." Complications set in when fellow workers, prompted by the jealous Norris, decide he's an impostor, but Jerome Cowan, Jones' manager, saves the day. Miss Vincent announces her love for Jones. The bond drive is a success and everyone is happy.

Betty Kean delivers nicely in the part of a switchboard operator who can sing and dance. She's good and looks promising. Miss Kean and Schilling provide the comedy and add much fun to the production. Universal seems to have a real find in little Dicky Love who plays the son of the plant owner, Samuel S. Hinds. Dicky steals the show as the young intellectual who thrives on Plato and Shakespeare but he tap dances on the side. He handles his end of a tap routine with Miss Kean most effectively and appears to be marked for a future in films. Jones, Miss Vincent and Hinds hold up their respective ends fairly well in a mediocre script. Edward C. Lilley directed adequately; he also produced. Jerry Ash was musical director.

Running time, 62 mins. "G."* Release date, Jan. 7.

HELEN MCNAMARA

*"G" denotes general classification.

FBI to Continue Film Extort Probe

(Continued from page 1)

of those convicted Wednesday night, after the jury deliberated for more than 10 hours, will offer to cooperate with the Government before sentence, scheduled for Dec. 30, is passed by Federal Judge John Bright.

Boris Kostelanetz, special Federal prosecutor, in his summation to the jury last Tuesday, said, "Abner (Longie) Zwillman, north Jersey political power, whose name was mentioned frequently during the 11-week trial, was to Kaufman what Campagna was to Bioff. Who knows but that some of these defendants, before long will take Bioff's place in the witness stand?"

The FBI hopes to locate all parties who, even remotely, participated in the gigantic shakedown of the film industry over a period of several years ending in 1940 or 1941, he added.

Charges Politics in Film Commission

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 23. — Frank B. Metcalfe, for 20 years a member of the motion picture commission here, charges that politics were responsible when Mayor John L. Bonn failed to reappoint him to another three-year term. The commission "is now a political organization as it never was before," said Metcalfe.

Mayor Bonn denied the charge, saying, "Metcalfe has no life tenure on the commission and I saw fit to appoint someone else. There are no politics in this as far as I am concerned." The new appointee is Ralph C. Jupp, who is also organizing Bonn's political campaign, set for next Spring in the 17th and 18th wards. He will take over Jan. 1.

9 P. M Curfew on Again in Vancouver

VANCOUVER, Dec. 23. — A local curfew by-law, enacted in 1923 but never strictly enforced, will keep youngsters under 16 off the streets here after 9 p.m. in the future. Police Commissioners here, at the request of the New Era League, have instructed Chief Constable McKay to enforce the law. It is hoped thereby that the problem of juvenile delinquency with its attendant vandalism from which theatres and other merchants have been suffering, will be solved by the move.

Cooperative Film

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 23.—Six scenarists of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union are working on a film titled "Yo Conoci a Madero" ("I Knew Madero"), which will go into production in February. Half of the film's profits, which will be directed by five directors, are to be used in building a headquarters here for the writers' and directors' unions.

Curfew for Children

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia., Dec. 23.—City Council here has passed a curfew ordinance declaring that children under 16 are forbidden to loiter on streets after 10 p.m., and subjecting parents to fines if their children are termed delinquent and arrested under terms of the ordinance.

Circuits to Support Rogers Hospital Plan

The courts here will be asked next month to approve an agreement reached by lawyers representing the five large theatre circuits setting up a new corporation under which they would undertake to continue operation of the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital at Saranac Lake, New York, the Will Rogers beds in the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Los Angeles and the French Hospital in New York. Under this arrangement, the corporation will take the place of the Will Rogers Commission which announced the winding-up of its affairs on Monday.

Directors and trustees of the new corporation who must be approved by the courts, have been selected by the five major circuits: Paramount, Warner Bros., Loew's, 20th Century-Fox and RKO. The plan is to make the hospital projects part of a national industry charity. When the new corporate set-up is approved by the courts it is expected that the assets of the Will Rogers Commission will be turned over to the corporation to administer.

The motion picture industry collected a net of $1,862,166 in contributions in theatres during the last five years for the Rogers Memorial. A residue of funds collected in theatres amounting to $400,000 will be turned over to the new corporation. A total of $2,109,969 was contributed to the fund which was started after Rogers and Wiley Post lost their lives in an airplane crash at Point Barrow, Alaska.

Hollywood

By JACK CARTWRIGHT

Hollywood, Dec. 23

DAVE LEWIS, producer-director of "Frenchman's Creek," at Paramount, has checked in at Goetz International to prepare his first, "Tomorrow Is Forever." . . . M-G-M announced "Yale at War" for Producer John Considine, who is now at Yale checking locale. . . . Ariel Heath, who played a dramatic but homely role in "Career Girl," has been signed for a glamour role in Sig Neufeld's "The Contender" for PRC release.

*

20th-Fox delayed shooting on "I Married a Soldier" because Jean Crain is tied up in "Home in Indiana." . . . Faye Emerson has been given the feminine lead in "Mask of Dimitrios" at Warners. She'll play the part of Irana, a notorious Turkish night club owner. . . . M-G-M has purchased the Katherine Brush novel, "Red-Headed Woman in Washington," and signed the authoress to do the screenplay. . . . William Goetz has signed song-writers Johnny Burke and Jimmy Van Heusen for a stint on "Belle of the Yukon," to star Dinah Shore. . . . RKO has set "Action in Arabia" as the final title for "International Zone," which stars Virginia Bruce and George Sanders with Lenore Aubert.

*

M-G-M will put three before the cameras right after the holidays. "Over Tokyo," "Marriage Is a Private Affair," and "National Velvet."

RMA Expanding to Meet War Problems

Radio Manufacturers Association has reported an expansion of its organization to deal with immediate war problems and to plan for reconversion of the industry when peace comes. Eight new committees have been appointed by R. C. Cosgrove, chairman of both RMA's set division and the overall postwar planning committee. Development of a new setup will be the chief subject of the mid-Winter conference scheduled for the Hotel Stevens, Chicago, Jan. 12-13.

The new committees and their chairmen follow: industry reconversion, A. S. Wells-Gardner, Chicago; employment and personnel, A. H. Gardner of Colonial Radio, Buffalo; sales financing, J. P. Rogers of Farnsworth Television and Radio, Fort Wayne; industry statistics, Ross D. Siragusa of Admiral, Chicago; advertising committee, John S. Garceau of Farnsworth; distribution costs, Ben Abrams of Emerson, New York, and export programs, W. A. Coogan of Sylvania Electric Products.

Marine Tarawa Films Will Be Exhibited

(*Continued from page* 1)

to the public through the WAC, pending approval of the theatre division program committee.

Warner studios is assembling and cutting the footage, adding a musical score and commentary. Distribution will begin early in February.

To Film Night Scenes Here for 'Sensations'

For the first time since blackout regulations were lifted, films of Times Square at night will be made. A camera crew will screen Duffy Square for scenes to be used in Andrew Stone's "Sensations of 1944," which will be released through United Artists.

New Decree Draft to Be Ready Next Week

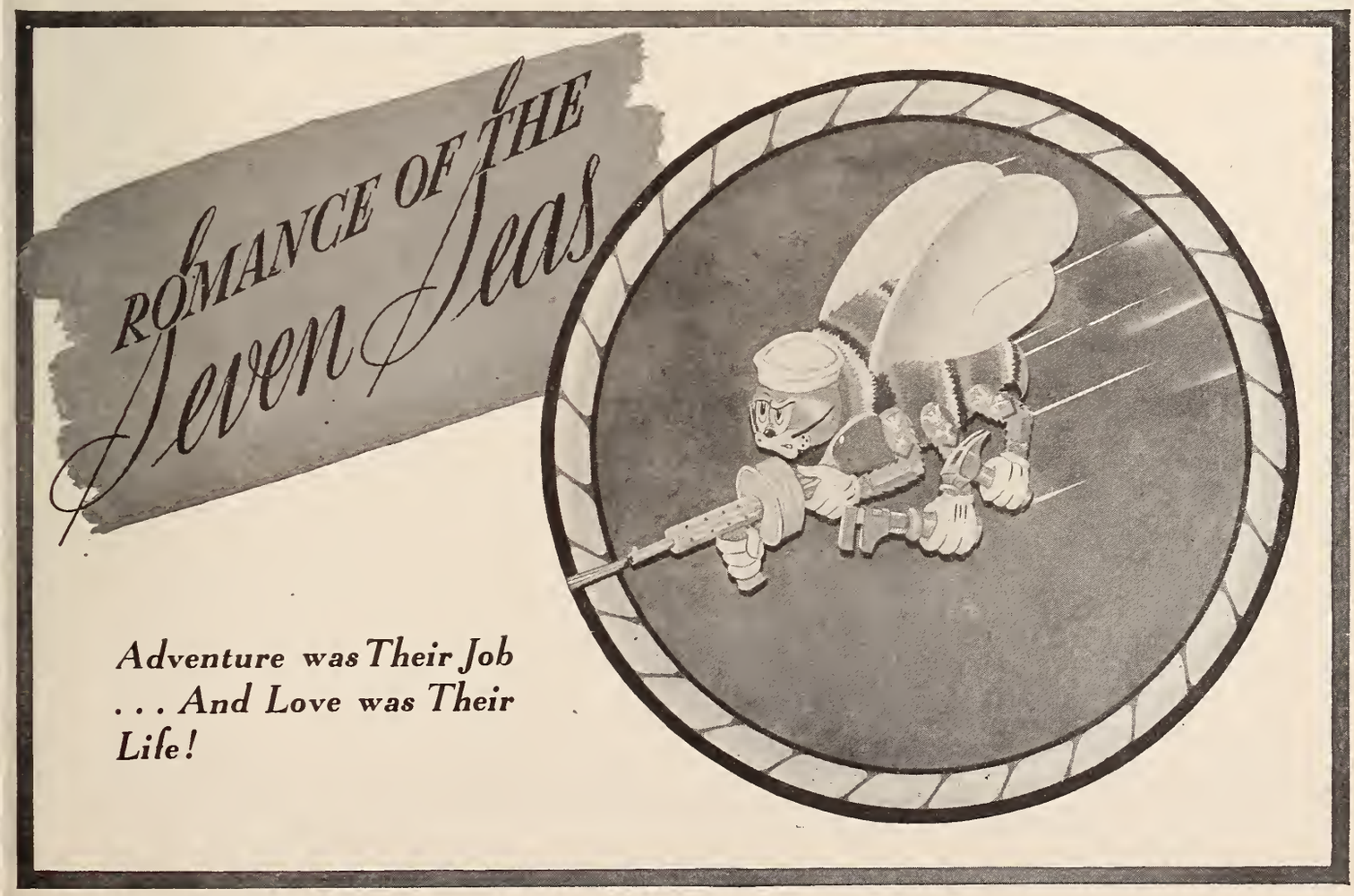
(*Continued from page* 1)

complete their work by today, but it was learned yesterday that it will require more time before the new draft is completed. It is believed that this draft will cover in some way all of the major points urged by Clark. These include film buying regulations for affiliated theatres, theatre acquisitions, and creation of regional arbitration appeal boards.

Rank Denies Deal By Ostrer and Smith

(*Continued from page* 1)

control of Gainsborough Pictures. Smith confined himself to a statement that British Lion is in immediate need of expanded studio space for pictures that are awaiting production, and if Ostrer helps, such can be obtained.



20% House Tax a Burden, Says Senate

(Continued from page 1)

is believed that the House provisions (for a flat 20 per cent) put a heavy burden on the low-price tickets that are not divisible by 10 cents. For example, the tax on a 15-cent ticket would be four cents, or 26.7 per cent of the total price of admission as compared to a 20 per cent tax on a 10 or 20-cent ticket. This situation is eased by the committee rate of one cent for every five cents."

The report disclosed that the Committee had written provisions into the bill for the protection of taxpayers required by the Federal Communications Commission to dispose of radio properties in line with the FCC policy of separatng joint ownership of competing broadcasting stations, where such sales result in a capital gain.

It was pointed out that in involuntary conversions the gain is not taxable if the proceeds of the sale are used in the purchase of similar property or in the establishment of a replacement fund, but that, due to wartime restrictions, the purchase of new radio property may be difficult.

The bill treats such sales as involuntary conversions at the taxpayer's election and provides a relief provision that the capital gain will not be subject to taxation in the year of sale, to the extent that the basis of the remaining depreciable property in the hands of the taxpayer is reduced by the amount of the gain from the sale.

Tax Collections to Hit Record in 1943

(Continued from page 1)

bring $490,000,000 a year. The bill passed by the House calls for a two cent tax on each 10 cents, which would bring an estimated $327,000,000, while the Senate Finance Committee has recommended the adoption of a one cent tax on each five cents for an estimated total income of $297,000,000.

Although collections dropped about $110,000 under October, November collections of $16,388,863 were $5,000,000 above the $11,310,821 recorded for the same month in 1942, the bureau reported. Total for October was $16,499,395.

Contrary to the national downward trend, collections in the Third New York district (Broadway) increased from $2,043,582 in October to $2,204,879 last month. The increase was confined to collections at the box-office, which rose from $1,849,364 to $2,032,715, and taxes of tickets sold by brokers increased from $13,901 to $27,775. Receipts from admissions to roof gardens and cabarets dropped from $180,316 to $144,389.

Hopkins Passes

Leonard Hopkins, 47, former screen and stage actor, died this week at his home in Queens. He appeared in films at one time, with Vitagraph. At the time of his death, he was employed as a salesman for Finchley's, local men's shop.

Grable, Hope, Abbott and Costello Are No. 1 Favorites

(Continued from page 1)

Grable. The facts point to the universal appeal of glamour, Technicolor, song and dance—a true bill for escapist entertainment.

The male hold on first place maintained by Abbott and Costello last year after three straight for Mickey Rooney, has been broken as romance takes top honors for the first time. Feminine stars have headed the list before. Shirley Temple was a four-time winner from 1935 through 1938, after Marie Dressler had led the first poll in 1932, with Will Rogers coming in between.

Bob Hope, who was fifth last year, gained the runner-up position on the basis of "Road to Morocco," "They Got Me Covered" and his current "Let's Face It." Last season's winners, Abbott and Costello, were unable to maintain their pace of six pictures a year. Cutting their output for 1943 to three, this year they slipped to third place.

This year saw the return of Bing Crosby to a top rank after a dip to 12th position in 1942. His appearance in fourth place equals his best previous showing in 1937.

Continued Popularity for Cooper

The continuing popularity of Gary Cooper is evident in his placing fifth in spite of a scarcity of 1943 releases. Greer Garson rose from ninth place last year to sixth. Although each season boasted but one picture with the star, "Mrs. Miniver" and "Random Harvest" were sufficiently impressive to insure her position as the screen's leading dramatic actress.

In seventh place is a newcomer to the top ranks, but a name which has been rising steadily in popularity since the release of "Casablanca." Humphrey Bogart was 25th in last year's poll; he is seventh in this. James Cagney, a top ten perennial, dropped two places in the ranking as "Yankee Doodle Dandy" toured the country after triumphant first runs in 1942. Mickey Rooney turned up in ninth place this year, having dropped to fourth in 1942 after three years in the No. 1 position. One Hardy film, "Andy Hardy's Double Life," and "The Human Comedy" were his only releases.

Clark Gable, who has appeared on every list since the first poll, in 1932, maintained his record by gaining tenth place. Although Captain Gable has not been making pictures, repeat showings of "Gone With the Wind" and second run engagements of "Somewhere I'll Find You" proved his continued drawing power.

Next Fifteen Listed

The next 15 ranking box office names in the combined vote were: Judy Garland, Alice Faye, Bette Davis, Tyrone Power, Alan Ladd, Cary Grant, Errol Flynn, Wallace Beery, Spencer Tracy, Dorothy Lamour, Jean Arthur, Walter Pidgeon, Claudette Colbert, Red Skelton, Lana Turner.

Circuits picked the 15 in this order: Judy Garland, Alice Faye, Wallace Beery, Dorothy Lamour, Tyrone Power, Bette Davis, Spencer Tracy, Errol Flynn, Cary Grant, Alan Ladd, Jean Arthur, Sonja Henie, Red Skelton, Deanna Durbin, Claudette Colbert, likewise in order.

Independents picked: Bette Davis, Alice Faye, Judy Garland, Alan Ladd, Tyrone Power, Cary Grant, Errol Flynn, Spencer Tracy, Wallace Beery, Jean Arthur, Dorothy Lamour, Walter Pidgeon, Claudette Colbert, Lana Turner, Red Skelton.

Rogers Heads Westerners

Western stars, in the combined vote, ranked in box office power as follows: Roy Rogers, William Boyd, Smiley Burnette, George (Gabby) Hayes, Johnny Mack Brown, Tim Holt, Three Mesquiteers, Don (Red) Barry, Bill Elliott, Russell Hayden.

Circuits voted Westerners in this order: Roy Rogers, William Boyd, Smiley Burnette, Johnny Mack Brown, Tim Holt, Three Mesquiteers, (Gabby) Hayes, (Red) Barry, Bill Elliott, Tex Ritter.

Independents named: Roy Rogers, William Boyd, Smiley Burnette, (Gabby) Hayes, Johnny Mack Brown, Tim Holt, Bill Elliott, (Red) Barry, Three Mesquiteers, Charles Starrett.

Honorable mention among Westerners was accorded Charles Starrett, Tex Ritter, Fuzzy Knight, Ken Maynard, Andy Clyde, Buster Crabbe, Range Busters, Tim McCoy, Hoot Gibson, Bob Wills, Raymond Hatton, Bob Livingston, Al St. John, Dave O'Brien, Jim Newill.

Rogers took the lead spot vacated by Gene Autry, six-year winner, now serving in the U. S. Army Air Corps. William Boyd regained second place which he had held five years before losing out to Rogers last year. Smiley Burnette is the customers' favorite comic cowboy, with "Gabby" Hayes his closest rival. Hayes makes the top ten for the first time this year, coming up from 11th place in 1942 to fourth this year.

Russell Hayden in 16th place last year is the one newcomer in the top ten list for 1943 among a list of veteran favorites who all improved their positions over last year, with the exception of Bill Elliott, who slipped from seventh place last year to ninth this year.

Garson Leads in Canada

The poll of Canadian exhibitors on the top money-making stars gave the nod to more serious dramatic entertainment.

Greer Garson, whose "Mrs. Miniver" and "Random Harvest" were strong favorites in Canada, took first place, with Gary Cooper second. Both stars topped 1943's winner, Betty Grable, now third on the Canadian list.

Bob Hope and the comic duo, Abbott and Costello, followed Miss Grable, establishing the popularity of song, dance and comedy in Canada. James Cagney's appearance in sixth place, on the basis of "Yankee Doodle Dandy," lent further support.

The two new names were placers usually seen in dramatic roles, Walter Pidgeon and Bette Davis. They replaced Mickey Rooney and Clark Gable on the American list.

Bing Crosby, fourth in this country's vote, was ninth in Canada, just a step ahead of Humphrey Bogart, who made the Canadian list in his first season among the top ten.

Coast Exhibitors Pledge Bond Goa

(Continued from page 1)

and Fred Stein, assistant campaig directors; and Roy Cooper, northe California state chairman.

Skouras announced that the winne in the picture industry's "Honore Hundred" competition which will b held during the Fourth War Loa will comprise the industry's adviso committee in the Fifth War Lo tentatively scheduled for next sum mer.

At previous meetings in Washing ton and Chicago, the contest and oth awards were discussed.

50 Attend Meeting

About 50 circuit and independe theatre-men, state exhibitor chairme and members of various loan con mittees in the Western exchange are attended the meeting. Among tho conferring with the national sta were state chairmen: Harry Nac Arizona; Roy Cooper, Northern Cal fornia; R. J. Garland, Colorado; N Dow Thompson, Nevada; Al Fink Oregon; Frank Newman, Washing ton, and Sam Gillette.

Others were Mike Rosenber George Bowser, Harry Vinnicof Alex Evelove, John Danz, Nat Hol John Rugar, George Nasser, Ellis A kush, William David, Gene Emmic Mrs. Hulda McGinn, Ellis Levy, D. McInerney, Robert J. Lippert, Mik Naify, Rotus Harvey.

At the conclusion of the meetin Skouras and his staff left for L Angeles, where last-minute detai will be cleared up before the grou leaves for New York.

Easing of Vacuum Tube Shortage Seen

(Continued from page 1)

However, he said, the requirements c the film industry call for only one pe cent of the total output of several mil lion tubes, and it is expected that th requirement will be granted in full.

The news of an easing of the tub situation, following on the heels of reportedly better raw stock picture, a reported yesterday, was seen in Wash ington as evidencing a general better ment of the materials supply whic during the coming year may perm the whole film industry to get back t something approaching normal opera tions.

Republic Can Use 'Oklahoma' for Yea

(Continued from page 1)

attorneys for both sides submitted stipulation, entered into on Dec. 2 under which the Republic film is no being distributed, will eliminate th name "Oklahoma" from the film title after Jan. 1, 1945, in the Unite States; after April 1, 1945, in Can ada, and after Jan. 1, 1946, in a other foreign countries. Republic als agrees not to use the word "Okla homa" in any other film.

Special on 'Distributor'

A special Christmas issue o M-G-M's house publication, *The Distributor*, has been prepared by Mik Simons, editor. The issue is also be ing mailed to all company employee in service.

arle's Average Is $22,000, Sinatra Gets Big $48,500

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23. — The ristmas shopping season, plus a rious epidemic of colds, is playing voc with attendance at downtown uses. However, such factors are evidenced at the Earle, where ank Sinatra holds forth on the stage d "Mystery Broadcast" on the reen. Playing at increased prices, th six shows a day, with the house nptied at the end of each show to low a complete turn-over, the Earle ints to a banner $48,500 for six ys.

Estimated receipts for the week ding Dec. 22-24:

For Whom the Bell Tolls" (Para.)
ALDINE—(900) (75c-$1.10) 7 days, 7th eek. Gross: $10,800. (Average, $10,300)

Fired Wife" (Univ.)
ARCADIA—(600) (35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, d run. Gross: $2,800. (Average, $3,500)

A Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 ys, 2nd week. Gross: $14,200. (Average, 9,000)

Mystery Broadcast" (Rep.) (6 days)
His Butler's Sister" (Univ.) (1 day)
EARLE—(3,000) (65c-75c-85c) 6 days of udeville, including Frank Sinatra, Jan vitt's orchestra, Linda Grey, Buddy elcome, The Three Welles and Cookie owers. Gross: $48,500. (Average, $22,-0)

His Butler's Sister" .(Univ.)
FOX—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 ys. Gross: $18,200. (Average, $17,800)

Under Two Flags" (20th-Fox)
KARLTON—(1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-c) 7 days, 2nd week, reissue. Gross: ,500. (Average, $5,600)

Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
KEITH'S—(2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average, ,000)

Old Acquaintance" (WB)
MASTBAUM — (4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,700. verage, $22,000)

The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
STANLEY—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-c) 7 days. Gross: $17,900. (Average, 8,300)

The Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
STANTON—(1,700) (35c-41c-57c-68c-75c) days. Gross: $8,500. (Average, $8,000)

Happy Land' Duals In Denver: $16,250

DENVER, Dec. 23.—All downtown eatres suffered a setback this week ue to the holiday season. "Happy and" on a dual at the Denver led e field with an expected gross of 16,250 while "In Old Oklahoma" on holdover at the Paramount scored cond with $9,000.

Estimated receipts for the week ding Dec. 20-22:

Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
So's Your Uncle" (Univ.)
ALADDIN—(1,400) (30c-40c-50c-60c) Move-er. Gross: $3,750. Average: $3,000).

Above Suspicion" (M-G-M)
Man From Down Under" (M-G-M)
BROADWAY — (1,040) (30c-40c-50c-60c) oveover. Gross: $3,125. (Average: $2,500).

Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.)
DENVER — (2,600) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 ys. Gross: $16,250. (Average: $13,000)

Henry Aldrich Haunts a House" (Para.)
Tornado" (Para.)
DENHAM—(1,750) (30c-40c-55c-65c) 7 days ross: $6,200. (Average: $7,000)

Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.)
ESQUIRE—(740) (40c-50c-60c-65c) 7 days. ross: $3,750. (Average: $3,000)

In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
Mystery Broadcast" (Rep.)
PARAMOUNT — (2,200) (40c-50c-60c) 7 ys, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: ,000)

Northern Pursuit" (W.B.)
Hi Ya, Sailor" (Univ.)
RIALTO — (900) (40c-50c-60c-65c) Move-er. Gross: $5,750. (Average: $4,600)

'Dangerous Blondes' Tops with $24,500

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23. — Crowds thronging thoroughfares over the weekend were definitely imbued with holiday spirit rather than being amusement-minded and theatre attendance suffered in consequence. "Dangerous Blondes," however, was in a relatively high bracket at the RKO Albee, where a vaudeville bill occupied the stage, with an indicated gross of $24,-500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 22-25:

"Dangerous Blondes" (Col.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Merry Macs, Borah Minnevitch's Harmonica Rascals, Cliff Edwards, Frederics & Wilson, Nelson Sisters. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $22,000).

"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (35c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show; 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $10,000).

"The Girl from Monterey" (PRC)
"Campus Rhythm" (Mono.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 4 days. Gross: $1,150. (Average: $1,400).

"Tiger Fangs" (PRC)
"Danger: Men at Work" (PRC)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (22c-33c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).

"Corvette-K-225" (Univ.)
RKO GRAND—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show; 2nd week. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $10,000).

"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week, moveover from the Shubert. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).

"Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $4,200).

"Whistling in Brooklyn" (M-G-M)
RKO PALACE—(2,700) (33c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000)

"Jack London" (UA)
RKO SHUBERT—(1,500) (33c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).

'Crime Doctor's' $19,500 Is Tops

BALTIMORE, Dec. 23.—Current figures are evidence that the Christmas holiday season is keeping people away from theatres. "Crime Doctor's Strangest Case," bolstered by Benny Goodman's orchestra on the stage, is tops with $19,500 at the Hippodrome. "Northern Pursuit" is second.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 23:

"The Man From Down Under" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c-50c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,500).

"Crazy House" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (30c-40c-50c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000).

"Happy Land" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (28c-35c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,700).

"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (28c-40c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,900).

"Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (28c-39c-44c-55c-66c) 7 days. On stage: Benny Goodman's Orchestra. Marty May, Pops and Louie. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $16,800).

"Dancing Masters" (20th-Fox)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (20c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,900).

Cinema Club Elects

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23. — Ross Williams, RKO city salesman, has been named president of the local Cinema Club, succeeding Rudolph Knoepfle. Other officers elected include Robert Burns, first vice-president; Marc Cummings, second vice-president; Peter Niland, reelected secretary and treasurer; trustees: Charles R. Palmer, Milton Gurian, Irving Sochin, Harold Rullman, Emanuel Nagel, James P. Eifert and Joseph McKnight.

Short Subject Reviews

"Imagination"
(Columbia)

Dave Fleischer has produced a charming fantasy about a child and her dolls. The little girl's imagination builds a story about Raggedy Ann and Andy which will appeal to young and old. Paul Worth's original music adds much to the reel, which is in Technicolor. The story was written by Don Roman. Here is a short which shows the men who make them still have imagination. Running time, 8 mins.

"The Lion and the Mouse"
(20th-Fox)

This is the tale of the little mouse who becomes a super mouse and gets the big lion out of an awful mess. The mouse remembers that the Lion saved his life once and so, after drinking half a jug of cider he is transformed into a hulk of dynamic strength. This Terrytoon in Technicolor, produced by Paul Terry, is amusing and entertaining. Running time, 7 mins.

Holiday Week 'Way Off in Toronto

TORONTO, Dec. 23.—"Wintertime" headed for $9,800 at Shea's in a week that was colorless for theatres generally before the Christmas climax. "Lassie Come Home" was pointing to $8,300 for its third week at Loew's Theatre. Every house went below par.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 23:

"Holiday Inn" (Para.)
"The Fleet's In" (Para.)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,900).

"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,600. (Average: $12,000).

"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,300. (Average: $10,800).

"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $12,300).

"Find the Blakmailer" (WB)
"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB) (Move-over)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $3,100. (Average: $4,600).

"Texas to Tokyo" (Univ.)
"You're a Lucky Fellow, Mr. Smith" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $9,700).

Every 1st Run in Omaha Below Par

OMAHA, Dec. 23.—Theatre business slumped even further here this week with not one of Omaha's first-run houses reaching par. "I Dood It" at the Paramount drew $8,100, probably the best comparative business.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 23-24:

"Where Are Your Children?" (Mono.)
"The Ghost Ship" (RKO)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (40c-55c), 7 days. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $5,500).

"Best Foot Forward" (M-G-M)
"The City That Stopped Hitler" (Para.)
OMAHA—(2,000) (40c-55c), 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,900).

"There's Something About a Soldier" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (40c-50c-65c), 7 days, D'Artega's orchestra on stage. Gross: $10,600. (Average: $14,900).

"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (40c-55c), 7 days. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $9,800).

'Fantasy' Dual Chicago's Best: $22,000 Gross

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—In this week before Christmas Chicago's Loop business is running about 20 per cent below recent averages. Spotty conditions prevail throughout the city with the situation at a virtual standstill in some sections. "Flesh and Fantasy" and "Moonlight in Vermont" are doing well at the Palace, however, and will probably gross $22,000. "Sahara" is also able to buck the trend, at the Roosevelt, where a gross of $20,000 is expected.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 23:

"Paris After Dark" (20th-Fox)
"My Kingdom for a Cook" (Col.)
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $10,-600)

"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
CHICAGO—(4,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Danny O'Neil. Gross: $39,000. (Average, $45,000)

"Guadalcanal Diary" (20th-Fox)
GARRICK—(1,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $8,700)

"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
"She's For Me" (Univ.)
GRAND—(1,150) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week in Loop. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $8,900)

"The Awful Truth" (Col.)
ORIENTAL—(3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c) 7 days. Stage: Dorothy Donegan. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $23,400)

"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
"Moonlight in Vermont" (Univ.)
PALACE—(2,500) (40c-50c-65c-75c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average, $20,000)

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" (WB) 1 day, 3rd week
"Sahara" (Col.) 6 days
ROOSEVELT — (1,500) (50c-65c-85c). Gross: $20,000. (Average, $19,200)

"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
STATE-LAKE—(2,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $22,600)

"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M) 1 day, 2nd week
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB) 6 days
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) Gross: $18,000. (Average, $19,200)

"Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M) 5 days
"Gangs, Inc." (PRC) 2 days
WOODS—(1,200) (55c-65c-85c). Gross: $8,500. (Average, $10,000)

Not One Is Above Par in Indianapolis

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 23.—The pre-Christmas slump which began last week is even more noticeable here this week and all first-run houses expect to gross considerably below average. The Circle with "Government Girl" and "The Falcon and the Co-ed" will gross $9,000, and Loew's, with "Crime Doctor's Strangest Case," and "The Cross of Lorraine" will do $8,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 21-23:

"Government Girl" (RKO)
"The Falcon and the Co-ed" (RKO)
CIRCLE—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000).

"Corvette K-225" (Univ.)
"Fired Wife" (Univ.)
INDIANA—(3,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $11,500).

"Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.)
"The Cross of Lorraine" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S—(2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,000).

"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
"The Unknown Guest" (Mono.)
LYRIC—(2,000) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days, moved from Indiana. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000).

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Nov. 27	THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT A SOLDIER Evelyn Keyes Tom Neal D—75 mins. (5017)	(Second Block) THOUSANDS CHEER Kathryn Grayson Gene Kelly M—126 mins.	TEXAS KID Johnny Mack Brown O—(351)	(Second Block) RIDING HIGH (Technicolor) Dorothy Lamour Dick Powell Victor Moore M—89 mins. (4307)		DRUMS OF FU MANCHU (Adapted from Serial) Henry Brandon D—(305)	(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C—(405)	(Re-Issues) THE RAINS CAME D—(410) UNDER TWO FLAGS D—(411)		HIS BUTLER'S SISTER Deanna Durbin Pat O'Brien Franchot Tone D—93 mins. (8004)	OLD ACQUAINTANCE Bette Davis Miriam Hopkins D—110 mins. (308)
Dec. 4	THE HEATS ON Victor Moore William Gaxton Mae West Hazel Scott M—79 mins. (5009)	THE CROSS OF LORRAINE Pierre Aumont Gene Kelly D—90 mins.	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer) O—56 mins. (361)	NO TIME FOR LOVE Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Ilka Chase C—83 mins. (4309)		CANYON CITY Don "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O TUMBLING TUMBLEWEEDS Gene Autry (Re-Issue) O—(2308)	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D—(401)	HAPPY LAND Don Ameche Frances Dee Ann Rutherford 75 mins. (415)		SO'S YOUR UNCLE Billie Burke Elyse Knox Donald Woods C—69 mins. (8042)	(Re-Issues) CRIME SCHOOL Humphrey Bogart Dead End Kids 86 mins. (327)
Dec. 11	THE CRIME DOCTOR'S STRANGEST CASE Warner Baxter Rose Hobart Lynn Merrick D—(5021)	LOST ANGEL Margaret O'Brien Marsha Hunt D—91 mins.	MR. MUGGS STEPS OUT East Side Kids D—64 mins. (301)	HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith John Litel C—73 mins. (4306)	THE DRIFTER Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John (461) JIVE JUNCTION Dickie Moore Tina Thayer M—65 mins. (407)	IN OLD OKLAHOMA John Wayne Martha Scott O—102 mins. PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA Ruth Terry Robert Livingston C Wally Vernon RAIDERS OF SUNSET PASS O—56 mins.	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C—(402)			SHE'S FOR ME David Bruce Grace McDonald George Dolenz D—60 mins. (8041)	GIRLS ON PROBATION Jane Bryan Ronald Reagan 63 mins. (328)
Dec. 18	KLONDIKE KATE Tom Neal Ann Savage D	A GUY NAMED JOE Irene Dunne Spencer Tracy D—120 mins.	SMART GUY Rick Vallin D—63 mins. (227)	MINESWEEPER Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—67 mins. (4308)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN GUNSMOKE MESA James Newill (453)	WHISPERING FOOTSTEPS John Hubbard D—56 mins. OH, MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Frank Albertson C—69c mins.	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D—(403)			CALLING DR. DEATH Lon Chaney Patricia Morrison Ramsey Ames D—63 mins.	
Dec. 25	SWING OUT THE BLUES Bob Haymes Lynn Merrick COWBOY IN THE CLOUDS Charles Starrett Walter "Dub" Taylor	CRY HAVOC Margaret Sullavan Ann Sothern D—97 mins.					SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C—(404)	THE GANG'S ALL HERE Carmen Miranda Alice Faye James Ellison 103 mins. (416) (Technicolor)	JACK LONDON D Michael O'Shea Susan Hayward 94 mins.	MOONLIGHT IN VERMONT Gloria Jean Fay Helm Sidney Miller Ray Malone D—62 mins.	
Jan. 1	WHAT A WOMAN Rosalind Russell Brian Aherne Willard Parker D—93 mins.	RATIONING Wallace Beery Marjorie Main C		(Third Block) MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK Eddie Bracken Betty Hutton D—99 mins. (4312)		CALIFORNIA JOE Don "Red' Barry Helen Talbot Wally Vernon O	(Second Block) THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)		THE WOMAN OF THE TOWN Albert Dekker Claire Trevor D—88 mins.	GUNG HO Randolph Scott Alan Curtis David Bruce Noah Beery, Jr. D—88 mins.	DESTINATION TOKYO Cary Grant John Garfield D—135 mins. (309)
Jan. 8	HEY ROOKIE Ann Miller Joe Besser Larry Parks Joe Sawyer C	BROADWAY RHYTHM Ginny Simms George Murphy M	WOMEN IN BONDAGE Gail Patrick D—71 mins. (303)		CAREER GIRL Frances Langford M—66 mins.	PRIDE OF THE PLAINS Bob Livingston Smiley Burnette O	GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)			SING A JINGLE Allan Jones June Vincent Samuel S. Hinds 62 mins. M	
Jan. 15		SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE Robert Walker Donna Reed C	WHERE ARE YOUR CHILDREN Jackie Cooper D—72 mins. (302)	STANDING ROOM ONLY Paulette Goddard Fred MacMurray C—83 mins. (4314)		HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER Roy Rogers O—74 mins. (341)	GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)		THREE RUSSIAN GIRLS Anna Sten Kent Smith D	ALI BABA AND THE 40 THIEVES (in Technicolor) Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey D	
Jan. 22	THE RACKET MAN Tom Neal Jeanne Bates Hugh Beaumont D	THE HEAVENLY BODY Hedy Lamarr William Powell D—95 mins.	SULTAN'S DAUGHTER Ann Corio C—64 mins. WESTWARD BOUND Hoot Gibson Ken Maynard O—(362)	THE UNINVITED Ray Milland Ruth Hussey D—98 mins. (4315)	NABONGA Buster Crabbe Fifi D'Orsay Barton MacLane D	CASANOVA IN BURLESQUE Joe E. Brown June Havoc C	GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)			SPIDER WOMAN Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Gale Sondergaard D	
Jan. 29	BEAUTIFUL BUT BROKE Joan Davis John Hubbard C	SONG OF RUSSIA Robert Taylor Susan Peters D—107 mins.	WHAT A MAN Johnnie Downs C—66 mins. (228) RAIDERS OF THE BORDER Johnny Mack Brown O—(352)	HENRY ALDRICH, BOY SCOUT Jimmy Lydon C—66 mins. (4311)		MY BEST GAL Jane Withers Jimmy Lydon Frank Craven C	THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D—(410)		KNICKER-BOCKER HOLIDAY Nelson Eddy Charles Coburn D	PHANTOM LADY Franchot Tone Ella Raines Alan Curtis D	
Feb. 5	THE VIGILANTES RIDE Russell Hayden Bob Wills O	MADAM CURIE Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins.	SWEETHEARTS OF THE U. S. A. Una Merkel C	TIMBER QUEEN Richard Arlen Mary Beth Hughes D—66 mins. (4313)			NORTH STAR Anne Baxter Walter Huston Dana Andrews D—105 mins. (451)			SWINGTIME JOHNNY Peter Cookson Harriet Hilliard Andrews Sisters M—60 mins.	

DO NOT REMOV

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

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All-Time Low In Releases For Warners

Heading for Fewer Than Last Season's 24

Filling playing with fewer releases through extended playing time, Warner Bros. this season will set an all-time low for a large distributor—as the companies are now constituted—in the number of features released.

On the basis of the unprecedentedly low number of eight released so far this season and the rate of releasing indicated for the next quarter, the company is headed for far fewer than the 24 which it released last season, and which was a record low seasonal output for any large distributor. Warners' average pre-war total ran from 53 to 56, with a high of 68 in 1937-38.

Warners are not releasing any pic-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Warners to Release 18 French Versions

TORONTO, Dec. 26.—An increase in Warners' schedule of French dialogue versions from 15 to 18 for the season became known here with new datings at the Capitol, Quebec, following the recent test run of a French version of "All This and Heaven, Too." Next foreign language versions to play the house will be "The Sea Hawk," starting Jan. 21; "They Drive by Night," Feb. 18, and "Strawberry Blonde," March 17.

Others to come, at the rate of one about every third week, include "The

(*Continued on page* 4)

V. B. Gray Shifted to Atlanta Para. Post

V. B. Gray has been appointed Paramount advertising representative for the Atlanta district by Alec Moss, home office exploitation manager. He will work with John Kirby, district manager. In addition to Atlanta, the district covers Charlotte and New Orleans.

Gray has been acting advertising representative for the Dallas district, serving during the absence of W. C. Lewellen, who was assigned to key engagements of "For Whom the Bell Tolls."

Chicago Has Acute Manpower Shortage; Managers Included

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—The manpower situation in the Chicago area is expected to become worse instead of better in the early months of 1944, according to a representative of the regional War Manpower Commission here.

Theatre managers are in great demand, here, at the present time and a number of men inducted into the army recently have not been replaced. In distribution, many along film row have recently been re-classified by their draft boards and expect to be called shortly.

Reports of lay-offs and plant closings have been over-emphasized, it was said. In nearly all cases they were caused by changes in war contracts and workers released were quickly absorbed in other plants.

Films Lauded in Army, Navy Report

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—"Motion pictures are by far the most popular form of entertainment in all the uniformed services," it was disclosed today by the Office of War Information in a report on what is being done to make life bearable for men in lonely outposts throughout the world.

The OWI conclusion was based on findings of Army and Navy officers concerned with recreation, whose duty it is to see that every outpost, no matter how small or remote, gets at least two or three new films a week. Prints of all films obtained by the Army and

(*Continued on page* 4)

Yule Celebrations at All Home Offices

Holiday celebrations at home offices began early on Friday and were at their peak shortly after work stopped officially for all companies at 1:00 p.m. Numerous planned and impromptu parties and luncheons were participated in by hundreds of home office and exchange employes and executives. "Open house" was the rule in most offices throughout the afternoon.

Steffes Sees N. W. Exhibitor Merger

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 26.—Possibility of the two independent theater owners' organizations already existing here merging with the new one being formed by W. A. (Al) Steffes, veteran independent leader, was voiced by Steffes at an initial meeting of a dozen prominent independents at a luncheon here.

Al Steffes

Steffes, recently recovered from a lengthy illness to emerge from retirement, said conferences with Don Guttman, head of North-Central Allied and E. L. Peaslee, head of Northwest Allied, had obtained their approval of the new organization. Guttman's organization represents largely Twin City independents.

Treasury Appeals to Industry for Volunteer Salesmen in Loan Drive

The Treasury Department is asking for volunteers from the motion picture and other industries to act as War Bond salesmen during the Fourth War Loan Drive, Jan. 18 through Feb. 15. Those not already engaged in furthering film industry's campaign are urged by the Government to offer their services at local War Finance Committee offices.

Film salesmen and executives with selling ability who can devote some time to this work are especially desired, the Treasury's payroll savings division points out. Volunteers will be schooled before being sent out from headquarters and will be equipped with instructions, literature and lists of prospects. "Their experience and talents are invaluable for the job that faces us," the request states.

Typical of the country's need for workers for the drive is the estimate by the New York State committee that 40 per cent more salesmen are needed in this drive than in previous ones. The primary goal of the $14,000,000,000 campaign is to raise $5,500,000,000 from individual subscribers.

Six-Day Week Will Also Help Coast Houses

Shorter Week Gives More Time for Theatres

Hundreds of film theatres along the Pacific Coast stand to benefit by the Maritime Commission-approved recommendation of Henry J. Kaiser, large shipbuilder, to return his many yards along the Pacific Coast to a six-day week, in line with the trend of many heavy war manufacturing industries to switch from the seven-day week as a result of the unusually favorable conditions of war manufacturing commitments or manpower shortages.

Last week another sign of a return to a six-day week was evidenced by the War Production Board's approval of such a move for copper miners in Montana and Arizona. This granting of more time off to workers is expected to reflect itself in increased theatre attendance.

Theatres have been suffering a box-

(*Continued on page* 4)

WAC Prepares to Meet Rail Strike

The War Activities Distribution Committee, in view of reports that railway union employes have voted to call a strike for Dec. 30, is taking every precaution to prevent any halt in shipments of Government-sponsored films being handled by the various producing and distributing companies. William F. Rodgers is chairman of the committee.

Rodgers has notified all WAC state chairmen to call immediate meetings

(*Continued on page* 4)

New York Bond Unit Will Meet Today

Newly appointed captains of the New York committee for the Fourth War Loan comprised of representatives of theatre circuits will meet today at 1 p.m. at the Hotel Astor to discuss plans for the drive, which will be held Jan. 18 to Feb. 15.

Edward L. Alperson, New York State chairman, will be guest of Harry Brandt, Manhattan chairman, at the meeting, along with William Eng-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

TOM CONNORS, 20th Century-Fox executive, is over the flu, but a bit wobbly.

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William F. Rodgers, general sales manager of M-G-M, has his entire family at the New Rochelle fireside over the holidays for the first time in several years. His children have been attending out-of-town schools.

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CLAUDE RAINS, who has just completed his role in "Mr. Skeffington," arrives in New York from the Coast early next month. He is expected to go to London for a stage appearance.

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JACK LEIB, News of the Day staff cameraman, has left for overseas duty. Simultaneously, Norman Alley, overseas two years, is back on domestic soil.

•

WILLIAM MARCHINO, M-G-M checking supervisor in Des Moines, has returned to his desk after a short illness.

•

JACK COHN, executive vice-president of Columbia, is spending the holidays with Mrs. Cohn at Palm Springs.

•

HERB ELISBERG, owner of the Studio Theatre, Chicago, has gone to Miami Beach for several months' vacation.

•

A. MONTAGUE, general sales manager of Columbia, expects to leave for Hollywood next Saturday.

•

HENRY PLUDE, manager of the Fort, Rock Island, Ill., and MRS. PLUDE are the parents of a baby girl.

•

CHARLES REAGAN, assistant to Neil F. Agnew at Paramount, is another victor over the flu.

•

PVT. MATTY FOX, former vice-president of Universal, is in town over the holidays.

•

DON ALLEN, manager of the Capitol, Davenport, Ia., was a Des Moines visitor.

•

CARL LESERMAN, general sales manager of UA, has conquered the flu.

•

BOB RITCHIE is in town.

Walsh Reelected by Washington Group

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Joseph B. Walsh, veteran Columbia salesman, has been reelected president of the Motion Picture Salesmen's Club here for 1944. Other officers named were: Fred Klein, 20th-Fox, first vice-president; Harley Davidson, Paramount, second vice-president; Phil Bobys, M-G-M, secretary-treasurer.

The club will start its 1944 season with the annual dinner dance at Indian Springs Golf and Country Club on Jan. 29. The committee in charge of the affair includes Bobys, Chick Wingfield, Jerry Price and Vincent Dougherty.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ED KUYKENDALL'S observation in a recent bulletin to MPTOA members that there is a widespread impression in Washington that this industry not only will not defend itself when attacked, but invites attack by handling with kid gloves those who affront it, adds merely one more locale to the list of those wherein the same impression is known to prevail. There are many in the trade itself who hold the same impression that Kuykendall reports is abroad in the nation's capital now.

If any two-fisted slugger with the industry's best interests at heart wants to start something by way of correcting that impression, he won't have to look very far for support. We know scores of industry legionnaires who are itching to open up that front; good, sound men who feel that after the second cheek has been turned and the soft answer has proved futile it's time to put up your dukes and hit back. Not exactly a Christmas sentiment, but one that's proper as an attitude for the New Year and for other years.

• •

As remarkable as any of the remarkable financial reports emanating from the industry this year will be the one from Universal for the fiscal year ended Nov. 1, last. Universal's profit, before taxes, was in excess of $13,000,000.

• •

Another remarkable cash register story is being told at the Rivoli on Broadway, where "For Whom the Bell Tolls" is in the sixth month of its run with an estimated gross of more than $900,000. The picture will continue through January and along toward the end of that month will pass the $1,000,000 mark for the single theatre run.

"Bell" has grossed more than $2,750,000 to date. Pretty good for an unreleased picture. Despite the current ads that "Bell" will not be shown at regular admissions before 1945, a good bet would be that it will be. But not earlier than the Fall of 1944.

• •

Tradewise was pleasantly surprised recently to receive a call from Will H. Hays with an expression of approval of sentiments expressed herein on a subject we were quite unaware the "General" had any immediate interest in. But maybe that wasn't it. Perhaps he is one of those discriminating readers who recognize and appreciate great literature when they see it. If so, perhaps we'd better abandon hopes of keeping him as a "constant reader."

• •

We know quite a few industry executives who are paying off bets this week, made a year ago, that the war would be over by 1944.

• •

DuMont Television is moving from its Madison Avenue penthouse quarters to larger but more prosaic quarters on a lower floor of the same building. Preparing for postwar expansion or rent retrenchment?

• •

Members of the Warner "Destination Tokyo" junket to the New London, Conn., submarine base last week were puzzled by the refusal of the F.B.I. to approve some of the newspaper men for admission to the base. At least one of those who was refused admittance is nationally known.

• •

A home office story editor tells of a well known publisher who was invited to a screening of a new picture based on one of the publisher's best-sellers.

"Howdjalikeit?" he was asked after the screening.

"It's great! I'll bet it's even better than the book," enthused the publisher.

"What do you mean 'you bet' it's better?"

"Well," said the gentleman, "I haven't read the book."

• •

Chicago reports that approximately 60 independent theatres there, including some of the best known local independent circuit operators, are engaged in a buyers' strike against one major distributor, and that there are other manifestations of widespread balking at terms being asked by other distributors. One result of the situation is represented as being a big jump in business for independent distributors in that city.

A Chicago buying combine of the holdouts is, however, engaged in continuing efforts to reach an understanding with the single company referred to above and, by the time this is read, may have done so. To date, that distributor is reported to have closed deals for its current season's product with only two Chicago independent theatres.

• •

Happy New Year!

Production Slows to Walk Over Holidays

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—Production slowed to a minimum at noon Friday, shooting continuing only on properties under time pressure due to special circumstances, with studios shuttering for a two-day holiday. The usual Christmas exodus did not take place due to transportation restrictions.

Studio personnel in the main are planning a quiet observation of the Yuletide. Customary lavish holiday greetings are conspicuously lacking from the scene. With shops virtually stripped by shoppers, theatre attendance improved Friday night. Brilliant weather promised boom weekend grosses.

No Political Motive In 'Wilson': Zanuck

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—Twentieth Century-Fox's production based on the life of President Woodrow Wilson is designed as entertainment, Darryl F. Zanuck stated in a wire in answer to a Cleveland newspaperman's query whether political motives are involved in the production of the picture.

"We are not in politics and do not intend to get into politics," Zanuck's wire stated. "Our business is entertainment and we intend to stick to our last. If we can provide entertainment and at the same time present something constructive and helpful, so much the better."

Skouras, Aides Confer With Coast Exhibitors

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26.—Charles Skouras, national industry chairman of the Fourth War Loan drive, and his aides, B. V. Sturdivant, Andrew Krappmann, Fred Stein and Seymour Peiser, arrived here at the weekend from San Francisco, where they held conferences with exhibitors on the drive. The party expects to leave here for New York next week, but no departure date has been set.

McDonnell Rites to Be Held Here Today

Funeral services will be held today for William McDonnell, former promotion manager of Quigley Publications who died recently of a heart attack in Los Angeles, at the Campbell Funeral Parlor, Madison Ave. and 81st St. Interment will be at Calvary Cemetery, Queens, L. I.

Rubin Named Barker

OMAHA, Dec. 26.—E. I. Rubin, salesman in Paramount's local exchange, has been elected chief barker of the Variety Club here for 1944. J. T. McBride, Paramount branch manager, was elected first assistant chief barker.

Skouras Sponsors Short

"Your Theatre Goes To War," a short subject sponsored by Skouras Theatres and theatre undertakings on behalf of the war effort, will open at the weekend in Skouras houses.

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Iowan Theatres Share in Boom

DES MOINES, Dec. 26.—The temporary Christmas slump notwithstanding, the majority of exhibitors in Iowa have shared in the upward trend of business that has been noted in the state during the past year as a result of increased employment and higher wages.

First run theatres in larger towns where war plants are located have shown the greatest increase. Suburban theatres, however, have noted no upward trend; some have even shown a loss since downtown business increased. Suburban or family theatre losses are felt to be due to increased savings for neighborhood war bond buying and other war efforts in the communities surrounding them, while people with ready money who are spending more go to downtown theatres located near night clubs and places of other amusements.

Gas Rationing Helps

Gas rationing has helped theatres in smaller towns.

The upward trend is also noted in reports of the two per cent sales tax. An average of 1,164 places of amusement did a total business of $15,611,405 in the year April 1, 1942, to March 31, 1943. An average of 1,288 places reporting during 1941-42 did a total business of $14,391,200. While the number of places of amusement decreased from an average of 1,411 in 1941, to 1,093 in 1943, there was a steady rise in total business.

Critics' Quotes . . .

"FLESH AND FANTASY" (Universal)

GEORGE E. BLACKFORD, N. Y. *Journal-American*—. . . Some very fine acting . . . interesting and intriguing film . . . has been charmingly done . . .

KATE CAMERON, N. Y. *Daily News*—. . . . Drama that draws a vast amount of suspense and humor . . . extraordinary production, a remarkable picture . . . immensely entertaining. . . . Boyer-Stanwyck number has glamour and romance, besides humor and breathtaking suspense.

OTIS L. GUERNSEY, JR., N. Y. *Herald Tribune*—. . . Example of one-act play technique adapted for motion pictures . . . unfortunately misses fire almost from the very start . . . picture has only a tenuous relation to Benchley's problem, thus weakening the pattern of the fantasy . . . trouble is in dialogue.

JOHN McMANUS, N. Y. *P. M.*—. . . Boresome case of noted talents . . . with little to do and decision to do it in a super colossal way.

FRANK QUINN, N. Y. *Daily Mirror*—. . . Production top grade, though not for mass trade. . . . Boyer and Duvivier make a notable debut and picture should establish them in their new field.

THEODORE STRAUSS, N. Y. *Times*—. . . Notwithstanding its novelty it is an uneven entertainment. . . . "Flesh and Fantasy" is as stuffing and diversified as a four-decker sandwich, complete with mayonnaise and coleslaw.

IRENE THIRER, N. Y. *Post*—. . . Arresting and divertingly different . . . camera angles strikingly unusual, often bizarre . . . moves slowly and engrossingly from start to stop . . . absorbing and intelligently concocted.

ALTON COOK, N. Y. *World-Telegram*—. . . Each story has strange twist at the finish . . . performances throughout are in keeping with the stature of players . . . sure to be one of the most discussed films of the fall season, as well as one of the most engrossing.

'Bullets' Reissued

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—"Paper Bullets" is being reissued here by PRC under the title, "Gangs, Inc." It has been booked by the Woods Theatre as a single feature. The re-issue is purely a local project, the film having been reissued nationally last year under its original title. Alan Ladd stars.

Sound City Cuts Deficit

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Sound City films in a delayed May, 1942, accounting report shows a credit balance of $30,400, reducing the previously reported deficit to $364,000. Chairman Norman Loudon declares he hopes to produce 1943 reports shortly.

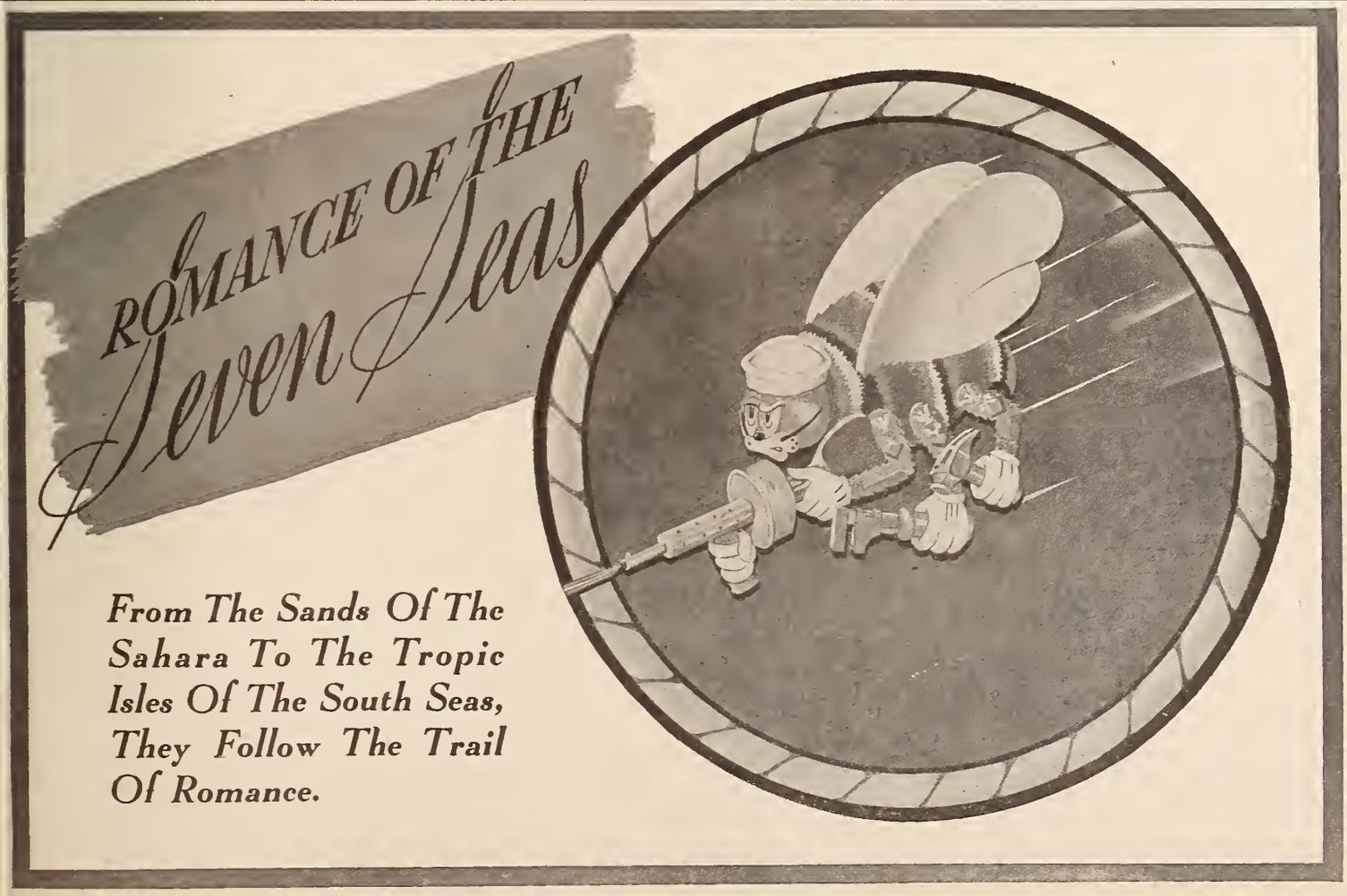
Workers Recognize Screen's Influence

CALGARY, Alta., Dec. 26.—War has done many things to industry, not the least of which is the extent of the appreciation of the screen as a means of impressing the worker with the importance of his individual position in industry, and as a bettering influence in employee-employer relations. This sentiment, and a vision of the important part films have yet to play in national life were expressed here to a group of industrial executives and businessmen at a Canadian Manufacturers Association dinner, by George LeBeau, Western supervisor of industrial and trade union circuits for Canada's National Film Board.

66 Traveling Units

LeBeau disclosed there are already 66 traveling film units showing war information to hundreds of thousands of people in rural Canada, in addition to industrial circuit programs. There are 34 industrial circuits showing to more than 200,000 workers each month, he added. The National Film Board's film programs are available without charge to manufacturers or processors who will show the films to staffs of 50 or more.

The board has some 300 films for distribution and supplies projectors and operators. In many instances films are run off right in the plants with the workers permitted time off for the showings. Some plants have provided special facilities for showing of films at regular intervals and LeBeau suggested that these facilities will be part of the regular set-up of industries of the future.



Films Lauded In Report by Army, Navy

(Continued from page 1)

made available without cost by the industry are flown from San Francisco to Australia and New Caledonia, for distribution to south and southwest Pacific outposts, usually by plane. Prints of three different films are flown each week to Alaska from the West Coast in sufficient numbers for all outposts throughout the interior of the territory and the Aleutians to get their quota of entertainment.

The greatest problem for both the Army and Navy is not film but projectors, OWI found. Small outposts are so numerous that it is sometimes difficult to obtain enough projectors to go around, even 16 mm. projectors, which are used for small groups. On board ship, where it was the peacetime custom to show pictures on deck, blackouts have made it necessary to move them inside, where there is less room, and the Navy has solved its problem, so far as the limited supply of projectors permits, by putting on "progressive" shows on the larger ships, the men assembling in small groups in various parts of the vessel and as soon as a reel is finished in one part it is rushed to another for a repeat run, the report stated.

Two Mexican Units Will Make 23 Films

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 26.—Two Mexican companies alone will produce 23 features in 1944. Clasa Films will make 14 and Films Mundiales, nine. Total Mexican product planned is estimated at 60 for the season, as previously reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Both companies have contracted with Cines Palacio and the Insurgentes, both first-run houses, for exclusive Mexican premieres of their product. Each film will be exhibited for a week. This will make the houses unavailable for American or other foreign pictures for many months.

First-run houses here have raised admissions to an average of 65 cents. Previously 45 cents was tops.

WAC Prepares to Meet Rail Strike

(Continued from page 1)

of branch managers in their territories. A number have already responded and others will hold conferences soon.

W. C. Bull, California state chairman with headquarters in Los Angeles; J. J. Maloney of Pittsburgh, L. J. Miller of Minneapolis, R. O. Wilson of Portland, Ore., and J. H. Lorentz of Milwaukee have already conferred with branch managers in their territories. Frank Hannon of Omaha will meet with his committee today.

B. & K. Gives Building

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Balaban and Katz has presented the four-story Hoyburn Theatre Building, Davis Street, Evanston, Ill., to the Red Cross. It is valued at $30,000 and formerly housed the 850-seat Hoyburn Theatre.

Review

"Raiders of Sunset Pass"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Dec. 26

PRODUCER Lou Gray directed "Raiders of Sunset Pass," by Jack English, as a pattern Western with the single exception that Republic has awakened to the fact that Smiley Burnette is as big a drawing card for the Western fans as any cowboy hero they can build up.

There is a wealth of fun with the fat boy outshining the top-billed member of the cast all the way and a cute bunch of feminine Westerners taking up the slack. Jennifer Holt is more than adequate. She organizes the "Women of the Plains" to save her father's ranch. They have walkie-talkies and all modern appliances, but in spite of the modernity spliced into the picture they set out in true Western style, trap the culprits and put everything into a neat, special-delivery parcel before they are through with it.

Running time, 57 minutes. Release date, Dec. 20 JACK CARTWRIGHT

"G" denotes general classification.

New York Bond Unit Will Meet Today

(Continued from page 1)

land, RKO; Edward Dowden and Sid Kain, of Loew's and Al Naroff of the Brandt office.

The captains who will assist Brandt during the campaign include: Paul Sherman, Stanley Epstein, James Zabin, William Janecke, Charles Steinger, Lee Koken, Irving Lesser, Eric Van Dyck, Sam Taub, Matty Rosen and Grace Niles.

Boston Meeting on Drive

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—Theatre managers and distributor department heads in this area will meet Jan. 10 to complete plans for the Fourth War Loan drive in this area. New England publicity men who will take part in exploiting the campaign here are: Bert MacKenzie, Joseph Longo, Red King, Don Prince, Arnold Van Leer, Jack Saef, H. Paul Levi, Herb Philbrick and Henry Kalis. Harry Browning will head the public relations unit.

Six-Day Week Will Also Help the Coast

(Continued from page 1)

office slump in many communities where workers have been employed on full-time and overtime war shifts. Treasury officials have pointed out that spending money for recreation will continue to be plentiful despite the shorter work week and the monetary peak is expected to continue at least through 1944. WPB executives predict that the war production peak will not be passed until the summer of next year.

Changes in Wilkes-Barre

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., Dec. 26.—Harry Stevens, former assistant manager of the Orpheum, has been named manager of the Hart. He succeeds Curtis Homnick, recently named manager of the Carlisle Strand. Peter J. Bednick replaces Stevens at the Orpheum.

Woman Manages Capitol

MIDDLETOWN, Conn., Dec. 26.—Mrs. Helen McLaughlin, with the Meriden Palace since 1929, has become manager of the Capitol. She is one of the first woman managers in the state.

'Ox-Bow Incident' Named Best Drama

"The Ox-Bow Incident" and "Desert Victory" were chosen as best drama-film and best documentary respectively by the National Board of Review in its 18th annual announcement of film choices for the current year. Selection, by the Committee on Exceptional Photoplays, is made on the basis of artistic merit and importance.

The ten best drama films, in order of preference, were: "Ox-bow Incident," "Watch on the Rhine," "Air Force," "Holy Matrimony," "The Hard Way," "Casablanca," "Lassie Come Home," "Bataan," "The Moon Is Down," and "Next of Kin." Best documentary films were: "Desert Victory," "Battle of Russia," "Prelude to War," "Saludos Amigos" and "The Silent Village."

Wellman Named Top Director

For outstanding direction, the committee chose: William A. Wellman for "The Ox-Bow Incident"; Tay Garnett for "Bataan" and "The Cross of Lorraine," and Michael Curtiz for "Casablanca" and "This Is the Army."

For outstanding acting: Paul Lukas in "Watch on the Rhine"; Henry Morgan in "Ox-Bow" and "Happy Land"; Sir Cedric Hardwicke in "The Moon Is Down" and "The Cross of Lorraine"; Gracie Fields in "Holy Matrimony"; Katina Paxinou in "For Whom the Bell Tolls" and Teresa Wright in "Shadow of a Doubt."

Ten most popular films chosen by the reviewing committees, were: "The Human Comedy," "Lassie Come Home," "This Is the Army," "For Whom the Bell Tolls," "So Proudly We Hail," "Holy Matrimony," "Heaven Can Wait," "Casablanca" and "The North Star."

20th to Make 'Irish Eyes'

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—"When Irish Eyes Are Smiling," costarring Lynn Bari, Dick Haymes will be made by 20th Century-Fox as a musical. Damon Runyon will produce.

Ables Replaces Winer

CLEVELAND, Dec. 26.—Don Ables has been named assistant manager at Loew's State here. He succeeds Harry Winer, recently recalled to the New York area.

All-Time Low In Releases For Warners

(Continued from page 1)

tures in December, will release "Destination Tokyo" on Jan. 1, will skip four weeks before release "Desert Song," on Jan. 29, and have none scheduled for February.

Not that the company does not have plenty of product on hand. Fully completed and now "in the can" for release at any time are 15 productions: "Destination Tokyo," "Desert Song," "Adventures of Mark Twain," "Saratoga Trunk," "Devotion," "In Our Time," "Conflict," "Shine on Harvest Moon," "Rhapsody in Blue," "Pass to Marseilles," "Uncertain Glory," "Or More Tomorrow," "The Last Ride," "Find the Blackmailer" and "Crime by Night."

'Two Worlds' Finished

Just finished is "Between Two Worlds"; now filming are: "Make Your Own Bed," "The Horn Blows at Midnight," "Mask of Dimitrios," "Mr. Skeffington" and "My Reputation." Just started was "Cinderella Jones."

Like other distributors, Warners is experiencing a continuing extension of playing time on most pictures, the company receiving as much as others is not more. In recent weeks it has increased extended playing time another 10 to 15 per cent above the all-time highs of the Fall.

Warners has been selling its features pictures individually rather than in blocks. It is the only large company practicing such sales procedure. Though there has been a considerable increase in the number of deals made company sales executives point up what they describe is the more important aspect of increased playing time being secured.

'Watch' Has 8,000 Dates

As an indication of the current high sales coverage being obtained, "Watch on the Rhine," still in release, has already played more than 8,000 theatres, claimed to be about 25 per cent above average for a picture in release only three months.

Warners claim a record for individual bookings with "Casablanca." In release 10 months, the picture is said to have played more than 14,000 engagements so far. Repeat bookings in the past three weeks alone are said to number more than 700.

Warners to Release 18 French Versions

(Continued from page 1)

Great Lie," "Always in My Heart," "Virginia City," "Till We Meet Again," "Maltese Falcon," "Sergeant York," "Elizabeth and Essex," "George Washington Slept Here," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," "The Man Who Came to Dinner," "Air Force," "The Constant Nymph" and "Princess O'Rourke."

Buermele in U. A. Post

DETROIT, Dec. 26.—R. Buermele has been appointed office manager of the United Artists exchange here, succeeding Ralph Forman.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 123 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1943 TEN CENTS

DO NOT REMOVE

Top Grosses On Broadway For Holidays

Music Hall Does $71,000 In First Four Days

Long lines of waiting theatre patrons with scores of extra policemen called out to hold them in check was the order of the day at first-run Broadway theatres yesterday and over the weekend as theatres entered the Christmas-New Year's stretch.

With a record Christmas Day attendance of 24,295 paid admissions and $71,000 already in the till for the first four days of the second week, "Madame Curie" and a holiday stage show at the Radio City Music Hall is headed for a healthy $120,000 to lead the field. The Roxy, with "The

(*Continued on page 7*)

George Carrington Is Altec President

George L. Carrington has been elected president and H. M. Bessey has been elected vice-president of Altec Service Corp., theatre service and electronic organization, it was announced here yesterday. Carrington, former vice-president, succeeds L. W. Conrow, who died ten days ago.

George L. Carrington

Carrington, one of the founders of Altec, served also as general manager since its formation in 1937. He will retain the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Lee to Capital to Set Bond Quarters

Claude Lee, director of public relations for Paramount, will leave New York for Washington today to set up offices as motion picture representative attached to the War Finance Division of the U. S. Treasury Department in connection with the industry's participation in the Fourth War Loan, Jan. 18-Feb. 15. His offices will be in the Treasury Building.

WAC and Newsreels Deny Any Slight to Marine Battle Films

Denying Washington charges that the War Activities Committee had agreed to make a two-real "featurette" of the Marine Corps' Tarawa invasion films only after Government pressure had been brought to bear, Francis S. Harmon, WAC coordinator, revealed here yesterday that the decision to turn the Tarawa battle shots into a two-reeler was a voluntary one made by the Hollywood branch of WAC within a few hours after the material was placed at its disposal.

Regarding charges also made that the newsreels' handling of the Tarawa

(*Continued on page 7*)

5 Houses Destroyed By Holiday Fires

Fire destroyed or heavily damaged five theatres over the holiday. In Wildwood, N. J., a $1,000,000 fire swept through a stretch of the boardwalk, destroying 30 buildings in 10 hours, including three motion picture theatres, an amusement pier, two hotels and several houses.

In Detroit's Highland Park, a suburb, the Highland Park Theatre was gutted by a blaze as 500 persons in the audience, mostly children, were removed without harm. The fire de-

(*Continued on page 2*)

Continue Work On New Decree Draft

Lawyers representing the five decree companies resumed their meetings yesterday to continue work on revisions of the draft that will be submitted to Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark in Washington late this week.

Lawyers had hoped to complete their work late last week but were obliged to resume sessions yesterday.

Sarnoff Sees 3rd Dimension in Color

David Sarnoff, president of RCA, envisages "a multitude of new post-war products, processes and services in the progress of America's industrial research," among them stereoscopic and three-dimensional color in motion pictures; films widely employed in education and industrial training; inexpensive and durable films of cellophane treated with light-sensitive dyestuffs; photographic processes giving greatly increased depth of focus; color film which the amateur can process at home; new high-speed films for taking photographs under adverse light conditions or in the dark; faster lenses and supersensitive photographic film, providing sharper definition of moving objects;

(*Continued on page 2*)

1943 Was Highly Eventful Year in Film Industry

The industry passed many a milestone in the year now drawing to a close, a year which saw virtually all factions and factors contributing a united effort to a common cause in unprecedented proportions—the cause of their country at war. The story of this industry is written on these pages daily; it is from these MOTION PICTURE DAILY *headlines that the following year's history of the industry is presented:*

Jan. 4—War Production Board allots 320,018,840 feet of 35mm raw stock to 11 companies for first 1943 quarter. C. M. Woolf, British film leader, dies in London. George Formby and Mickey Rooney named top box-office grossers by British exhibitors in **Motion Picture Herald-Fame** annual poll.

Jan. 5—Treasury Department rules that

(*Continued on page 4*)

Rodgers to Review His Regime at WAC

William F. Rodgers, chairman of the War Activities distributors' committee, has called a luncheon-meeting of members for today, at the Astor Hotel, to review the year's activities under his regime.

Scheduled to attend in addition to Rodgers are: H. M. Richey, M-G-M; Neil F. Agnew, Paramount; Ned E. Depinet and Robert Mochrie, RKO; Ben Kalmenson and A. W. Schwalberg, Warners; Carl Leserman, U.A.; T. J. Connors, 20th Century-Fox; E. T. Gomersall, Universal; Max Weisfeldt, Columbia; Walter Titus, Republic; Ed Morey, Monogram; Leo J. McCarthy, PRC, and Francis S. Harmon and Arthur L. Mayer, WAC.

'S. S. Lombard' For Carole and The Industry

Skouras Invites Mayer To Take Charge

BEVERLY HILLS, Dec. 27.—In recognition of the extensive war activities engaged in by the motion picture industry, the Treasury Department announced here the launching of the S.S. *Carole Lombard* at Cal. Shipyards on Jan. 6th or 7th.

Charles P. Skouras, national director of the industry's participation in the Fourth War Loan, has been named in charge of the event by Ted Gamble, director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department, but because he will be busy on other Fourth War Loan activities, which will call upon him to travel about the country at that time, Skouras has invited Louis B. Mayer to take charge of the ceremony.

In recognition of the honor thus accorded the industry, plans were set in motion to make the event a united

(*Continued on page 2*)

Columbia 13-Week Net Is $482,000

Columbia Pictures earned $482,000 for the 13 weeks ended Sept. 25, 1943, a statement by Harry Cohn, Columbia president, released here yesterday revealed. This compares with a profit of $312,000 for a similar period in 1942.

Operating profit for the 13 weeks before estimated provision for Federal taxes, including excess profits tax, was $1,545,000 compared to $989,000 for the same period last year; $1,063,000 has been set aside for taxes for the 13 weeks this year as compared to $677,000 last year.

Cohns Ask for New Deals at Columbia

Proposals for 33⅓ per cent increases in the salaries of Harry Cohn and Jack Cohn, president and executive vice-president of Columbia, respectively, retroactive to July 1, 1943, for a period of two years, will be submitted to stockholders of the company at their annual meeting on Jan. 18.

The new employment contract for Harry Cohn provides for a weekly salary of $3,500 and a weekly expense

(*Continued on page 2*)

Personal Mention

LEON KAMERAN, former manager of the Astor Theatre, New York, was promoted to second lieutenant for displaying outstanding leadership in the field of battle at Rendova and New Georgia Island.

•

A. SCHNEIDER, A. MONTAGUE, JOSEPH A. MCCONVILLE and LEO JAFFE, Columbia executives, leave for Hollywood Saturday, for two weeks of business conferences with HARRY COHN, JACK COHN, now on the Coast, will also sit in.

•

SID KALISH, Western advertising manager of Hillman periodicals, publishers of *Movieland* and other fan magazines, is in New York from his Chicago headquarters for his annual two-week visit.

•

SAM SHAIN, trade press relations director at 20th Century-Fox, has flown to Hollywood in connection with the industry's participation in the 4th War Loan campaign.

•

VINCENT FLYNN, M-G-M Cleveland salesman; MAX WORONOX, Buffalo salesman, and GENE COEN, St. Louis salesman, are in town for the holidays.

•

EDWARD F. O'CONNOR, formerly M-G-M Cuban manager, and now a naval attache, was in town over the weekend and is now visiting with his folks in Boston.

•

DIANNA A. SKOURAS, daughter of SKYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, has become engaged to DR. GEORGE ANDERSON FOWLER.

•

HENRY NATHANSON, general manager for Regal Films, was in town from Toronto yesterday for conferences with WILLIAM F. RODGERS at M-G-M.

•

NORMAN ELSON, Trans-Lux vice-president, left last night for Cincinnati, and is expected to return on Thursday.

•

JACK SEGAL, Columbia's assistant foreign manager, returned yesterday from an eight weeks' tour of company offices in Central and South America.

•

HARRY WOOLFE, United Artists' Vancouver manager has returned from a Montreal sales meeting.

•

FRANK PHELPS, Warner circuit labor contact, is in Philadelphia today.

•

EDDIE DOUGLAS, manager of Loew's Prospect, Queens, has a broken ankle.

McDonell Resigns as Manager at Columbia

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 27.—H. A. McDonell today resigned his position as manager for the Columbia Studio here, a post he had held for the past 10 years.

Lombard, Industry Will be Honored at Launching

(*Continued from page* 1)

presentation, including all studios, guilds, the Hollywood Victory Committee, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and others.

Many other plans to make the launching one of national importance and prestige to the industry will be developed by Skouras and Mayer with other film officials.

The Treasury Department announced that John Carmody, member of the U. S. Maritime Commission, will come to Los Angeles from Washington to attend the launching.

Brooklyn Organizes For 4th Loan Drive

Organizational plans for Brooklyn theatres' participation in the Fourth War Loan Drive were whipped into shape at a meeting held yesterday at the Albee Theatre, Brooklyn. Captains and co-captains were appointed, among them:

Downtown Brooklyn: Larry Greib, Albee, John Burke, Fox; Boro Hall-Red Hook: Monroe Schrem, Tivoli, Lou Goidel, Lido; Williamsburg: Harry Magelofsky, Commodore, Joseph Fellman, Republic; New Utrecht: Allan Hotoff, Park, Walter Heiber, Boro Park; South Brooklyn: Harry Neiller, Prospect, Seymour Vorzimer, Carlton; Bay Ridge: James Bergen, Dyker, Murray Scharf, Alpine; Bensonhurst: Sig Schwartz, Oriental, Al Shaw, Benson; Coney Island: Paul Binstock, Rugoff and Becker circuit, Lou Liss, Tilyou; Greenpoint: Carl Siegel, Greenpoint, Murray Alper, Meserole; Kings Highway: Mike Nickolus, Kingsway, Tony Corta, Avalon; Flatbush: Murray Green, Albemarle, Bill Price, Granada; Ridgewood: Harry Padra, Bushwick, Jim Bruno, Gates; Bedford: Harry Resnick, Regent, John O'Connor, Bedford; Crown Heights: Sidney Levine, Congress, Ed Sacks, Rugby; Brownsville: Al Weiss, Pitkin, Murray Reisner, Ambassador; East New York: Joe Beck, Premier, Morris Brown, of the Biltmore.

M-G-M Auditors and Bookers Will Meet

Annual meeting of M-G-M auditors and bookers will be held at the Astor Hotel during the week of Jan. 3, the company announced yesterday. Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer of Loew's, and Alan F. Cummings, in charge of M-G-M exchange operations, will preside. Harold J. Cleary of Loew's theatre department will discuss theatre operations.

Meanwhile, effective Jan. 1, two district managers will take over supervision of M-G-M sales in the three exchange areas formerly comprising Harris P. Wolfberg's district. Cincinnati and Indianapolis will be handled by John P. Byrne who already has Detroit, Buffalo, Pittsburgh and Cleveland, with headquarters in Detroit. St. Louis will come under the district supervision of Burtus Bishop, Jr., in addition to Kansas City, Oklahoma City and Dallas. His headquarters are in Dallas.

Sudie Elizabeth Mitchell has been named office manager of M-G-M's exchange in Memphis, succeeding Pitt Hellis Holmes, who has been inducted into the Navy, according to an announcement by Cummings.

Sarnoff Sees 3rd Dimension in Color

(*Continued from page* 1)

books reproduced from microfilm records and read by means of projection enlargers; books recorded on sound-film to be heard rather than read.

Cohns Ask for New Deals at Columbia

(*Continued from page* 1)

allowance of $300, while Jack Cohn's contract stipulates a $2,000 salary and a $200 weekly expense allowance. The contracts are also subject to approval by the salary stabilization unit of the Treasury Department.

Previous three-year employment contracts for Harry and Jack Cohn, which expired June 30, 1943, provided for $2,500 per week for Harry Cohn likewise, with a weekly expense allowance of $300, and $1,500 per week and a $200 weekly expense allowance for Jack Cohn. Differences in salary of the expired contracts and the new proposed contracts represents a voluntary 33⅓ per cent reduction accepted by Harry and Jack Cohn at the annual stockholders meeting in September, 1939.

Also before the stockholders will be a proposal to approve an option taken by A. Schneider, vice-president and treasurer, on Sept. 15, 1942, for 7,880 shares of Columbia common stock at $7.625 per share, exercisable at any time prior to Sept. 14, 1950. Market price of the common stock when given to him was $7.37½ per share, with the present market price approximating $16 per share.

Schneider entered into a six-year employment contract with Columbia calling for his services in an executive capacity at a salary of $1,500 weekly for the first three years and $1,600 weekly for the last three years, with a $200 weekly general expense allowance. Schneider has been in the employ of the corporation since February, 1922, and was first elected a director in March, 1929.

5 Houses Destroyed By Holiday Fires

(*Continued from page* 1)

partment estimated damage to the house at $100,000. The theatre is part of the Associated Theatres circuit. Asher Shaw, Associated's general manager, said that the house will be reopened as soon as material and power shortages permit. Also in Detroit the Bagley, neighborhood house operated by the William Schulte Circuit, was gutted by fire. Rehabilitation of the theatre is uncertain because of the extent of the destruction.

In Halifax, N. S., fire hit the Casino Theatre adjoining a lumber store destroyed by fire on Sunday.

Jack Loew, 37, Dies After Brief Illness

BOSTON, Dec. 27.—Jack Loew, operator of the Gayety Theatre here and brother of Elias M. Loew, who heads the E. M. Loew circuit, of which the Gayety is a unit, died at his home here after a brief illness and an operation for a stomach ailment. He was but 37 years old.

Loew was a member of Boston Variety and was active in its affairs. Surviving are his wife and two children.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Greer Garson - Walter Pidgeon
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MADAME CURIE"
Great CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Dorothy LAMOUR - Dick POWELL - Victor MOORE
in
"RIDING HIGH"
A Paramount Picture
IN TECHNICOLOR
IN PERSON
TOMMY DORSEY and Band
PARAMOUNT Times Square

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th B'WAY & 47th
Continuous performances, popular prices, doors open 9:00 A.M., midnight show every night both theatres.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Screen
M-G-M's
Technicolor
'THOUSANDS CHEER'
30 STARS!
3 BIG BANDS!
In Person
GEORGIE AULD and ORCH.
PHIL BRITO
Extra!
JOHNNY BURKE

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1943

HEAVEN CAN WAIT

CLAUDIA

WINTERTIME

SWEET ROSIE O'GRADY

GUADALCANAL DIARY

HAPPY LAND

THE GANG'S ALL HERE

20th CENTURY-FOX

1944

Year in... Year out... The bell-ringer of the industry!

LIFEBOAT

THE LODGER

THE SULLIVANS

JANE EYRE

BUFFALO BILL

THE PURPLE HEART

THE EVE OF ST. MARK

PIN UP GIRL

and more!

OUR TWO BIG JOBS IN JANUARY: FOURTH WAR LOAN AND MARCH OF DIMES

Headlines Record the Motion Picture Year

(*Continued from page* 1)

existing talent options may be lifted even though they incur salary rises if within $25,000 limit. PRC names Leo J. McCarthy assistant general sales manager. New York snow storms cut grosses.

Jan. 6—Harry Warner warns the industry to plan now for post-war. George J. Bonwick elected vice-president of PRC. Five decree signers subscribe to 1943 arbitration panel budget of $300,000.

Jan. 7—Canadian Supreme Court sustains Government's right to control the film industry. U. S. Government prohibits use of automobiles for transportation to theatres.

Jan. 8—Paramount calls $6,000,000 of $12,000,000 preferred stock for redemption April 1. Eight hundred of film industry honor Jack Benny at opening of annual drive for Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies.

Jan. 11—Soviet representative Antonov arrives to seek reopening of film marketing relations with American film industry. New Jersey lifts Sunday film-show ban.

Jan. 12—President Roosevelt calls for imposition of investment limitation, presumably $25,000. Walt Disney sells "Bambi" and "Fantasia" to Soviet. Loew's reports $12,133,294 net for year ended Aug. 31, 1942.

Jan. 13—AFM president James C. Petrillo demands probe of radio as Senate witness. RKO commited to 40 features for 1943-44. Motorists traveling from rural sections to town for church services or necessary shopping will not be penalized if they attend theatre. Congress plans pay-as-you-go income taxes.

Jan. 14—AFM's James Petrillo admits to Senate committee that some of his demands upon record transcription makers are "unreasonable" and Senator Clark promises to drop inquiry into Petrillo ban.

Jan. 15—Chicago exhibitors give projectionists five per cent wage increase. AFM attorney Joseph Padway tells Senate committee broadcasters and disc-makers are "profiteers." Mort Blumenstock of Warners heads Eastern Industry Service Bureau.

Jan. 18—Government lifts ceiling on profit-sharing; 1943 compensation unaffected by $25,000 limit on salaries if entered into before Oct. 3, 1942. Rhode Island theatres cut show-time because of oil shortage. Loew's paid Louis B. Mayer $935,866 for year ended Aug. 31, 1942.

Jan. 19—Nicholas Schenck again named head of industry's March of Dimes paralysis campaign. William Sussman becomes a sales executive of National Screen Service. House of Representatives starts investigation of Federal Communications Commission.

Jan. 20—Tennessee repeals Anti-scrap law. United Artists home office workers get $3 to $5 wage increase. Edward Alperson reports theatre collections for United Nations Week exceed $2,500,000. Gas, oil shortages hit New England theatres.

Jan. 21—Axis film patents in U. S. seized by Government are made available to film industry here. Judge Bower at Oklahoma City says no conspiracy shown to date in Momand trial.

Jan. 22—Theatres in half of the country hit hard by snow and cold. Writer Major Eric Knight dies in Dutch Guiana plane crash. Later openings, earlier closings for Rhode Island theatres adopted for fuel saving.

Jan. 25—William F. Rodgers, M-G-M sales manager, decides to continue film sales in blocks larger than five. President Roosevelt praises industry's March-of-Dimes drive efforts in a letter to Nicholas Schenck. Harry Sherman lists ten features for United Artists release in 1943. Treasury Department reports $146,372,271 1942 ticket tax collections, an increase of $58,553,000 over 1941.

Jan. 26—War Department requests to drop films about North Africa agreed to by Warners and Paramount. Alexander Woollcott, author and writer, dies in New York. Charles E. McCarthy and Phillip Dunne resign from CIAA.

Jan. 27—Petroleum Administration officials predict nationwide fuel-oil rationing. Box office receipts lag as millions stay at home to hear broadcast of news of Casablanca meeting of Roosevelt and Churchill. Hollywood actors reject proposal to place in escrow excesses of $25,000-a-year-salaries.

Jan. 28—November war bond sales at only 3,015 theatres reported by WAC to be $8,315,399. London reports merger of Gaumont-British Equipments and Kalee, Ltd., both equipment firms.

Jan. 29—Congress gets hill to repeal salary ceiling. Norman Freeman named assistant to RKO president N. Peter Rathvon. W. R. Sheehan buys life story of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker for filming.

February

Feb. 1—Universal sets $6,000,000 new financing arrangement. New York closes schools because of fuel shortage, creating full-week theatre holiday. E. M. Saunders named sales assistant to William F. Rodgers at M-G-M:

Feb. 2—Majors here decline British Government offer of $5,000,000 as first release of their blocked funds in England. Theatres in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island are denied oil for ten days because of fuel shortage. Treasury Secretary Morgenthau lauds films' aid in urging early income tax payments via screen.

Feb. 3—Loew's William F. Rodgers urges all-industry trade unit for joint action on war-and-film problems. John O'Connor and Bert Sanford named heads of industry drive for Catholic Charities in New York.

Feb. 4—Government restricts raw stock for "factual" films without authorization. Mayor LaGuardia "crowns" Abbott and Costello "No. One" comedians at Universal luncheon in New York. IATSE says it has no manpower problems. Hollywood welcomes Maurice Kann as new Quigley Publications Hollywood vice-president.

Feb. 5—Loew's report $12,132,606 profit for year ended Aug. 31, 1942. Universal reports earnings of $2,968,231 for year ended Oct. 31, 1942. Nebraska legislature gets proposal for two percent admission tax.

Feb. 8—A. H. Giannini dies in Hollywood. Scophony Television Co. formed in New York. J Arthur Rank elected head of British Producers Association, London.

Feb. 9—Elmer Davis and Lowell Mellett, OWI chief, given a dinner by film executives to clear-up industry-Government relations. WMC exempts symphony orchestras from "work-or-fight" ruling.

Feb. 10—President Roosevelt in surprise order sets 48-hour work-week for 32 areas. Twenty-five precent raw stock cut seen for British industry. Atlas Corp. (Floyd Odlum) now holds 44 percent of RKO's common stock and 46 percent of preferred.

Feb. 11—Film stocks hit new highs on New York Stock Exchange. Bill to enforce divorcement of theatres from distribution up in North Dakota. Loew's William F. Rodgers again urges single unit for "united front" for theatres' war effort. Universal plans to drop first preferred stock.

Feb. 15—Barney Balaban, Paramount president, heads industry's Red Cross drive. London reports raw stock rationing for British film industry. Samuel Bronston to make 15 features for United Artists. Navy's own newsreel in the making.

Feb. 16—Company presidents meet in Hollywood to discuss wage stabilization orders, manpower problems, gas rationing, ceiling on set costs, raw stock limitations. Supreme Court affirms AFM suit dismissal. Senators to probe training film pacts.

Feb. 17—Coast conference of company presidents defends training-film producers. Col. K. B. Lawton, Signal Corps, praises industry for profit-less training films. Renew move for 48-hour work-week for Hollywood studios. Charles Francis Coe says films are "instrument of victory."

Feb. 18—Eleven thousand theatres begin "March of Dimes" paralysis drive. Company presidents pledge greater war effort at Hollywood meeting. Martin Quigley lauds independent enterprise in speech in Hollywood. Warners to release Lt. Col. Darryl F. Zanuck's "At the Front."

Feb. 19—Industry leaders at Hollywood meeting reaffirm faith in Production Code. Majors accept British offer of $5,000,000 as first payment against U. S. frozen-funds in England. Connecticut withdraws 10 percent tax proposal.

Feb. 23—MPPDA's Charles Francis Coe sets key-city program of meetings of industry local leaders to promote goodwill for motion pictures. Arbitration Appeals Board rules clearance under a franchise is not subject to arbitration. R. J. O'Donnell elected head of National Variety Clubs.

Feb. 24—Arthur A. Lee and others die in crash of Yankee Clipper off Lisbon. Treasury Department praises Spyros and George Skouras for war bond sales. Maxine Elliott estate appraised at $1,140,056. George Brownc chosen head of Western Industry Service Bureau.

Feb. 25—Hollywood makes second attempt to stabilize labor-management relations. Paul Lazarus to be named head of United Artists advertising-publicity in succession to Dave Weshner. Darryl Zanuck's North African film, "At the Front in North Africa," shown here.

Feb. 26—New automobiles allowed to newsreel cameramen. Red Kann, addressing Independent Motion Picture Producers Association in Hollywood declares new opportunities await independents.

March

Mar. 1—McNutt to probe draft 'threats'; WAC charges employment officers have told theatre employees to "work or fight." Nicholas M. Schenck re-elected Loew's chief.

Mar. 2—Theatres asked to report job discrimination; WAC to compile proof of employes' charges against U. S. employment services. Frank Freeman re-named president of AMPP.

Mar. 3—U. S. Government-motion picture industry cooperation at new high, film leaders agree; majors' studios agree to suibmit scrips for OWI approval.

Mar. 4—Study release of U. S. footage through news reels; plan would reduce OWI "Victory" shorts. Salary ceiling measure moves into Congress.

Mar. 5—Roosevelt foresees greater war role for films. "Mrs. Miniver" named most outstanding picture of year at annual Academy Awards dinner.

Mar. 8—Doubt appeal to high courts on Crescent circuit trust verdict. Thirty-five theatre men in key cities named district chairmen for industry's Red Cross drive.

Mar. 9—WPB order aids industry on raw stock; restricts civilian film. Paramount reports $14,525,000 profit for 1942, largest earnings in 13 years.

Mar. 10—Cut in British playing time resulting from raw stock economy seen averted. Charles F. Coe, president of MPPDA, sounds keynote for film goodwill; addresses 900 in New York on behalf of institutional trade program.

Mar. 11—Britain starts de-freezing $8,000,000 U. S. funds; starts first payments to distributors.

Mar. 12—Independents on Coast face wage demands; Chadwick balsk as SWG and cowboys ask raise. Harold Butler, director general of British Information Service tells Coast studio heads of vital post-war role for films.

Mar. 15—Crescent Circuit case seen affecting "Big 5" decree. Only military films will be subject to OWI review. Stanton Griffis sees keener competition abroad for U. S. films after war.

Mar. 16—Lowell Mellett, chief of OWI motion picture bureau, receives producers' petition to review only war subject. Warner Brothers buy three Philadelphia area houses and makes Australian and Latin-American acquisitions.

Mar. 17—Senate group moves to bar salary cuts. Hope held for more gasoline for film salesmen. Monogram schedules 40 new season films.

Mar. 18—Exhibitors can't get decree shift; Wright declares recommendations can be made to department of justice. Frank C. Walker presents 1943 Quigley award for showmanship to Jack Matlack.

Mar. 19—Barney Balaban urges theatre effort for Red Cross drive at industry rally in New York. MPPDA board to reaffirm Production Code.

Mar. 20—OWI "satisfied" with Hollywood's plan for reviewing only war scripts, according to Lowell Mellett. Republic plans 68 pictures for 1943-44.

Mar. 23—Warner Brothers gets nine more houses in Philadelphia area. Quigley award to outstanding showman of Southwest presented to Louis Charninsky by R. J. O'Donnell, national chief barker of Variety clubs, at Dallas.

Mar. 24—Raw stock total raised for three months as WPB allocates 16,500,000 feet more for 11 companies in second quarter; 750-feet average asked for newsreels. 20th-Fox sees $10,600,000 net for 1942.

Mar. 25—Expect Roosevelt to accept pay limit repealer; House approves proviso adopted by Senate. Elmer Davis lauds films, radio cooperation; answers House charge of lack of teamwork.

Mar. 26—Industry protests film income limitations in Australia. Warner Brothers continues to buy Philadelphia area houses. 200 U. S. features going to Spain this year.

Mar. 29—Paramount upheld on extort money it paid to Browne and Bioff; Appellate Court affirms stockholders, suit dismissal. Industry organizes for United Jewish Appeal. Governor of Connecticut to present Quigley showmanship award to Edward Fitzpatrick.

Mar. 30—Trade escapes any adverse bills in Congress; senate defeats measures regulating child actors. WMC to study IATSE appeal for projectionist draft deferments. Exhibitors disagree over new releasing system for London.

Mar. 31—Trolley strike cuts Montreal gross 15-20 percent. Universal completing current season's schedule without any major changes.

April

April 1—MPTOA urges self-regulation plan for industry after war. Theatre drive for Red Cross begins today.

April 2—Paramount makes $100,000 gift to Red Cross. British government gets London release plan; a print savings setup goes to Board of Trade.

April 5—Senators say Darryl Zanuck should stay in army. British reels to cover U. S. forces in war; better break expected on British screens.

April 6—Large sales meetings off for duration; film companies plan small regional conferences instead. Philadelphia WMC exempts theatre musicians from "work or fight" edict.

April 7—Deal for sale of RCA stock in RKO is called off. Theatres go "over the top" in Red Cross drive.

April 8—British films aimed at world market; British producers to make strong bid for dominance in Europe and South America after war. 96,000 RKO shares sold by Rockefeller.

April 9—Fight brews in British trade over large "monopolies;" British-U. S. reciprocity proposal protested. Roosevelt freezes wages, prices; bars job shifts; asks Congress to impose higher taxes. AMPA rejects plan for merging group with M.P. Associates.

April 12—"Freeze" expected on admission scales. Warner Brothers claims fewer films bring bigger returns. Further manpower drain on studios seen in extension of draft.

April 13—British budget increases tax on admissions. New draft ruling further heightens film manpower crisis.

April 14—Coast lawyers start study of salary ceilings. 266 players sent oversees by USO shows, OWI reports.

April 15—United Artists to have minimum of 20 in 1943-44. National Screen calls hold three sales meetings.

April 16—RCA sells its RKO stock for $6,978,306; Dillon, Read purchasing group will dispose of shares. Free-screen vital to war effort says Will Hays in annual report to MPPDA.

April 19—AAAA backing new extras' union. Theatres push bond sales in second War Loan.

April 20—WMC freezes film, radio jobs; workers prohibited from transferring to other industries. United Artists pleads Crescent case at Nashville.

April 21—Studio talent units seek essential status; plans greater war use of theatres by Government. Army warns studios 4-F's will be drafted.

April 22—Remit second $5,000,000 of British revenue to U. S. mayors. Essential jobs in films, radio listed by WMC.

April 22—New tax delay seen reviving Ruml version; 20 per cent withholding tax seen inevitable. Theatre scrap drive nets 1,164,727 pounds of metal. Release plans for Army's Frank Capra films being set.

April 26—MPTOA board to get Government trade practice policy views; duals' ban, film terms also on agenda. With $5,000,000 British remittance received here, $20,000,000 of revenue are still "frozen."

April 27—Seek essential status for all entertainment. U. S. mayors ask right to "free trade" in Australia; U. S. foreign managers there fight price ceiling law.

April 28—68 releases on Republic's new schedule; company sets production budget of $16,000,000. NAB warned that more drastic manpower shortages are on the way. Charles Koerner gets new seven-year pact as RKO studio chief.

April 29—Arbitration board reports that exhibitors hold edge in decisions in 293 cases in 26 months.

April 30—U. S. withdraws anti-trust suit against AFM; will not affect Petrillo Senate probe. Stand against any government subsidies taken by National Association of Broadcasters.

May

May 3—Allied agenda completed for Detroit meet; sales terms top two-day program.

(*Continued on page* 6)

FLASH!

M-G-M's

"MADAME CURIE"

Sets Radio City Music Hall

RECORD!

Biggest Xmas Day in the entire 11 Year history of the house!

(Held over and over and over and over, etc.)

"Our Two Big Jobs in January: Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes."

Industry Aids U. S. in All-Out War Effort

(*Continued from page* 4)

FP-C attendance in 1942 increased 10,000,000, J. J. Fitzgibbons reports. William J. Heineman resigns foreign post at Universal; will join Goldwyn.

May 4—"U" files plan for merger of affiliates; new $4,000,000 bank loan proposed. 20th-Fox 1942 net totals $10,609,784; double 1941 profit. "Skin of Our Teeth" gets Pulitzer best play award.

May 5—Britain lifts all restrictions upon U. S. remittances; free flow of U. S. distributors' british revenue now possible; see Australia, India, New Zealand also lifting bans. WMC backs theatre men on draft status, MPTOA told.

May 6—U. S. Government aids Hollywood British world market bid; post-war program of studios has help of Treasury and MOI. MPTOA bits decree sales, seeks changes. See no product deartb. H. Postman named William Rodgers' assistant at M-G-M. WLB grants pay raise to New York, Chicago and L. A. air talent.

May 7—Steve Lynch retires from Paramount theatres; was key man in start of Publix Circuit. MPTOA brief urges changes in decree; names group to mediate trade complaints. Studio labor management seeks WMC talent change without certificates of availability. **M. P. Herald** poll places "Midway" as top 1942 short. Paramount first quarter net $3,560,000; $645,000 over 1942.

May 10—Warners will distribute 16 features in new season, a new minimum for any major company. Nicholas Schenck gets new seven-year pact from 20tb-Fox; 30-40 features planned by 20th for new season. Warners, J. Arthur bank said to be seeking Associated British Pictures control.

May 11—Supreme Court upholds FCC control net works, NBC, CBS losing case by five to two decision. Nicholas Schenck will have top spot at 20th-Fox studio; new seven-year pact is analogous to L. B. Mayer's at M-G-M.

May 12—WPB removes cost limit on studio sets, effective July 1. $200,000 aim of 1943 United Jewish Appeal Industry drive.

May 13—44 features from Columbia for new season; will sell three separately. RFC will help shore resort houses hit by war; will advance loans for taxes, maintenance, etc. AAAA guilds call conference on show world's wartime status.

May 14—WPB study of duals ban is continuing; exhibitor asks President for action. Baltin of Dumont sees television for all after the war. Gomersall New Universal assistant sales manager. PRC Pictures plans 42 films for 1943-44.

May 17—MPTOA asks for full season's films, in memorandum to Department of Justice sees curb on prices. WAC to represent industry at 4-A's wartime session. North-Central Allies formed in Minneapolis with Don Guttman as president.

May 18—Syndicate to buy Chase's 20tb-Fox stock with 100 Firms sharing stock of $20,000,000. Sherwin Kane named executive editor of **Motion Picture Daily,** succeeding Sam Shain.

May 19—Crescent Decree affirmed by Federal Judge Elmer Davies. RKO 1942 profit is $736,240, gain of $202,000 over 1941. Warner hits opponents of war pictures; urges exhibitors to resist "appeaser element."

May 20—Benefits seen by court in New Universal plan. RKO first quarter net is $1,925,819, highest in 12 years.

May 21—Film industry census put off for duration. "Hands Free" to strike, Local 306's answer to WLB. Famous Players-Canadian will appeal non-essential work transfer order.

May 24—Schine given month to file on Theatre divestiture; no bidders in year for 10 houses ordered sold. Tax collections on admissions in April highest this year, Total $13,283,115. Paramount. Redeeming 3,000,000 notes.

May 25—Receipts cut up to 50 per cent by Mid West flood; scores of Theatres closed. Ban on driving hits grosses at Surburban houses; decrease is from 10 to 50 per cent. Loew's net reaches $6,376,228; pays $8,862,771 tax.

May 26—U. S. influence seen in contents on 82 films on Latin Program. Nelson Rockefeller reports to Hollywood. $3,000,000 from theatres for Red cross drive.

May 27—New Haven draft board defers "work or fight" order tells theatre workers to stay on job. Columbia serving 11,430 theatres New Peak. RKO to limit war pictures, Charles Koerner says.

May 28—N. L. Nathanson, Canadian film leader dies in Toronto at 56. U. S. film funds in Australia to be remitted, distributors here to get "frozen" $3,000,000.

June

June 1—M-G-M ready to reclassify unfair per cent terms Deals, W. R. Rodgers, sales manager says. Universal's June production to hit new high, 17 in work. Local 306, Loew's and RKO finally at peace.

June 2—Film truckers given priority on gas rations; ODT prevents breakdown of deliveries. North West theatre ask anti-block sales bill enforcement: Minnesota independents to send group to capital to protest. Fuel officials consider national dimout.

June 3—52 Free war shorts on new WAC program, 26 from OWI, others from Coast studios and U. S. Agencies. Floyd Odlum named chairman of RKO board. N. Peter Rathvon is president. British report progress on post-war film plans.

June 4—U. S. asks data on U. S. film company assets in Axis lands; has current and post-war significance. U. S. war films not reaching British Isles. News-reels, theatres, public decry lack of war news in reels, industry focuses attention on growing manpower woes.

June 7—Industry will cooperate in 4-A's war aims; Industry seeks relief for Canadian manpower ills; to petition government to keep key exchange men. Selling of films by mail gains impetis among distributors as transportation saver.

June 8—Films Get A-3 priority gas rating, next to hospitals, food. Industry organizes for Greater New York Fund Drive.

June 9—Paramount retiring $15,000,000 bonds. Films are now Mexico's fifth largest industry, National Cinematograph Industry says.

June 10—Key Canadian film men to be retained; L. M. Devaney and David Coplan get Canada NWLB guarantee. 10,000 shows to date from industry for men abroad; 5,000 more programs are pledged for U. S. forces. Harry Brandt charged with monopoly in **Ascap** answer to his royalty fee suit.

June 11—British urge reduction in war pictures. Production cut is inevitable, Y. Frank Freeman says, citing shortages of materials, personnel. Col. Darryl Zanuck put on inactive status by army.

June 14—Most Majors willing to revise inequitable film Deals; say adjustments are in line with the times. Insurance company; Banks bid in Paramount bonds; will have only common outstanding. Canadian receipts $46,930 278; up 13 per cent in year.

June 15—20th-Fox to buy Chase's National Theatre; stock; July 6 stockholders' meet to act on $13,600,000 Deal. $450,000 to majors from New Zealand "frozen" funds.

June 16—Paramount nets $6,260,000 in Six Months. 1,000 New Accounts for Universal per year, W. A. Scully reports. Goldwyn-RKO Deal involves three films.

June 17—House acts to cut funds for OWI pictures; CIAA to get more money than it sought; Board acts to retire $20,000,000 Warner Securities.

June 18—Continuing of OWI film unit now in doubt: 55 Features from Universal in new season. 24 Features, 16 Westerns from PRC Pictures.

June 21—MPTOA Trade policy and grievance unit asks formula on Grievances. Fan and magazine ads draw less than 4½ per cent to theatre box offices.

June 22—Majors initiate new selling plan for Crescent, separate deals are in work for each unit. No Change in supply of civilian film seen. Warner nets $4,141,199, up $339,144; pays $9,800,000 in taxes, all for Six-Month period.

June 23—Half-million theatre Loss from race riots in Detroit; theatres shut. Draft boards alone govern newsreelers; WMC says reels are not ruled by manning tables. 61 entertainment groups invited to join in war meet by NEIC.

June 24—Canada to lose 'Teen-age theatre workers to war jobs. Dr. Israel Sonto predicts U. S. films will keep lead in latin America.

June 25—U. S. price law bars control of film rentals. 16 features, 10 Westerns from Columbia; for '43-'44, two specials will be sold separately. Theatres warned by Harold Ickes to stock up on coal for Winter.

June 28—Rentals Curb by legislation held unlikely. Chase to sell all remaining 20th-Fox stock, ending $36,000,000 Industry investment, 12 to 14 features in M-G-M's First Block for 1943-'44.

June 29—To seek film ceiling despite Capital Views; Press legislative program. Hub independents Film denies FCC to continue OWI Radio Work.

June 30—Senate kills OWI film funds, $3,000,000 appropriation for domestic operations omiting films. U. S. Demands break-up of ad-film 'combine'; 8,000 theatres use ad-shorts for a fee. $8,000,000 made available to Universal for merged company.

July

July 1—Darryl Zanuck resumes at 20th-Fox; Goetz-Spitz form new company. Cincinnati first to get M-G-M attention of sales officials in study of film contracts. Abram Myers scores film Industry for taking part in politics.

July 2—U. S. films are ready for any invasion; OWI will select and distribute 40 in occupied lands. Warner cites an "open door" sales policy for exhibitors. "Skilled buyers" will aid Allied members in buying.

July 6—Buffalo, Cleveland and Portland exchanges win appeal from 48-hour work week order. Warners will have 31 ready for new season: Final release total depends on conditions. Halt of OWI's program will not change WAC plans.

July 7—Federal bill seeks circuit divorcement; 20th-Fox's Deal for National Theatres is approved; stockholders vote to buy Chase interest.

July 8—Schine report to court asks right to keep theatres; calls divestiture order "Outrageous Oppression;" Minor budget films are out, says Joseph Schenck.

July 9—Theatres face 33 per cent cut in ad-displays. Canada will operate 50 circuits for war workers.

June 12—$8,654,000 key gross for June; last week's $2,433,700 is tops for year for 153 key houses. U. S. Navy to blanket the country with its own films.

July 13—Foreign film and equipment patents made available to industry by U. S. Ned Depinet announces 18 sales staff promotions at RKO. Twenty one color features already lined up for new season.

July 14—U. K. restrains expansion of 'Rank Empire'; future theatre deals must be approved by British Board of Trade. RKO to have 40 features for 1943-44; 67 shorts planned.

July 15—'Hoarding' of film charged to Distributors, 200 New England exhibitors demands U. S. investigate. Parts relief stops for failing cooling units; refrigerant situation grave, WPB warns.

July 16—70-30 terms for "Bell Tolls". Theatre candy sales running at $18,000,000 annually, up 35 per cent.

July 19—U. S. appeals Crescent trust case; asks Supreme Court to remand decree. Twelve 'super escapist' films coming from Paramount says Neil Agnew. Theatre bond booths are U. S. 'cash registers'; Charles P. Taft pays high tribute to theatres at WAC Meet.

July 20—No change in raw stock quota for new quarter, 268,688,194 feet allowed 11 companies. See Crescent appeal aimed at U. S. suits. Funeral services beld for Arthur Lucas.

July 21—Paramount sets 30 films for new season; Technicolor to be used more than ever. OWI continues to clear U. S. films via WAC; will handle all government agency war subjects. M-G-M to aid rural theatres.

July 22—Local 306-Empire merge; 2,389 now in one 'Operator's' union. Reorganization of WPB may hit theatres. U. A. rejects Chaplin profit-sharing demand, so he sues.

July 23—District Columbia Theatres subject to 48-hour ruling; regional WMC rejects exemption plea. Department of Justice still weighing its decree stand; 'too early' for decision says spokesman

July 26—U. S. board will control theatre hours, operating methods. Government orders defective sound parts destroyed. Canada Film Board sets film fair-share release policy; distribution to be based on 1941 quota.

July 27—Divorcement an open question says Tom Clark. $39,418,000 jump in ticket taxes. Producers OK WAC Plan of 52 shorts for 1943-44.

July 28—Frozen Funds are released by Australia. Report Blue Network sold for $8,000,000. L. C. Griffith and Oscar Doob head industry's Third War Loan drive. Soviet sending 17 features here for 1943-44; Buys two from U. S.

July 29—Britain plans film's post-war "blue-print". WPB theatre policies not to be altered. WLB ratifies Paramount, United Artists NSS raises.

July 30—Deferred need not switch to war industries, film workers can stay on job, WMC says. 1943-44's 438 features only 21 under 1942-43, but is 80 less tban pre-Pearl Harbor.

August

Aug. 2—Department of Justice will give exhibitors a voice in consent decree revised. Department of Justice regional offices throughout the country instructed by Tom Clark to hear and report exhibitor views. FCC chairman James L. Fly reported unopposed to E. J. Noble's purchase of Blue network. Los Angeles city limits are disregarded by arbitration solons.

Aug. 3—WPB refuses to probe film "hoarding' charges made by independent owners against major distributors. National Allied officers set up special unit for decree talks. FCC seeks more data from E. J. Noble about his partners in Blue network purchase.

Aug. 4—Executives N. Peter Rathvon and Ned E. Depinet are given new - seven-year contracts by RKO. OWI tells newsreels it will not aid empty theatres. Prices for plays for filming are sky-rocketing.

Aug 5—MPPDA board meets on *Chicago Tribune* 'smear' of Hollywood. U. S. reports $24,545,000 film firm taxes. POCITO trustees to confer with Tom Clark on the consent decree.

Aug. 6—Exhibitors vote to scrap consent decree, favorites divorcement, new arbitration system and large-block sales. Tom Clark says the answer to a new decree is cooperation.

Aug. 9—No changes in decree until all complaints are in, says Tom Clark; he pledges thorough probe by Department of Justice. Floyd Odlum's Atlas Corp. owns $21,767,268 worth of film stocks.

Aug. 10—Schine trust action off until U. S. settles tbe consent decree. Exchanges ask more exemptions from 48-hour work week.

Aug. 11—U. S. asked by independents to prevent 'intact' circuit sales. 20th-Fox 33 set for new season. OCR starts setting up a film section.

Aug. 12—20th-Fox extends executive duties of top sales chiefs. Warner's definite on 21 pictures for 1943-44 with a possible 31 expected. Eastman-Kodak refunds $15,048,000 to U. S. on war contracts.

Aug. 13—National Allied hits at percentage-playing contracts. U. S. to push New York anti-trust suit if exhibitor survey shows need.

Aug. 16—WMC expands list of film non-deferrables. U. S. hopes to get all eight companies under the decree. RKO's total for 1943-44 will be 48 pictures.

Aug. 17—Canadian houses again hit by draft order. United Artists to release 28-35 in 1943-44. Crescent antitrust ruling will not be ready in time to be used in the writing of consent decree

Aug. 18—Alexander Korda's U. A. stock sale is said to be up possible 22 features for Universal, seven ready for 1943-44.

Aug. 19—Newsreels losing workers despite their essential rating. 20th-Fox half-year net is $3,843,249.

Aug. 20—Associated British Cinemas-Warner Bros. circuit partners buy 40 more theatres in England. Twenty-five top stars in bond selling tour of U. S.

Aug. 23—OWI warns employers must rehire servicemen. U. S. asks bond sale for each theatre seat in third War Loan drive. Hollywood films going to U. S. servicemen all over the world.

Aug. 24—Decree probe by U. S. is moving ahead. Exhibitors in field rush Third War Loan Bond drive setup.

Aug. 25—Chicago WLB bans raise for projectionists. $5,714,392 Warner net for nine months. Screen Broadcast Corp. asks dismissal of FTC advertising film ban.

Aug. 26—Changes in consent decree seen by Tom Clark as exhibitors' views urge divorcement. Decree views of five majors are reported to be set. OWI lauds WAC and plans no change in U. S.-film industry setup.

Aug 27—Industry backs bond drive with full resources to aid the Treasury in its greatest effort to reach the masses in September campaign. Capital hears majors are seeking a five-year decree. Open market for films are advocated by British Ministry of Information here.

Aug. 30—Allied basing its decree on 18 points. $9,357,700 gross at key theatres

(*Continued on page* 8)

Top Grosses On Broadway For Holidays

(Continued from page 1)

Gang's All Here" and a stage show headed by Jimmy Dorsey and his orchestra and Bill Robinson is close behind the enormous business of the Music Hall, with $110,000 estimated for the first week ending today. Claiming $45,000 for Saturday and Sunday, a Roxy spokesman estimated that the Roxy will establish an all-time record of $140,000 on the seven days starting last Saturday and ending New Year's Eve.

"Riding High" and a stage show headed by Tommy Dorsey and his band is rolling up a big $80,000 at the Paramount on its first week, which ends tonight. Theatre anticipates record business with the same combination on the second week. With $45,000 for the first four days, the Capitol with "A Guy Named Joe" and a Hollywood "in person" show headed by Kathryn Grayson, Lou Holtz and Richard Himber and his orchestra will gross between $70,000 and $75,000 on its first week.

Fifth and final week of "Northern Pursuit" and a stage show headed by Glen Gray and his orchestra at the Strand will yield an estimated $32,000. "Destination Tokyo" and stage show headed by Charlie Barnet and his orchestra makes its debut at the Strand on Friday in time to catch New Year's Eve business. Second week of "Desert Song" at the Hollywood is headed for $27,000, and holds for a third.

"North Star" is expected to garner a seventh week gross of $21,000 and $13,000 at the Palace and New Victoria theatres, respectively, with business reported to be improving considerably at the latter theatre, which is now on a continuous-run basis instead of two-a-day road show basis. "For Whom the Bell Tolls" at the Rivoli is estimated at $30,000 on the 11th week of the continuous performance run.

The second week of "Crazy House" at the Criterion will reach $22,000. Deanna Durbin starrer, "His Butler's Sister," starts at the theatre tomorrow. Juvenile patronage is leading "Tarzan's Desert Mystery" at the Globe to a healthy $23,000 on the first week with the picture holding a second. "Cry Havoc" is estimated for $11,500 on its fifth week at the Astor and holds for a sixth. The Rialto will gross $10,000 on its first week with "Ghost Ship" and picture holds for a second.

George Carrington Is Altec President

(Continued from page 1)

post of general manager of Altec as well as the presidency of Altec Lansing Corp., West Coast manufacturing subsidiary which operates three factories in the Los Angeles area. In addition, Carrington is vice-president of Conrac, Inc., electronic distributors and is a director of Conrac, Altec Service, Altec Lansing and others.

Sentencing of Zevin Deferred to Jan. 3

Sentencing of Isadore Zevin of Chicago, former bookkeeper for George E. Browne, convicted ex-president of IATSE, was adjourned yesterday by Federal Judge John W. Clancy until Jan. 3.

Zevin, who pleaded guilty to an indictment alleging perjury before the special Federal Grand Jury which returned the indictment under which the Capone gang members were convicted of extortion last week, is expected to be the Government's star witness in the forthcoming trial of the Capone gangsters on mail fraud charges arising out of the looting of the IATSE of more than $1,500,000.

All of the defendants convicted last week, with the exception of Louis Kaufman, business agent of the Newark, N. J., local of the IATSE, are named defendants in the mail fraud indictment.

L. Kaufman Quits Local 244, IATSE

NEWARK N. J., Dec. 27.—Louis Kaufman has resigned as business manager of Local 244, IATSE.

The executive board of the local has announced that Kaufman's assistant, Andrew Gehring, will succeed him.

Brandt Adds Manhattan

The Manhattan Theatre, Broadway and 52nd St., formerly the Abbey, has been acquired by the Harry Brandt Circuit and will open today with a reissuance of Warners' "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

WAC, Newsreels Say No Marine Film Slight

(Continued from page 1)

battle material was "skimpy" and also that the Government wanted the WAC to release a 30-minute subject, a spokesman for M-G-M's "News of the Day," revealed that approximately 1,100 feet of film in two issues were devoted to Tarawa. Since WPB restrictions confine the reels to 750 feet per issue, it was pointed out that the major portion of two issues were devoted to the shots, and any further use of them, the newsreel spokesman said, would have been repetitious.

Regarding the editing of somber sequences from both the newsreel shots and the WAC two-reeler, it was pointed out that the accepted policy is not to show close-ups where war casualties involved can be identified. The showing of prisoners is forbidden under international law.

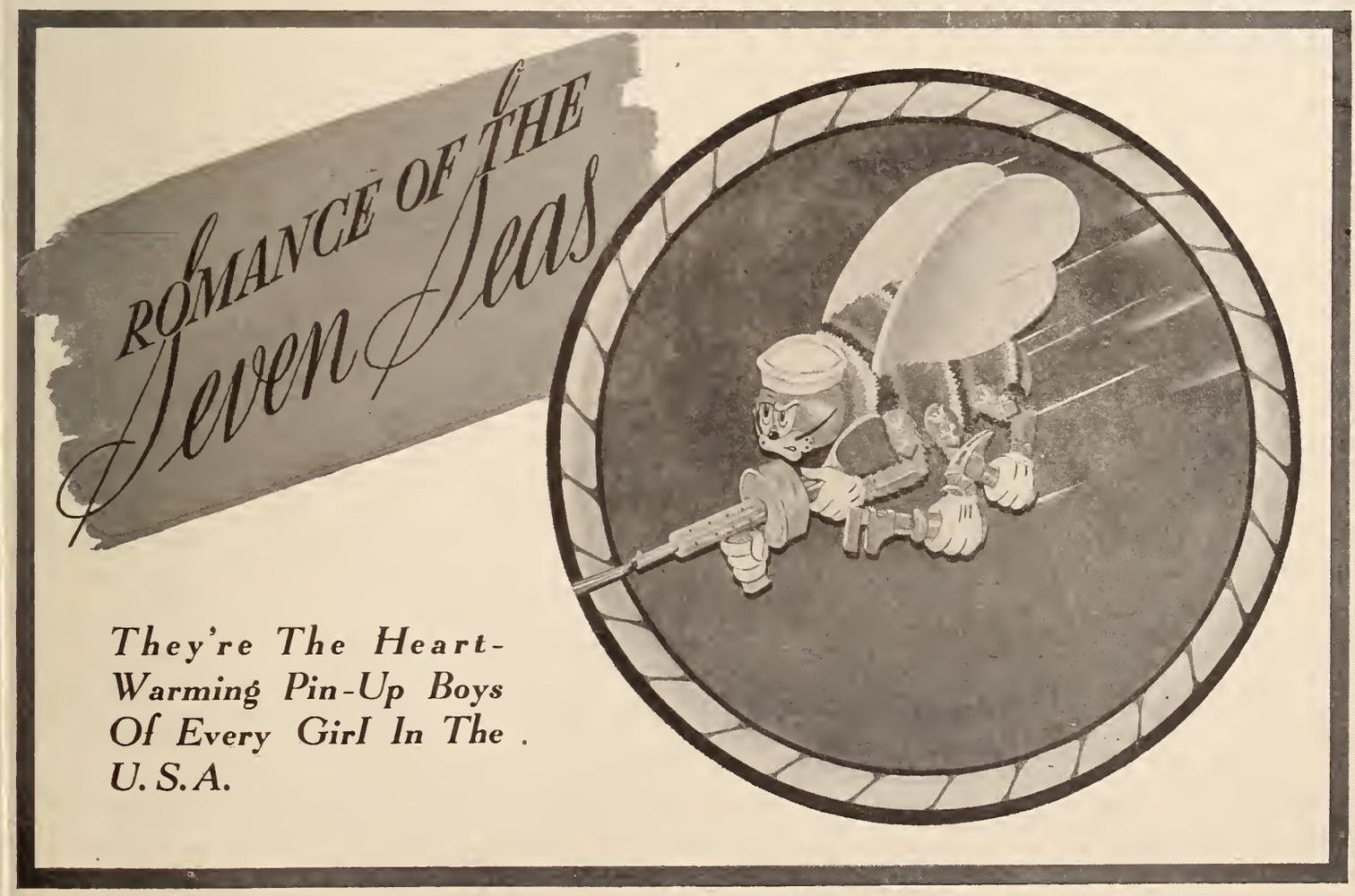
Lushewitz Leaves IATSE Press Post

Moe Lushewitz, former IATSE local press representative here, has joined the editorial staff of *The Advance*, publication of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

It is not expected that Lushewitz will be replaced by Local 306 and other IATSE locals here for whom he acted as press contact.

Joseph Harrison Dies

SAYVILLE, L. L., Dec. 27.—Joseph D. Harrison, 67, designer of many theatres, died here at his home recently.



Decree Expires; Fail to Arrive at New One

(*Continued from page 6*)

in a month. Theatres in East faced by manpower shortage.

Aug. 31—Projectionists in Detroit get wage increase. MPTOA views on the decree are sent to the Department of Justice

September

Sept. 1—Capital looks for action on consent decree with company heads conferring in Washington. SOPEG out for raises for office help. Navy approves WAC distribution plan with all U. S. bases to see new pictures.

Sept. 2—Court refuses new findings for Crescent in trust case. Britain's Hyams to sell nine large United Kingdom houses

Sept. 3—British agree to arbitrate film disputes. Houses front lights to be dimmed this month for conservation.

Sept. 7—WMC exempts four categories from 48-hour-week in Los Angeles. Stars and itinerary of second bond tour are set.

Sept. 8—Deadline for war work switch set for Sept. 15. Consent decree negotiations to shift to New York. Industry all set for part in Third War Bond drive.

Sept. 9—Third War Loan drive opened by President Roosevelt and film industry. U. S. asks end of daylight lighting of theatre fronts.

Sept. 10—Theatres face coal shortage, Ickes warns. OWI boosts print order for occupied territories. Film industry goes into action as Third War Loan drive starts.

Sept. 13—Seek uniform work week in Detroit area. Stars headed for 1,400 millions of bond sales; theatres to aid bond drive on "free movie day".

Sept. 14—Congress faces tax, manpower war problems. Players' expenses not subject to withholding tax. $380,000,000 in bonds sold by star tour.

Sept. 15—$595,933,625 from six days of star tour. Canadian managers get six months stay from war work.

Sept. 16—Independent owners blast majors, cite profits, ask divorcement, urge industry sales tax. "Star Cavalcade's" Bond quota already over the top. Supply dealers to set up equipment exchange

Sept 17—WPB plans severe cut in equipment. $769,000,000 war bond sales for Cavalcade; tour extended. Hooper of WPB gains full control of studio set applications.

Sept. 20—Senate group to study divorcement. "Star Cavalcade" passes billion dollar mark; doubles quota. New York decree session again deferred. More film publicity-ad promotions on air clue to newspaper space cuts. More theatre supplies promised by WPB. F. H. Richardson is dead at 77.

Sept. 21—Kilgore Congressional group is named for divorcement. $3,100 bond sale average from Star Cavalcade. USO increases Camp-Show tour units from 34 to 60. Malcolm Kingsberg named RKO vice-president and treasurer.

Sept. 22—British trade worried over British Government inroads. "Over the Top" bond week set for Sept. 24. National Allied says owners will write decree brief.

Sept. 23—More decree briefs filed by exhibitors with Department of Justice. $16,178,306 August U. S. ticket taxes on all-time high. Boston fears "critical" manpower order will cut staffs 80 per cent.

Sept. 24—RKO earnings up nearly $4,000,000 for six months. Film delivery system faces a truck breakdown. Foreign versions for U. S. build post-war backlog. Industry adds $336,703,852 to bond sales.

Sept. 27—WPB to list studio sets material quota. Salesmen's sales-drive bonuses banned in Canada. New York owners tell Tom Clark they suffer under the decree. $1,124,000,000 war bond sales by film stars.

Sept. 28—Exchanges in Detroit get 48-hour week exemption. Lichtman and Rubin going to United Kingdom for Loew's.

Sept. 29—WLB to examine wage schedules; group named to study minimum in the industry. High yield from war bonds in theatres "Free Movie Day". Industry to aid another bond drive. George Browne a Capone mobster, says U. S.

Sept. 30—Justice Department's divorcement views sought by Senator Kilgore. Tom Clark meets producers on decree Oct. 4. American service men abroad need new films says Jack Benny.

October

OCT. 1—Early postwar plans for theatres expansion already in big spurt with extensive remodeling plans also being set.

Oct. 4—SETOA exhibitor group asks single film decree sales and urges revamping of arbitration rules. War Activities Committee demands Army act on getting films to soldiers. Roosevelt and Willkie greet Writers' Congress on West Coast.

Oct. 5—Congress asks 30 per cent amusement admission tax. Decree talks to resume with "high" rentals up for examination.

Oct. 6—Federal Judge Knox disqualifies himself as $1,000,000 film extortion trial of "boys from Chicago" opens in New York.

Oct. 7—William Bioff is first to testify at extortion trial. Salesmen's commission ceiling nears clarification in Washington.

Oct. 8—Willie Bioff tells of extortion payments to racketeers. WPB orders 50 per cent cut in electronic tubes. New York Film Board to call exhibitors to help get film trucks.

Oct. 11—Vandalism in U. S. theatres called serious. Willie Bioff describes attempt to "frame" Joseph M. Schenk. Decree firms are asked for better concessions.

Oct. 13—Exhibitors protest 30 per cent tax. $1,966,000,000 in bonds sold by film industry for Third War Loan.

Oct. 14—New U. S. tax estimated yield held incorrect; 30% tax would close hundreds of houses, offsetting anticipated government revenue, exhibitors declare. Industry will again play big part in new war loan drive scheduled to get underway soon.

Oct. 15—Salesmen will receive full commissions; WPB order will hold for rest of year. 118 current Hollywood films to Army in past nine months, contrary to recent reports that soldiers overseas are getting old films.

Oct. 18—Tom Clark, Assistant U. S. Attorney-General in charge of the consent decree, warns that U. S. may go to court unless certain branches of the industry meet on "reasonable terms." Nathan D. Golden of U. S. says "films face tough fight in postwar era." 30 per cent ticket tax seen sharply cut.

Oct. 19—Tom Clark's decree meetings postponed another week. Willie Bioff "gets religion"; wants to join Army as extortion trial progresses. Ed Kuykendall calls exhibitors to complain against tax.

Oct. 20—Treasury Department urges quick filing of reports on foreign film holdings as well as other business interests abroad. Willie Bioff quizzed on $150,000 payment in Local 306 case. Fate of new tax bill now in doubt.

Oct. 21—British pay no more than U. S. owners for rentals, despite complaints, film heads here declare. Big increase in multi-1st-run-day-and-date bookings noted here.

Oct. 22—Willie Bioff asserts Joseph M. Schenck is innocent in film union extortion case. U. S. admission tax collections sag. Cleveland O.D.T. allows Sunday film deliveries.

Oct. 25—Department of Justice starts decree sessions for exhibitors; Ed Kuykendall, others to confer with Tom Clark. Conciliation successful, says MPTOA head. Willie Bioff claims he was real union boss of Hollywood.

Oct. 26—O.D.T. orders curtailment of truck routes. Decree talks resume in Washington. IATSE emblem placed on films at Willie Bioff's order, he testifies.

Oct. 27—House votes higher ticket tax; approves increase from 10 to 30 per cent. First revised decree draft sent by majors to Tom Clark. George E. Browne, former IATSE president, tells how Chicago film union "racket" became national.

Oct. 28—Dim-out called off in Coastal cities, but exhibitors are asked to cut unneeded lighting. U.S.O. asks for more film stars abroad to entertain servicemen.

Oct. 29—Federal sales tax rejected by House Ways and Means Committee. Major decree changes fail to reach Department of Justice to date. George Browne taken ill at union extortion trial.

November

Nov. 1—WPB extends "brown-out" to entire nation. Government tests to restore worn projector machine parts.

Nov. 3—Ticket tax rise is cut from 30% to 20%. U. S. approves salesmen's commissions for full year.

Nov. 4—Majors' decree proposals are turned down; Tom Clark tells majors they must yield more. Critical coal stocks worry many owners.

Nov. 5—Wm. F. Rodgers on a national goodwill tour for M-G-M Government program for settling post-war contracts.

Nov. 8—Pay rise coming for lowest paid theatre help (ushers, charwomen). Five consent decree signers start re-drafting again.

Nov. 9—Gen. Fleming envisages big building boom. U.A. down for delivery of 26 to May 31.

Nov. 10—Warners have big post-war British plans.

Nov. 12—Decree proposals up to exhibitors; first owners' meeting in South brands companies' draft as unfair. M-G-M seeks prior showing time for all of its films.

Nov. 15—Charge theatres break WPB priority orders. Resume trust suit, PCCITO urges D. of J.'s Tom Clark.

Nov. 16—Agreement held near on consent decree; theatre expansion seen restricted. Army refutes critics of its film handling; says 95 per cent of U. S. troops now see Hollywood films.

Nov. 17—Fifteen per cent increase in 20th-Fox product deals, says W. J. Kupper. Increased admissions are cancelled for "North Star"; Sam Goldwyn plans changed to speed exhibition of film.

Nov. 18—Dismiss three in Griffith trust suit; Columbia, Universal, United Artists are eliminated. WPB warns on new theatre anticipations.

Nov. 19—Reorganizing Toronto trade after big Film Row fire. Twenty-four films already set by 20th-Fox for 1944-45. Readying U. S. Films for captured lands.

Nov. 22—Industry reply to England's anti-Hollywood charges demanded. Another "free movie day" for bond selling; Northwest first on special promotion. U. S. Fifth Army in Italy asks for more and newer Hollywood pictures.

Nov. 23—WPB rulings on equipment are streamlined; dealers must now secure authority to lend or sell equipment. No defense entered in Goldman suit in Philadelphia.

Nov. 24—Shortage of theatre help grows more acute. War bond and March of Dimes drives to be simulataneous in January.

Nov. 26—British trade moves toward conciliation. Fifty-two per cent of U. S. film arbitration awards on clearance favor owners; complaining owners win average 15.5 days cut.

Nov. 28—Exhibitors' anti-tax pleas flood Senate. New program for film delivery cuts started; Detroit presents first joint-action plan.

Nov. 30—Thirty per cent admission tax demanded by Treasury. Charles Skouras heads films' Fourth War Loan drive.

December

Dec. 1—1,300 Canadian theatre owners face demand of American Performing Rights Society of New York for additional tax on theatre seats. Independent producers to confer with Tom Clark on revised draft of decree.

Dec. 2—Representatives of exhibitors appear before Senate Finance Committee to assail proposed increase in admission tax. Rick Ricketson and B. V. Sturdivant named co-chairmen under Charles Skouras in Fourth War Loan drive.

Dec. 3—William F. Rodgers, vice-president of Loew's, advocates a united exhibitor front in the form of one national exhibitor organization. Tom Clark names three basic decree issues: cancellation, circuits and arbitration.

Dec. 6—Film exchanges turn to United States Employment Service to fill manpower shortages. John W. Hicks, Paramount vice-president in charge of foreign affairs to advise OWI on distribution of American films to liberated countries

Dec. 7—Government says film stars may make pictures when home on furlough. War Activities Committee appoints field groups to aid in manpower situation

Dec. 8—Neil Agnew reports 31 per cent increase in Paramount 1943-44 product deals. Government slash in printed matter threatens film exploitation.

Dec. 8—Senate Finance Committee considers revision of proposed 20 per cent tax following exhibitor protests. British exhibitors, through the executive committee of Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, vote to establish machinery with distributors for conciliating trade disputes.

Dec. 10—Twenty per cent tax retained by Senate group. Bob Hope wins "Champion of Champions" award in MOTION PICTURE DAILY-*Fame* radio poll.

Dec. 13—March of Time restrained from distributing film of Frank Sinatra singing to WAVES at Hunter College. Exhibitor leaders make final attempt to deter Congress from invoking 20 per cent admission tax.

Dec. 14—Canadian Musical Protective Association asks music fees be cut 30 per cent. Attempts to employ film cancellation plan to be made by United Motion Picture Industry under revised consent decree.

Dec. 15—United Artists seeks part interest in Scophony Television.

Dec. 16—Ralph Austrain to urge RKO to adopt television. WPB new six-day work week will help box offices.

Dec. 17—Major Companies and the Government still wrangle over decree; Tom Clark rejects refusal to accept three main demands. Office of Civilian Requirements asks for 100 more theatres in defense areas.

Dec. 20—Industry to honor biggest bond sellers; 100 theatre managers to get prizes. No House of Representative opposition expected to one cent tax on every five.

Dec. 21—MPTOA warns of 30 or 40% tax next year; Ed Kuykendall says theatres must prepare to fight. Barnay Balaban sees doubled effort in bond drive.

Dec. 22—J. Arthur Rank intends to release 10 to 15 in U. S.; Morris Ernst declares he will not form his own company here. RKO pension plan is adopted by directors.

Dec. 24—20% House of Representatives tax is a burden, says Senate Finance Committee. Betty Grable, Bob Hope and Abbott and Costello win exhibitors poll. Vacuum tube shortage is held less critical; all needs seen filled in 1944.

Dec. 27—Six-day week seen benefiting Coast houses; shorter week gives more time for theatres. All-time low in releases for Warners; company releasing fewer than last season's 24.

Dec. 28—U. S. to name ship S. S. Lombard to honor Carole Lombard and industry's effort to aid the war. War Activities Committee and the newsreels deny any intentions of slighting U. S. Marines' Tarawa invasion films. George Carrington named president of Altec.

WLB Rules Against Loew Holiday Bonus

The War Labor Board has ruled against Loew's, Inc., to extend a year-end bonus to include employees with salaries up to $50, instead of the $40 limit of last year. The proposed plan would have included 325 additional workers.

Republic Clarifies Suit

Republic Pictures yesterday announced, in connection with the Theatre Guild, settlement on the "In Old Oklahoma" title, that reports stating that "Republic also agrees not to use the word 'Oklahoma' in any other film" are not correct. Republic denies that it was party to such a stipulation.

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VOL. 54. NO. 124 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1943 TEN CENTS

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H. Luce Now In Publishing, Films, Radio

Buy $1,000,000 Worth of Blue Network

Henry Luce and his Time, Inc., yesterday extended their publishing, motion picture, theatre equipment and television interests to radio broadcasting, acquiring a $1,000,000 interest in the Blue Network. Chester J. LaRoche, advertising agency executive, also purchased a $1,000,000 interest in Blue.

Luce and Time, Inc., publish *Time, Life,* and *Fortune* magazines, they are in motion pictures through their production of March of Time, released by 20th Century-Fox, and are in the theatre equipment business and television through their comparatively recent purchase of Chase Bank stock in General Precision Equipment Corp., which not only manufactures and markets theatre equipment through GPE and various subsidiaries but in turn

(*Continued on page* 10)

Gov't Films Shipped By Army if Need Be

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Government control of the nation's railroads will have little or no effect on the film industry, it was indicated here today.

Seizure of the railroads last night is believed to have averted all chances of a strike, but if any workers are willing to brave the possible penalties for striking against the Government, the Army is prepared to take over, and trained personnel is being concentrated at strategic points against that possibility.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson announced today that the Army is

(*Continued on page* 10)

Weshner Sets Up Own Ad Agency

David E. (Skip) Weshner, former United Artists director of exploitation and sales promotion, has established his own advertising agency, David E. Weshner and Associates at 18 E. 48th St.

Weshner was also formerly associated with Warners as a Philadelphia zone theatres manager and was later director of Warner theatres advertising, publicity and exploitation in that area.

Morgenthau Praises Industry's Campaign Plans in Loan Drive

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28.—Secretary of the Treasury Henry R. Morgenthau, Jr., yesterday gave praise and encouragement to the industry in organizing to aid the Fourth War Loan Drive. His expressions were conveyed in a telegram to Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the industry's campaign committee, which was read before 150 Southern California exhibitors at a luncheon meeting at the Ambassador Hotel here.

The message said: "Theodore Gamble has advised me of the highly successful meetings which you have held with motion picture industry leaders from the East and Middle West at Washington and Chicago. Looking

(*Continued on page* 10)

Loew and Lyons to Make Six for U.A.

Producing Artists' recent original commitment to produce four features for United Artists release has been extended to six, it was disclosed here yesterday by Arthur S. Lyons, copartner with David Loew, here in New York from Hollywood to purchase story properties and view Broadway plays.

Definite proposition for the screen rights to "One Touch of Venus" has been offered to its producers and discussions are under way for the rights to "Oklahoma," Oscar Hammerstein,

(*Continued on page* 10)

Depinet Heads WAC Distribution Job

Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio president, yesterday succeeded William F. Rodgers, Loew-Metro distribution vice-president as War Activities Committee distribution chairman. He was named at a meeting of the division at the Hotel Astor. Leon Bamberger, RKO sales promotion executive will assist Depinet, who will first turn attention to the Fourth War Loan Drive.

Ned E. Depinet

Tribunal Leases in Four Cities Renewed

With consent decree company lawyers continuing work on revisions of a new draft to be submitted to Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark in a few days, further action to continue leases on quarters for arbitration tribunals in 31 key cities—all of which terminate on Dec. 31—has been taken by the American Arbitration Association, it was learned yesterday.

Renewal of leases for a year was

(*Continued on page* 10)

Paramount Theatres Sent 5,451 to Armed Services

The extent which motion picture exhibition alone has contributed of its manpower to America's armed services can be gleaned in part from a report made by Paramount Pictures for company consumption which lists 5,451 theatre workers as having gone to war. Another Paramount theatre affiliate, Famous Players Canadian Corp., lists an additional 727, for a total of 6,178.

A total of 6,386 former employes of Paramount and subsidiaries and theatre affiliates are on active duty in the armed forces. Casualties, exclusive of wounded, include 39 killed and

(*Continued on page* 10)

Championship Bouts In 12-Reel Film

Jack Rieger and G. J. Jaffee, New York attorney, have co-produced "Kings of the Ring," 12-reel compilation of 30-odd championship ring contests which Martin Lewis and Irwin Lesser, independents, will nationally release Jan. 3.

Nat Fleisher, editor of *Ring Magazine,* is the principal commentator, with Sam Taub and other sports narrators contributing, in addition to the commentators of the original fight sequences. The sponsors are looking for an independent Broadway house for an early opening.

Rodgers Urges Revisions in WAC Set-Up

Urges Complete Change Of Field Personnel

Complete change in War Activity distribution exchange area chairmen because they have been steady on the assignment for more than a year and in many instances have been neglecting their regular work, was recommended by William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president in charge of distribution, yesterday on completing his tenure of office as WAC distribution head.

William F. Rodgers

Rodgers yesterday submitted a report of his chairmanship to Francis

(*Continued on page* 11)

Three-State 'Dimes' Meeting January 10

A Texas-Oklahoma-New Mexico conference on the industry's March of Dimes drive (Jan. 24-30) will be held Jan. 10th in Dallas, the call for the meeting having been sent out by Texas state chairmen Robert O'Donnell and Julius Gordon. Exhibitors and film exchange representatives, together with officials of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis will attend from New Mexico and Oklahoma. A national committee "flying squadron" composed of Harry Brandt, Eddie Alperson, Oscar A. Doob and Arthur Mayer will fly to Dallas from New

(*Continued on page* 10)

Flynn, Maloney East For Home Meetings

Jack Flynn, M-G-M western sales manager with headquarters in Chicago, and John J. Maloney, Central division sales head with headquarters in Pittsburgh, will arrive in New York next week for home office conferences. This will be their first visit to the home office since the mid-season district managers meeting in Chicago recently.

Personal Mention

CHARLES D. PRUTZMAN, Universal vice-president and general counsel, with MRS. PRUTZMAN, will leave New York for Hollywood on Jan. 6.

•

OSCAR A. MORGAN, Paramount short subject sales manager, has become a grandfather; a son was born to MR. and MRS. RICHARD MORGAN at Doctors' Hospital here.

•

W. M. COTTON, president of Ideal Publications, will arrive in Hollywood Thursday for two weeks. MURIEL BABCOCK, executive editor, is already in Hollywood.

•

JERRY NORWOOD, of Loew's Theatres' home office construction department, was a New Haven visitor this week.

•

JAMES WINN, United Artists' New England district manager, returned to Boston headquarters yesterday from home office conferences here.

•

NAT D. FELLMAN, Warner theatre executive, is in Cleveland for a few days, returning to the home office late this week.

•

NED E. DEPINET, president of RKO Radio Pictures, is back at his home-office desk after an attack of the flu.

•

FRANK BRUNER, Warner field representative for the Southwest, is in New York from Dallas headquarters for a week.

•

HOWARD BOOTH, Odeon supervisor under DAVE GRIESDORF, has been made a director of the British Columbia automobile club.

•

SAM KESTENBAUM, PRC home office advertising-publicity director, is another flu victim.

•

NAT BARACH, National Screen Service Cleveland branch manager, is home with the flu.

•

ARTHUR JEFFREY, publicity manager of United Artists, continues a bit shaky after a siege of grippe.

•

JACK LEEWOOD and FRANK BRUNNER, Warner field representatives, are in New York for the week.

•

RAY HEWLETT, of the Warner theatre department, has returned to his desk after a siege of the flu.

•

PHIL WILLIAMS, March of Time advertising-publicity director, is a flu victim.

•

CHARLES STAPLES of the Queen Theatre, St. Stephen, New Brunswick, was a recent visitor in St. John, N. B.

•

LOU BROWN, Loew-Poli New Haven publicity chief, is ill.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

New York, Dec. 28

JOHN O'DONNELL, Washington columnist of the New York *Daily News* (average net circulation for November exceeded 2,000,000 daily and 3,900,000 Sunday) on Monday went the full distance of his space with another, and now routined attack, on the President and the Administration. This time, however, he hitched his kite to the industry with a discussion about the film which Winnie Sheehan long has planned on the life of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker.

■

For some time now, of course, the editorial position of the powerful *News* has been geared irrevocably to opposition tactics where FDR is concerned. In the pursuit of the established credo, a great deal has been written on the editorial page, in O'Donnell's column and by way of the translucent "Letters to the Editor" channel socking with right and left at established policies.

This background is essential in order to appreciate with accuracy the latest of the blasts and to surround those who may read succeeding paragraphs with information they are entitled to have.

■

If you accept O'Donnell, which most assuredly is your privilege, his piece serves to bring to light much of the fabric out of which the Rickenbacker film will be made. So far as your returned traveler from Hollywood knows, it has hit the printed page. And, since there has never been any information to indicate anything but an avowed intention of going through with the Rickenbacker film, the detail can be interesting.

Further by way of background is the reliable report Darryl F. Zanuck has read the final script and has ventured the opinion willingly that it ranks among the finest he has ever come across.

■

This brings us back to O'Donnell and quotes from him:

"In the normal course of Hollywood events, the life story of Rickenbacker would hit the eyes of the nation's movie audience early next Summer—about the time the Republican national convention may well be considering Capt. Rickenbacker as either a vice-presidential candidate or a vote-getting name which the G.O.P. presidential nominee will promise to the American people as his selection for a new cabinet post as Secretary for Air.

"The movie propaganda wing of OWI—Elmer Davis has a foot on the ground and a finger in the pie in Hollywood—and those movie-conscious presidential assistants who combine a passion for anonymity with an appreciation of the political influence of the screen (such as Lowell Mellett and Jonathan Daniels) have been taking a sour gander at the Rickenbacker movie project in which Producer Winnie Sheehan of 20th Century-Fox has already sunk $3,000,000—and the cameras have not yet ground a foot of film.

■

"The ticklish part of the film will be the scenes dealing with Rickenbacker's visits to Germany and his meetings with German air chiefs in the years prior to the outbreak of the European war. . . . All this treads on ticklish diplomatic ground for a wartime film, particularly as the script as now prepared indicated that the American observer Rickenbacker received an official British snub for his pains from the ruling group—with one exception. The exception was Sir Robert Vansittart.

"As matters now stand, the White House, State and War Departments, as well as the immediately interested foreign embassies, will be given a chance to point out embarrassing scenes in the film and request their deletion before the picture is publicly released. . . ."

■

It seems to us that if "embarrassing" scenes should find their way into the film, the incumbent administration ought to retain the right to request deletion before the public exhibition. This assumption proceeds on the basis that the purpose of the government is to win the war in the briefest possible time which is an assumption that cannot be challenged for our money. In turn, this smacks of a censorial procedure which is repugnant to the man in the street. It is also true, however, that measures which prevail in periods of national emergency are not necessarily those which prevail in times of peace.

■

For instance, if this impending attraction, or any other for that matter, is sincerely interpreted as actually embarrassing an ally—any ally—our argument is such a state of affairs will retard the acceleration of the war when the war ought to be advanced in every possible manner.

This reduces itself to a way of observing that some matters which are permissible, and in fact inherent, in the American system in peace time quite obviously assume an entirely different complexion in war times that conditions which are expected to prevail, and should prevail, when American lives and American futures are at stake, understandably can be different from those holding forth when the debating platform is unencumbered and all hands are privileged to have their unrestricted say.

■

In the final analysis, with the Rickenbacker film as with others, ultimate judgment enters the arena when the job is completed and when the producer is in position to unfurl his handiwork. Perhaps O'Donnell intended doing Sheehan a service. Undobutedly far more likely, his thinking intended to sink another javelin in Administration breasts.

What he accomplishes beyond supplying an industry questionable information which thus far has not been available about a commercial film which, in due time, seems headed its way is dubious.

Coming Events

Jan. 10—Charles Francis Coe speak under sponsorship of t Advertising Club of Cleveland.

Jan. 12—Max Reinhardt memor program, Hollywood.

Jan. 18-Feb. 15—Fourth War Lo Drive.

Jan. 24-30—"March of Dimes" car paign.

Feb. 5.—Annual dance, Press Ph tographers' Association of Ne York, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Mar. 1—Loew's, Inc., annual stoc holders meeting.

'Lifeboat' Opens Jan. 1

"Lifeboat," 20th-Fox release prev ously announced for a Jan. 6 premie at the Astor Theatre, Broadway, h been set back to Jan. 11.

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Watch Those 200 New Year's Holiday Bookings!

M-G-M's THOUSANDS CHEER

TECHNICOLOR

STARIFFIC

And get ready for extended cheer when you play it!

Kathryn Grayson • Gene Kelly • Mary Astor • John Boles • Ben Blue • Frances Rafferty • Mary Elliott • Frank Jenks
Frank Sully • Dick Simmons • Ben Lessy • Mickey Rooney • Judy Garland • Red Skelton • Eleanor Powell • Ann Sothern
Lucille Ball • Virginia O'Brien • Frank Morgan • Lena Horne • Marsha Hunt • Marilyn Maxwell • Donna Reed
Margaret O'Brien • June Allyson • Gloria DeHaven • John Conte • Sara Haden • Don Loper • Maxine Barrat
Kay Kyser • Bob Crosby • Benny Carter • Jose Iturbi • Original Screen Play by Paul Jarrico and Richard Collins
Based on their story "Private Miss Jones" • Directed by George Sidney • Produced by Joseph Pasternak

"*Our Two Big Jobs in January:* Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes!"

"Our Two Big Jobs in January:
Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes"

THE INDUSTRY'S BELL-RINGER

wishes you and yours a
New Year of Health, Success—
and Victory in 1944!

Film Critics Pick 'Watch on Rhine'

Warner Bros.' "Watch on the Rhine" was voted the best motion picture of the year by the New York Film Critics at a meeting this week. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "The Human Comedy" was runner-up.

Best male performance of 1943 was considered that of Paul Lukas in "Watch on the Rhine," and best female performance that of Ida Lupino in Warners' "The Hard Way." George Stevens was selected best director for his work on Columbia's "The More the Merrier."

A special award was unanimously voted to the U. S. Army Signal Corps for its "Why We Fight" series and the film "Report from the Aleutians."

Columbia Will Answer Trust Suit

Federal Judge Samuel Mandelbaum yesterday granted Columbia Pictures a motion to file amended answers in a Sherman anti-trust suit brought by the Hillside Amusement Co., operator of the Mayfair Theatre, Hillside, N. J.

Hillside, naming Columbia and 18 other defendants, seeks treble damages for $900,000, alleging that the defendants conspired to commit unlawful acts in connection with the distribution of films for their own benefit in restraint of interstate trade.

Among companies involved are Warner Bros., 20th-Fox, Columbia, United Artists, Universal, Paramount, Loew's, RKO, M-G-M, National Theatres, Universal Film Exchange, Warner Bros. Circuit, the MPPDA and Big "U" Film Exchange and others.

'Random Harvest' Tops Farm Poll

Annual poll of 350,000 farm and small-town film patrons by the magazine *Country Gentleman* revealed that the 10 best pictures selected by this audience are: "Random Harvest," "My Friend Flicka," "For Me and My Gal," "Stage Door Canteen," "Pride of the Yankees," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," "So Proudly We Hail," "Andy Hardy's Double Life" and "Dixie."

Favorite feminine stars are Judy Garland, Greer Garson and Bette Davis. Favorite male stars are Spencer Tracy, Robert Young and Roy Rogers.

WLB Urged to Rule For Union by SWG

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28.—Implementing the resolution adopted two weeks ago, Screen Writers Guild today petitioned the War Labor Board to "reaffirm the right to union security for all labor by ruling in favor of union security for the American Newspaper Guild, CIO."

Guaranty Elects Abeel

The year end promotions announced by the Guaranty Trust Company of New York included the election as second vice-president of Alan C. Abeel of the Fifth Avenue office who represents the bank in its relations with the motion picture industry.

Review

"Song of Russia"

(*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer*)

M-G-M's contribution to the fostering of a better understanding of the Russians' is fundamentally a grand, appealing romantic film, richly embellished with Tschaikowsky's music, with the war and the Russian system emerging as minor factors. Featured in "Song of Russia" are Robert Taylor as an eminent American symphonic conductor and Susan Peters as a charming Russian music student. It should score handsomely with the customers; it is entertainment of the better kind.

Producer Joseph Pasternak has devoted most of the footage to a tender romance between Taylor and Miss Peters. Although references to the German attack and the application by the Russians of the scorched earth policy, are brief in the latter part of the film, they give the film added distinction. Under Gregory Ratoff's capable direction the romance is neatly fused with more sombre elements.

The screenplay, by Paul Jarrico and Richard Collins from a story by Leo Mittler, Victor Trivas and Guy Endore, takes Taylor and Robert Benchley, his manager, to Russia for a symphonic tour months before the German invasion. The village of Tschaikovskoe near Smolensk, anxious to have Taylor conduct at a music festival, sends Miss Peters to Moscow with an invitation to Taylor. She abandons her mission when she realizes that she and the handsome American are falling in love. Taylor follows her to Tschaikovskoe not only to conduct but also marry her. Together they continue the tour with Miss Peters charming even the dour, skeptical Benchley. She makes her debut as a pianist on the day the Germans invade. Leaving Taylor to continue in the interests of morale, Miss Peters returns to her village to aid defense. Taylor experiences difficulty in rejoining her for the Germans are already near Smolensk. Authorities give Miss Peters a new mission: to accompany her husband to America and tell about Russia through the universal language of music.

Taylor and Miss Peters are first-rate. Others in the fine cast are Felix Bressart, Michael Chekhov, John Hodiak, Jacqueline White and Darryl Hickman. Herbert Stothart has done a fine job of adapting Tschaikowsky music and that of modern Russian composers. Jerome Kern and E. Y. Harburg composed "And Russia Is Her Name," featured in a night club scene. Peter Meremblum's California Junior Symphony Orchestra is spotted to good advantage. Albert Coates directed the music and David Lichine the dances.

Running time, 107 mins. "G"* To be released in April.

MILT LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

Cooper of CMPDA Meets on Exchanges

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—Col. J. A. Cooper, chairman of Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, conferred today at Parliament buildings with officials of the Government motion picture inspection branch and of the fire marshal's office on proposed changes in film exchanges regulations, but the scheduled general meetings with distributors did not take place because of the continued illness of O. J. Silverthorne, director of the branch.

No important decisions will be made before the general meeting with distributors after Jan. 1 to deal with developments arising from the film exchange fire. No further action has been taken by the fire marshal on the alleged sabotage of a passenger elevator in the film building at the time of the fire, since it is believed the placing of a chisel in the elevator's motor was done by careless workmen doing repairs after the blaze.

Players on Tour

Jinx Falkenberg and Jeff Donnell, Columbia players, are on a tour of Army hospitals throughout the Southwest. They will return to the studio on Jan. 2.

Gary Cooper Tells of Troops Film Needs

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 28.—Gary Cooper, back from an eight-weeks, 25,000-mile flying tour of southwest Pacific fronts, stressed the importance of motion pictures and visits by film stars to the morale of servicemen, in a press conference here today.

"They want the latest possible pictures, no propaganda, good comedy, musicals, drama, in about that order," he told MOTION PICTURE DAILY. "Pictures in New Guinea are old, some as many as three or four years. Australia is now beginning to get later product."

Accompanying Cooper on the tour were Una Merkel, Phyllis Brooks and Andy Arcari.

Lee Assigned to Gamble Quarters

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Claude Lee, Paramount public relations head on loan to the Government, will work with Theodore Gamble, national director of the War Finance Division of the Treasury Department, as liaison on the film industry's bond-selling program.

Lee, who will be quartered in Gamble's offices during the Fourth War Loan drive, from Jan. 18-Feb. 15, arrived in Washington today.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 28

ACADEMY rules for awards have been amended to provide eligibility for short subjects exhibited anywhere in the nation during the calendar year of 1943, instead of necessarily in Hollywood as previously required, it was revealed today with the issuance of the annual informational brochure to members. Hollywood rule still stands for features. There will be a total of 22 regular achievement awards. Exclusive Thalberg and other specials are to be determined by the Academy governors, as provided for in the rules.

•

The Screen Actors Guild last night answered a protest of Class B minority members who claimed issuance of temporary wartime memberships to outsiders constituted creation of additional competition, by reaffirming its original position. The SAG board presented statistics indicating "a pressing" need of a temporary group membership revocable quarterly as a replacement corps for permanent members in the service.

•

"Song of Bernadette," a 20th-Fox film, broke United Artists' and Carthay Circle house records at Los Angeles during the holiday weekend, grossing $11,570 and $7,543, respectively, for Saturday and Sunday at $1.65 top.

•

Sam Goldwyn today disclosed that "Wonder Man," original story by Arthur Sheekman, will be the second Technicolor musical film starring Danny Kaye. It will follow "Up in Arms."

•

Darryl F. Zanuck will produce, William Wyler will direct and Moss Hart will write the script for 20th Century-Fox's picturization of "Winged Victory," which will start on June 1.

•

Gail Russell, Paramount player in "Lady in the Dark," will leave here for New York Feb. 4 to meet the press and attend the New York premiere of the film on Feb. 16.

•

M-G-M has announced "Thrill of Romance," a Joseph Pasternak production starring Esther Williams.

•

PRC bought "First Illusion," original by Fritz Rotter, for $10,000, that studio's record price.

•

John Mock, Columbia story chief, resigned today. No successor has been named.

•

Under a deal completed today, I. E. Chadwick will produce "Wife of Monte Cristo" for PRC.

DevaneyNamedHead Of Canadian MPDA

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—L. M. Devaney, general manager of RKO Distributing Corp. of Canada, has been appointed president of Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association for the unexpired term to April, succeeding the late James P. O'Lochlin of 20th Century-Fox, who died last summer, it was announced here today.

Col. J. A. Cooper remains as chairman of the board of directors.

'What a Woman' Wows with $19,000

BALTIMORE, Dec. 28.—The holiday week is helping downtown theatres recover from the recent slump. Openings were strong and matinees are showing increased attendance. Top figures are being scored by "What a Woman" plus a stage show, which is due for $19,000 at the Hippodrome.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 30:

"The Cross of Lorraine" (M-G-M)
CENTURY—(3,000) (28c-44c-50c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average, $16,500)

"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
KEITH'S—(2,406) (28c-40c-50c and 55c weekends) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average, $12,000)

"The Gang's All Here" (20th-Fox)
NEW—(1,581) (28c-35c-40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average, $9,700)

"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
STANLEY—(3,280) (28c-40c 55c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average, $16,900)

"What a Woman" (Col.)
HIPPODROME—(2,205) (28c-39c-44c-55c 66c) 7 days. Stage show: The Yost Singers, Ted and Flo Valet, Paul Lavarre, Leon Navarra, Dodson's Monkeys. Gross: $19,000. (Average, $16,800)

"Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
MAYFAIR—(1,000) (20c-40c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average, $5,900)

"Woman in Bondage" (Mono.)
MARYLAND—(1,400) (25c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average, $8,000)

Coast Tribute to G. von Seyffertitz

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28.—Friends of Gustav von Seyffertitz, 80, who died here Christmas at the Motion Picture Country Home, paid tribute today at Pierce Brothers Hollywood Chapel, to the veteran actor.

Von Seyffertitz was first associated with D. W. Griffith and Mary Pickford at the Biograph Studio at Fort Lee, N. J., and appeared in hundreds of pictures thereafter. He was born in Vienna and has no known survivors.

Cleveland Owners To Reelect Schwartz

CLEVELAND, Dec. 28.—No change of officers is expected in the forthcoming election of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association on Jan. 13.

Ernest Schwartz is completing his tenth term as president; Albert E. Ptak finishes his seventh term as vice-president and George W. Erdmann concludes his 17th year as secretary.

Bonuses Ruled Exempt

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—Year-end salary bonuses have been ruled exempt under the Federal wage-stabilization order in the case of companies which paid such gifts prior to Nov. 15, 1941. Home office employes of Famous Players are to receive two-weeks salary.

Local F-51 Dinner

Local F-51, IATSE, New York film exchange workers' union, headed by Jack Finkelstein, will hold its first anniversary dinner and installation of officers at the Cafe Loyale on Jan. 11.

'Song' Tradeshowing Set

National tradeshowing of Warners' "The Desert Song" has been set for Monday, Jan. 3, Ben Kalmenson, general manager, reports.

Review

"Tender Comrade"

(RKO Radio)

WHEN the story was submitted to Ginger Rogers she immediately grasped the possibilities in "Tender Comrade" and accepted it with alacrity as her next vehicle for RKO. This proves Miss Rogers knows her dramatic oats. It also demonstrates she is a keen business woman.

Evidence about the dramatic oats is borne out by her quick realization this was a show piece cut patly to her qualifications, which it is. Her business acumen is borne witness to by the heart tug of the story and the widespread appeal which it holds for audiences at large and for women more particularly.

"Tender Comrade" is a drama of common people. Its handful of principals bears the imprint of war. Miss Rogers, Ruth Hussey, Patricia Collinge, Mady Christians and Kim Hunter are married and their husbands are at the front. All but Miss Christians, an anti-Nazi, who has learned the benefits of democracy, are defense workers.

They pool their resources, take a house together, share their few pleasures and many of their dreams of other days in equations human and warm. The narrative thread turns thin after a time because of excessive length which, as frequently happens, leaves its mark. But the attraction, in overall terms, is excellently performed and competently directed by Edward Dmytryk.

Structurally, the film is little more than a series of episodes. In the main, it traces the romance and then the marriage of Miss Rogers and Robert Ryan, who dies on the battlefield shortly after a son, unknown to him, is born. Various chapters of this portion of the story pattern are handled in flashbacks and, while this process has been known to play interference with smoothness and flow, "Tender Comrade" escapes harm in this direction.

The attraction, moreover, is not a case of smash climaxes, but one of down-to-earth incidents made potent and heart-warming chiefly through characterization and direction. For most of its length, the treatment works out exceedingly well, yet occasionally interruptions creep in.

One is a long sequence in which the intent is to tell the public the evils of hoarding. The other arrives at the close, when Miss Rogers learns of her husband's death, goes to her room and her child and there talks to the infant about the past and the future. It is a device designed to accelerate drama, but to this reviewer it strains at the leash of credulity and thus strikes a note inconsistent with human behavior.

Nevertheless, Miss Rogers here has one of her best roles. It is a rich part, of which full advantage is exercised. While she stands out, her running mates likewise are good to a degree where the small cast combines into a consolidated delivery of substantial merit.

Sherman Todd produced from an original by Dalton Trumbo.

Running time, 102 minutes. "G."* Release date not set.

RED KANN

**"G" denotes general classification.*

Dunlap, Jr. Named To RCA Ad Post

Orrin E. Dunlap, Jr., manager of the RCA department of information, has been appointed director of advertising and publicity by David Sarnoff, president of Radio Corp. of America.

Dunlap succeeds Horton H. Heath, who has joined National Broadcasting as assistant to the vice-president.

Carlton Brickert Dies

Carlton Brickert, screen, stage and radio actor, died at his home on E. 48th St. this week. He was 52. Brickert had appeared with Evelyn Brent, Mary Astor and others in pictures. Surviving are a widow and a daughter.

Golob Rites Today

Funeral services for Harry Golob, father of Larry Golob of Warner Bros., will be held at 2:30 p.m. today in the Riverside Chapel, Amsterdam Ave. and 76th Street. Golob died last night at his home in New York.

O. C. Wilson Quits Nat'l Film Society

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—O. C. Wilson of Toronto has resigned as organizing secretary of the National Film Society of Canada. The society reports that it has 1,300 prints, which played to 600,000 persons during 1943 on a rental basis, while its free films were seen by 2,300,000.

M-G-M Tradeshows Set

M-G-M will tradeshow "A Guy Named Joe" and "Broadway Rhythm" on Jan. 17 in all exchange centers throughout the country, the company announced recently. "Joe" was previously scheduled to be screened Dec. 30.

M-G-M Handles 'Danger'

Continuing the exchange of informative short films between this country and Britain, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer is distributing "Danger Area," a two-reeler made by the British Ministry of Information, dealing with the handling and manufacture of high explosives.

Studios See Big Production Spurt Coming

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 28.—A holiday lull hit the studios with only two new pictures put before the cameras while eight finished and Warners abandoned "Hollywood Canteen" to bring the total in work down to 43. There was indication of a production spurt shaping up for January with a number of pictures in preparation for early starts. The previous week saw six started and eight finished to make a total of 50 on the stages. The production scene:

Columbia

Shooting: "Heroes of the Sagebrush," "Jam Session," "At Night We Dream," "Address Unknown," "Once Upon a Time," "Two-Man Submarine."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Meet Me in St. Louis," "The Seventh Cross," "Three Men in White," "Dragon Seed," "Kismet," "Mr. Co-Ed."

Monogram

Shooting: "Block Busters," "Partners of the Trail," "The Sonora Kid" (formerly "The Roaring West"), "Johnny Doesn't Live Here Anymore."

Paramount

Shooting: "And Now Tomorrow," "Road to Utopia," "National Barn Dance," "Incendiary Blonde," "Till We Meet Again," "The Hitler Gang," "I Love a Soldier."

Finished: "Rainbow Island," "Gambler's Choice."

RKO-Radio

Shooting: "Marine Raiders," "Show Business."

Finished: "Are These Our Children?" "Seven Days Ashore," "Action in Arabia."

Republic

Shooting: "The Laramie Trail."

Finished: "The Outlaw Busters."

20th-Century Fox

Started: "I Married a Soldier" with Jeanne Crain, Frank Latimore, Billie Burke, Eugene Pallette. "Murder in Bermuda" with Preston Foster, Ann Rutherford, Jean Howard.

Shooting: "Wilson," "The Purple Heart," "Greenwich Village," "Home in Indiana."

United Artists

(Rogers)

Shooting: "Song of the Open Road."

(Small)

Shooting: "Up in Mabel's Room."

(Vanguard)

Shooting: "Since You Went Away."

Universal

Shooting: "The Merry Monahans," "Christmas Holiday."

Finished: "Weird Woman," "Has Anybody Here Seen Kelly?"

Warners

Shooting: "Cinderella Jones," "Make Your Own Bed," "Task of Dimitrios," "Mr. Skeffington," "My Reputation," "The Horn Blows at Midnight."

Finished: "Hollywood Canteen" (abandoned).

As Always

REPUBLIC DOMINATES

and ROY ROGERS

King of the Cowboys

IS AMONG THE

FIRST TEN ACTORS

IN SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW GENERAL POLL!

THE INDUSTRY in Westerns

WITH 6 STARS IN THE FIRST TEN

ROY ROGERS
GENE AUTRY
WILD BILL ELLIOTT
DON "RED" BARRY
THE 3 MESQUITEERS
SMILEY BURNETTE

H. Luce Now In Publishing, Films, Radio

(Continued from page 1)

has an interest in Scophony Television.

In addition, reports have persisted for some time that Luce has been envisaging a wide scale participation in the non-theatrical films field after the war.

Luce-Time and LaRoche each acquired a 12½ per cent interest in Blue, which is understood to represent $1,000,000 for each on the basis of the reputed $8,000,000 valuation of the web. Other interests in Blue are being purchased by Mark Woods, Blue president, and Edgar Kobak, executive vice-president.

Larsen Named

In announcing the deal, Edward J. Noble, chairman of the board of Blue revealed that Roy E. Larsen, president of Time, Inc., has been elected a member of the board of directors of the network.

Luce-Time actually purchased 12½ per cent of the outstanding shares of the American Broadcasting System, which owns all of the stock of Blue, directly from Noble.

Noble pointed out that the publishers of *Time* and *Life* originated the radio feature, March of Time, "and have developed in their own radio department several programs now on the air." He predicted they will make a major contribution to Blue programs with action news from the battle fronts, adding: "Looking to the postwar period, *Time's* staffs will be enlarged and new offices opened so as to cover all key listening posts during our world campaign for winning the peace."

LaRoche a Director

In announcing LaRoche's acquisition of a 12½ per cent interest, Noble revealed that the former Young and Rubicam ad agency executive and War Advertising Council head will join in the management of the Blue by becoming a director and chairman of the executive committee. Also Noble revealed that Woods and Kobak have been largely responsible for the growth of the Blue in the past two years and helped launch the web as an independent.

Noble indicates that he intends to hold indefinitely the substantial control of shares of American Broadcasting which remain. He said he has in mind at some later date, when he has had an opportunity to gain a better knowledge of the workings of the enterprise, to invite participation in ownership by other management officials, members in affiliated stations and possibly the public. Such shares, according to Noble, will in all probability be offered by the company and not by any of the present stockholders.

SOPEG Party Tonight

Local 109, SOPEG, UOPWA, will hold a New Year's reception at the Silver Screen Canteen tonight. The entire Navy show from the Armed Guard Center, Brooklyn, will be featured.

Paramount Theatres Sent 5,451 to Armed Services

(Continued from page 1)

30 missing. Twenty-nine have received decorations. The Hollywood studio has 525 former employes in uniform; the home office, 248, and exchanges, 162.

Fifteen Paramount actors are now in the armed forces, with Eliott Reid, the latest to join the colors. Others are Bruce Cabot, Macdonald Carey, Don Castle, Richard Denning, Billy DeWolfe, Michael Harvey, William Holden, Robert Preston, Hal Rand, George Reeves, Cully Richards, Rudy Vallee and Richard Webb. Alan Ladd recently was given an honorable discharge after a year in the Air Corps.

Paramount theatre affiliates report 35 killed, 28 missing and 28 decorated; exchanges, two killed, one missing, one decorated; the studio, two killed; home office, one missing.

Distribution Casualties

Casualties in the distribution division are: Lt. Albert Rhett Droyles and Lt. Noble Carroll Peacock, both formerly at the Los Angeles exchange, killed in plane crashes; Lt. John Hummel, formerly at the Seattle exchange, fought with the Army on Bataan and Corregidor and whereabouts unknown; Pvt. Max C. McCoy, formerly at Omaha, now in a hospital in North Africa. McCoy has been awarded the Purple Heart and Oak Leaf Cluster.

Cpl. Laurence Olds, formerly chief of staff at the New York Paramount Theatre, fought in the African campaign and is missing in action.

The home office contributed 102 men and women to nine different arms of the service; New York Paramount Theatre, 82; Long Island Laboratory, 24; Paramount News, 23; Paramount Broadway Corp., 7; Famous Music, 7; Paramount Music, 1; and storehouse, 2. Six girls from the home office are in the WAC or WAVES.

Decorations:

At least 28 former employes of Paramount's theatre partnerships and associations have received decorations. Among them are: Lt. John S. Lucas, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal and Three Oak Clusters; Capt. Alfred Schwanebeck, DFC and Air Medal; Lt. Stewart McGhan, Army Flying Cross; Dale F. Barr, 403rd Bomb Squadron, Silver Star for gallant action; Lt. Lowell E. May, DFC, Air Medal and Five Oak Leaf Clusters for exploits in African theatre where he had 44 bombing missions to his credit; Lt. Vernon Hendley, Silver Star; S-2/c Richard Lowe, while member of gun crew of U.S.S. Moultrie, helped bag eight German bombers, damaged 12 others, and drove off a submarine; Cpl. Charles H. Wolf (only 20 years old), DFC, Air Medal and Oak Leaf Cluster; Gene Gambill, Pharmacist's Mate, 2nd Class, injured, recommended for Purple Heart; Flight Officer Luther E. Smith, Purple Heart, Air Medal, Silver Star; Col. Neel E. Kearby, ace fighter pilot, bagged 12 Jap fighters, including five in a single engagement; William F. Wolcott, Jr., Purple Heart; Sgt. Edward W. Holland, Air Medal, Three Oak Leaf Clusters; John Oden, S-1/c, who participated in 13 engagements while on the U.S.S. Northampton before Feb., 1943; when the Northampton went down, the ship had been engaged in an action with a Japanese fleet numbering 16 warships, which was annihilated; Sgt. Art Meyer, Houston, who has created an invention which is being tested in the skies of Europe and Africa; secret invention is said by military men to be sensational.

F P C Has 727

Of the 727 Famous Players Canadian employes in the armed forces, thirteen are women. Of the total, 322 are in the Royal Canadian Air Force; 285 in the Canadian Army; 115 in the Royal Canadian Navy and five in the U. S. Air Corps. Eight have been killed in action, nine are missing, eight are prisoners and three have been wounded. Pilot Officer L. M. Cavanaugh, RCAC, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Three-State 'Dimes' Meeting January 10

(Continued from page 1)

York for the meeting. Dr. John L. Lavan, research director of the National Foundation, will speak. Milas L. Hurley, state chairman for New Mexico, and L. C. Griffith, state chairman for Oklahoma, will also address the meeting.

The Dallas meeting will follow a five-state conference in Atlanta Jan. 4.

'Dimes' Week Set for Charlotte by Brannon

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 27.—R. F. Brannon, RKO branch manager here and recently appointed chairman of the North and South Carolina industry March of Dimes drive, is arranging for a March of Dimes Week here on Jan. 24-30.

Brannon will go to Atlanta on Jan. 4 for a Southeastern regional conference of state "Dimes" chairmen with Nicholas M. Schenck, national industry chairman of the campaign.

Loew and Lyons to Make Six for U.A.

(Continued from page 1)

2nd-Richard Rodgers production, Lyons revealed. "Carmen" is another property being considered by Producing Artists.

"Love Is Where You Find It" will be the first to go into production on March 15 at General Services Studios, Hollywood, with Agnes de Mille already engaged to direct the choreographic sequences.

Each film will be budgeted at a minimum of $1,000,000, Lyons said, with directors, stars and writers getting a profit sharing interest in the project. According to a schedule worked out by executives of the producing organization, "creative talent is worth approximately ten per cent for each $100,000 of negative cost," Lyons continued. Each production will function as an autonomous unit, the director assuming the duties of producer, with Loew and Lyons as executive producers. Lyons plans to return to the Coast on Jan. 5.

Morgenthau Praises Loan Campaign Plan

(Continued from page 1)

over your well-conceived campaign material it appears to me that your industry is organizing as never before to play a major role in our important Fourth War Loan. Please convey on my behalf the Treasury's keen interest and appreciation for what the people you have assembled are contemplating. My best wishes to you all."

In reply, Skouras telegraphed, in part, "I assure you that our aims in the forthcoming drive are greater than ever before and if the enthusiasm generated and activities already set in motion by thousands of members of our industry are any indication, our Fourth War Loan goal of 'a bond for every seat' will be fully realized."

Speakers at today's meeting were: Skouras, B. V. Sturdivant, A. J. Krappman, David Bershon, Southern California bond chairman, and others.

Committees Named

Announcement was made of the campaign committee setup for Southern California as follows: state chairman, David Bershon; special assistant to the chairman and field campaign director, Henry Pines; publicity director, Mort Goodman; statistical committee, John Lavery.

Bond premiere committee for Southern California: Stan Brown, M. S. Dodge, Ventura; Harry Denny, San Bernardino; Richard Smith, Michael Lustig and O. N. Srere, San Diego; Spencer Leve, Los Angeles mobile unit.

Gov't Films Shipped By Army if Need Be

(Continued from page 1)

determined to keep the roads running and is prepared not only to put troops on the trains but to use its trucks to move freight, including films for Army camps and elsewhere, over highways if there is any interruption of rail traffic.

Barring a strike, however, the lines will continue to operate as in the past, with regular terminal and train crews handling passenger and freight traffic. Seizure of the roads does not mean that the Government will undertake to run them, but merely that it supervises operations and can step in if necessity arises.

Tribunal Leases in Four Cities Renewed

(Continued from page 1)

signed for Cleveland, Seattle, Washington and Cincinnati tribunals. The association reports that no pressure has been applied to date for renewal of leases in other cities. Original contracts for all offices were for three years. The above one-year leases and any others which may be signed, it is understood, will be extended for a longer period when a definite operative period for the new proposed decree, yet to be accepted by Clark, becomes effective.

E. M. Wood Resigns

E. M. Wood, comptroller for the motion picture arbitration system here, a unit of the American Arbitration Association, who has been with the organization since its inception, has resigned. He will be succeeded by Edmund J. MacNamara.

'No Time for Love' Good at $14,100

TORONTO, Dec. 28.—"No Time for Love" at the Imperial pointed to $14,100 during the week. "Wintertime" at Shea's was held for a second week for the holidays and was doing better than in its first week, with $13,800 in sight.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 30:

"No Limit" (British)
"The Falcon and the Co-Eds" (RKO)
EGLINTON—(1,086) (18c-30c-42c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,900. (Average, $3,900)
"No Time for Love" (Para.)
IMPERIAL—(3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,100. (Average, $12,600)
"Whistling in Brooklyn" (M-G-M)
"The Kansan" (UA)
LOEW'S—(2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average, $10,800)
"Wintertime" (20th-Fox)
SHEA'S—(2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,800. (Average, $12,300)
"Let's Face It" (Para.)
"Alaska Highway" (Para.)
TIVOLI—(1,434) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,600. (Average, $4,600)
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,200. (Average, $9,700)

Ona Pielow Passes

Ona Pielow, wife of Ralph Pielow, M-G-M exchange manager in New York, died this week of pleurisy at their home at 98-17 Queens Boulevard, Queens.

A mass will be said this morning at Our Lady of the Angelus Church, 98th St. and 63rd Drive, Forest Hills.

Rodgers Urges Revisions In WAC Field Set-Up

(*Continued from page* 1)

S. Harmon, WAC executive chairman, at a luncheon meeting of the distributors' group at the Hotel Astor. It also included four other recommendations for future activities of the distributors' division.

In recommending the change in exchange area chairmen, Rodgers suggested that the same proportionate numerical allocation can be maintained by the various companies in appointing new chairmen. Rodgers also asked that the announced continuance of a steady release schedule for Film Bulletins and short subjects should be maintained to enable theatre owners to set definite schedules of their own and give better cooperation.

Recommends Meeting

He recommended that a meeting of distribution chairmen be called, either dividing the country into three meetings or one at a central point, such as Chicago, to correlate information and effect solutions to the problems of assembling accurate war film data.

Rodgers also asked for the maintenance of closer contact between distribution and exhibition field chairmen since results so far have been "most gratifying" when this cooperation exists. He suggested that a reaffirmation of cooperation from some circuits is needed because circuits "apparently feel that an occasional booking of war films is sufficient as against bookings for every theatre of a circuit, which is necessary."

Stresses WAC'S Importance

In an accompanying statement to Harmon, Rodgers declared that the importance of the WAC in the distribution cannot be minimized.

Rodgers indicated that there is a question as to whether it has been proven to the Government and the people the full necessity of motion pictures to the war effort. "Any disruption of the distribution machinery to service theatres with a continuous flow of pictures will bring chaos," Rodgers stated.

Reviewing achievements of the WAC distribution division during the year, Rodgers pointed to the improvement of the system of distribution of war and government films, the improvement in their circulation of war films resulting in a general average of about 12,500 theatres and a maximum of 15,900 out of a total 16,400 pledged houses. Openings and closings and part-time theatres, etc., according to Rodgers, will account for the difference.

Rodgers reported that from Dec. 1942 to Dec. 1943, 64 subjects were distributed gratis for the Office of War Information. On the circulation of 50 of the 64 on which reports are available the record shows they had 593,754 play-dates.

Rodgers further reported that 19 "America Speaks" subjects were distributed with a circulation of 174,106 play-dates for an average circulation per subject of 9,163 and a circulation high of 13,817.

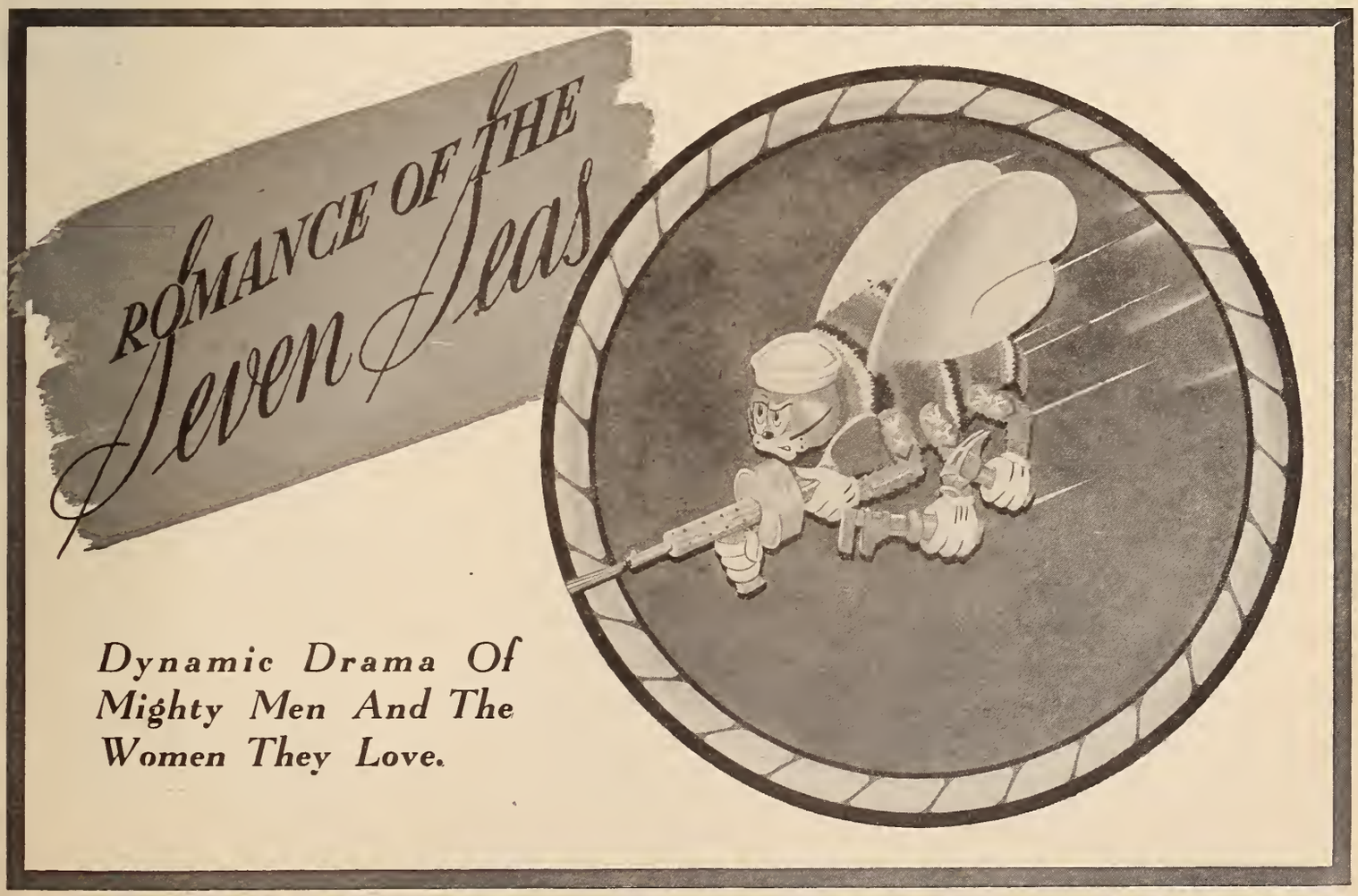
Of the four feature length subjects distributed, the total circulation to date is 32,012 play-dates, with the average being 8,003, and the highest circulation attained, 12,848.

According to Rodgers' report a total circulation of 101,054 play-dates was attained for six Film Bulletins, with the average circulation reaching 16,844. WAC distributed 17 "orientation" films to U. S. Army personnel.

Booking Plan

Rodgers report pointed to the uniform national booking plan established for war films. On the circulation of War Activities Committee releases for 1942-43, Rodgers' report indicated that the lowest number of playdates secured was for "Vigilance," special subject with limited circulation, amounting to 670 playdates, as distributed by Universal. "Paratroops," released by M-G-M, got a top of 15,957 dates.

Rodgers also pointed to the optional naval district motion picture plan instituted during the year. He also referred to WAC's activities on behalf of helping film carriers; activities in connection with the War Manpower Commission; the Third War Loan Campaign; scrap and salvage drives; U. S. Treasury Income Tax collection drive; United Nations Week; Red Cross War Fund, and cooperation with the War Production Board.



WARNER BROS.' TRADE SHOWINGS OF

"THE DESERT SONG"

IN TECHNICOLOR

Starring

DENNIS MORGAN · IRENE MANNING

CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	DAY and DATE	TIME
Albany	Warner Screening Room	79 N. Pearl St.	Mon. 1/3	12:30 P.M.
Atlanta	RKO Screening Room	191 Walton St. N.W.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Boston	RKO Screening Room	122 Arlington St.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Buffalo	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	290 Franklin St.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Charlotte	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	308 S. Church St.	Mon. 1/3	10:00 A.M.
Chicago	Warner Screening Room	1307 So. Wabash Ave.	Mon. 1/3	1:30 P.M.
Cincinnati	RKO Screening Room	Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th	Mon. 1/3	7:30 P.M.
Cleveland	Warner Screening Room	2300 Payne Ave.	Mon. 1/3	8:00 P.M.
Dallas	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1803 Wood St.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Denver	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	2101 Champa St.	Mon. 1/3	2:30 P.M.
Des Moines	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1300 High St.	Mon. 1/3	2:30 P.M.
Detroit	Film Exchange Bldg.	2310 Cass Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Indianapolis	Paramount Sc. Room	116 W. Michigan	Mon. 1/3	9:00 A.M.
Kansas City	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1720 Wyandotte St.	Mon. 1/3	1:30 P.M.
Los Angeles	Vitagraph Sc. Rm.	2025 S. Vermont Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Memphis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	151 Vance St.	Mon. 1/3	8:00 P.M.
Milwaukee	Warner Th. Sc. Rm.	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Minneapolis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1015 Currie Ave.	Mon. 1/3	10:00 A.M.
New Haven	Warner Th. Proj. Rm.	70 College St.	Mon. 1/3	1:30 P.M.
New Orleans	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	200 S. Liberty St.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
New York	Home Office	321 W. 44th St.	Mon. 1/3	2:30 P.M.
Oklahoma	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	10 North Lee Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Omaha	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1502 Davenport St.	Mon. 1/3	1:00 P.M.
Philadelphia	Vine St. Sc. Rm.	1220 Vine St.	Mon. 1/3	11:00 A.M.
Pittsburgh	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1715 Blvd. of Allies	Mon. 1/3	2:30 P.M.
Portland	Star Screening Room	925 N.W. 19th Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
Salt Lake	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	216 East 1st South	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
San Francisco	Republic Sc. Rm.	221 Golden Gate Ave.	Mon. 1/3	1:30 P.M.
Seattle	Jewel Box. Sc. Rm.	2318 Second Ave.	Mon. 1/3	2:00 P.M.
St. Louis	S'renco Sc. Rm.	3143 Olive St.	Mon. 1/3	10:00 A.M.
Washington	Earle Th. Bldg.	13th & E Sts. N.W.	Mon. 1/3	10:30 A.M.

First in Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 125 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1943 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY

RKO to Pay All Preferred Stock Arrears

Accrued and Current Dividend $2,178,790

Payment of all dividend arrears on RKO's six per cent preferred stock, aggregating $1,986,635, was authorized by the company's board of directors at a meeting held yesterday, Floyd B. Odlum, chairman of the board, announced.

N. Peter Rathvon

In addition, the board voted payment of the regular dividend of $1.50 per share on the preferred for the current quarter, bringing the combined dividend payments to $17 per share on

(Continued on page 3)

Billion Dollars Seen As Possibility from 'Bond Premieres'

Los Angeles, Dec. 29.—Exhibitors will again stage "War Bond Premieres" for the Fourth War Loan drive, Jan. 15 through Feb. 18, as they did during the third drive last September, and distributors will again donate a feature picture for the bonds-for-admission free shows.

However, this time Uncle Sam may possibly realize anywhere from a half billion to a billion dollars from the bond premieres, against the $319,618,921 which accrued from special

(Continued on page 3)

Macdonald Back to Warners from CIAA

Karl G. Macdonald, veteran executive of Warners' home office foreign department, who has been on loan to serve as assistant director of the films division in the office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, for the past two years, is leaving that post to return to Warner Bros. on Jan. 1. Macdonald was

(Continued on page 3)

Allied's Annual Meet To Be Held Here

Washington, Dec. 29.—Allied States has chosen New York as the meeting place for its annual board of directors session at which officers of the exhibitor association are to be elected. The meeting is scheduled for late January or early February.

Kostelanetz to Ask Maximum Penalty

Boris Kostelanetz, Special U. S. Assistant Attorney-General, is expected to ask for the maximum term of 10 years in prison and a $25,000 fine in the sentencing of the six Chicago gangsters and a former Newark labor leader, convicted in the $1,000,000 film extortion trial, in Federal Court here today. Kostelanetz, it is expected, will ask that the guilty Chicagoans be remanded to jail immediately after sentencing, but should bail be granted by Judge John Bright, pending an appeal, Kostelanetz will ask for a substantial increase in the bail of Paul De Lucia and Louis Campagna. With the exception of Louis Kaufman, whose bail is $25,-

(Continued on page 3)

Treasury Still Seeks 30% Tax Allied Warns

Pending Bill Attacked by Morgenthau

Washington, Dec. 29.—Warning to exhibitors that Secretary of the Treasury Henry R. Morgenthau, Jr., has launched a new attack on the pending admission tax bill in support of his insistence on a 30 per cent tax, was issued here today by Allied States Association from the office of Abram F. Myers, general counsel.

Wash.PressPhotoBureau

Abram F. Myers

Pending during the present recess of Congress until Jan. 10 are a House proposal for a 20 per cent tax, as

(Continued on page 6)

Standardizing Film Equipment for U.S.

A new war committee of the American Standards Association to develop standards for photographic equipment used by the armed forces has been set up in New York at the request of the War Production Board on the initiative of the Army Pictorial Service.

Representatives on the committee include those from the Signal Corps, Air Force, photographic section of the Bureau of Aeronautics, U. S. Navy, Engineers Corps, Marine Corps and manufacturers of photographic and cinematographic equip-

(Continued on page 6)

Decree Negotiations Will Be Resumed Next Week

Washington, Dec. 29. — Consent decree negotiations will be resumed early next week when another draft of the revision is due to reach Washington possibly in such shape that it can be referred to exhibitor leaders who have been promised an opportunity by Assistant U. S. Attorney Tom Clark to read and comment on the document before the Department of Justice takes formal action.

Clark will be back on the job Jan. 1, and is expected almost immediately to invite the distributors to submit proposals along the lines laid down at his last meeting with Joseph Hazen, Warners' vice president acting as spokesman for the companies.

Hope to Cover All Points

At the Justice Department, officials said today that they were hopeful that the new draft would cover all of the points which have been brought up paving the way for a final polishing of the revision for submission to the court for acceptance, but admitted

(Continued on page 6)

Agfa-Ansco Will Be Known as Ansco

Agfa Ansco has changed its name to Ansco, George W. Burpee, president of General Aniline & Film, parent organization, and G. Harrison Echols, Ansco's general manager, jointly announced. The change is effective Jan. 1. The name change completes a reorganization of the company which began when its ownership and management were assumed by the Government, after Pearl Harbor, because of foreign relationship.

The company was founded in New York City more than 100 years ago by Edward Anthony, it is said. Today it is supplying the U. S. Government with the major part of its raw film production. A $1,000,000 addition to its plant at Binghamton, N. Y., has been started.

40-Hour Week Set In San Francisco

San Francisco, Dec. 29.—The regional War Manpower Commission in a decision handed down here has granted the industry's application for exemption from the 48-hour week in this area in all cases in which workers were not on a 48-hour schedule previously.

The exemption applies to theatre employes in this area as well as to film exchange employes, whose representatives made the application for exemption. Exchanges have been on a 40-hour week and, under the WMC ruling, will continue on that sched-

(Continued on page 3)

Kimberley Resigns British Film Post

London, Dec. 29. — Paul Kimberley, managing director of National Screen Service, Ltd., has resigned as director of Army Kinematography at the British War Office.

He was appointed to the post in August, 1941, and will continue to act in an advisory capacity.

Kelly to London For Films for U.A.

Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists' vice-president and general supervisor of foreign affairs, is enroute to England to study U. A. post-war possibilities in both Great Britain and continental Europe, and also to view British product for possible distribution by U.A. in the United States.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM SAAL, Republic producer and studio assistant to H. J. YATES, and STEVE EDWARDS, director of publicity, will return to New York from Washington today.

•

WILLIAM S. SHARTIN, United Artists' New Haven branch manager, returned last night to his headquarters, after a two-day conference at the home office.

•

PVT. NORMAN ROLFE, former Lockwood & Gordon circuit manager in Connecticut, is now managing the Post Theatre at Cross City, Fla.

•

RHODA RIEGER, daughter of JACK RIEGER, producer, married SGT. MICKEY SCHWARTZ, formerly a Universal film editor, last week.

•

PVT. JACK MORREL, former member of the MOTION PICTURE DAILY staff, visited here yesterday while on leave from Camp Devens, Mass.

•

HARRY LAVINE, Monogram branch manager in New Haven, was a New York visitor this week.

•

WALT POTAMKIN, Philadelphia exhibitor, is booked at Jefferson Hospital for an operation.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, president of Altec Service, left New York for Los Angeles yesterday.

•

MICHAEL H. EGNAL, Philadelphia theatre operator became the father of a boy last week.

•

MADELINE WHITE, Monogram's Eastern trade press contact, is home ill with flu.

•

CARMEL CUMMINGS of the Princess Theatre, Hartford, Conn., is in New York.

•

MARTIN MOSKOWITZ, 20th - Fox sales executive, is home ill with flu.

•

RALPH STITT, 20th-Fox publicist, was a Hartford visitor this week.

•

BILL JONES of RKO, Vancouver, B. C., was a recent flu victim.

Trade Editors on the Air

Trade paper editors, Terry Ramsaye, *Motion Picture Herald;* Chester Bahn, *Film Daily,* and William G. Formby, *Boxoffice,* will be matched with three Conover models next Wednesday night on NBC's "Battle of the Sexes." Universal arranged the broadcast in connection with the release of its "Magazine Model," a Universal short subject.

N. J. Allied, M-G-M, Discuss 'Problems'

A delegation representing Allied of New Jersey and headed by Irving Dollinger met with W. F. Rodgers, Loew's vice-president and general sales manager, earlier this week to discuss what were described as problems affecting Jersey exhibitors resulting from phases of M-G-M policies.

A recent meeting of Jersey Allied criticized M-G-M's policy on designations and urged other exhibitor organizations to follow suit. Rodgers subsequently observed publicly that neither the organization nor its representatives had communicated with the company and invited them to do so whenever they had a complaint.

63 Radio Promotions For Paramount Films

Sixty-three radio promotions for its pictures and personalities were secured by Paramount on national networks during December, according to Robert M. Gillham, director of advertising-publicity.

The claimed record resulted both from guest appearances of Paramount players and dramatizations of Paramount features and does not include appearances of such Paramount players as Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Dick Powell, Johnnie Johnston, Betty Rhodes, all of whom have weekly network shows. William Bendix's, "The Life of Riley," starts on the Blue Network Jan. 16.

Legion of Decency Classifies 8 Films

The National Legion of Decency has classified "Moonlight in Vermont," Universal, and "Oklahoma Raiders," also Universal, in Class A-1, unobjectionable for general patronage; "Calling Doctor Death," Universal; "A Guy Named Joe," M-G-M, "The Lodger," 20th Century-Fox, and "Higher and Higher," RKO, in Class A-2, unobjectionable for adults, and "Career Girls," PRC, and "Klondike Kate," Columbia, in Class B, objectionable in part. The PRC film was held objectionable in part because of suggestive costumes, and the Columbia film was held to have suggestive sequences.

20th Names Lewis National News Head

Bernard Lewis, formerly with Paramount Pictures, has been appointed head of 20th-Fox's national news service department, under Jack Goldstein, publicity manager, it was announced yesterday by Hal Horne, advertising-publicity director.

Lewis, who will take up his duties Jan. 3, replaces Ellen Davis who has joined the USO. Before his three-year association with Paramount, Lewis was a reporter with the *New York Daily Mirror, Brooklyn Eagle* and the Associated Press, New York bureau.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood, Dec. 29

M. J. SIEGEL, president of Republic Pictures, is back at his desk after a ten day siege of flu.

•

Boris Karloff has been signed by producer George Waggner for a role in Universal's Technicolor production, "The Climax," starring Susanna Foster and Turhan Bey. Karloff has been absent from the screen for the last two years.

•

Glenn Vernon, after completing a role in RKO Radio's "Are These Our Children?" reported to Fort MacArthur for induction into the armed forces. He made his film debut in "Days of Glory."

•

Annual awards of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will be presented on March 2 in a Hollywood theatre, it was announced today by the Academy Rules Committee.

•

Al Lichtman, vice-president of Loew's, left here yesterday for the East.

Petti, 'U' Ass't-Sec., Into the Army Today

Anthony Petti, assistant secretary of Universal and assistant to J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board for the past 10 years, has been inducted into the Army and will report to Fort Dix today.

Petti was given a farewell luncheon by Charles D. Prutzman, Universal vice-president and general counsel, at Toots Shor's yesterday, which was attended by Cowdin, J. J. O'Connor, Samuel Machnovitch, Adolph Schimel, Joseph Seidelman and many others from the home office.

Bertrand with U. S. Corp. in Washington

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Daniel Bertrand has taken over the management of the Washington office of United States Corporation Co., which assists corporation counsels and serves lawyers through contact with Governmental offices. The company serves 20th Century-Fox in New York.

Bertrand in recent years has been consultant to various Government departments and will be remembered in the film industry as economic advisor to the "Blue Eagle" NRA Motion Picture Code Administration.

State Becomes Moveover

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—Fox-West Coast circuit's State Theatre, used in past years as a second-run house, is now a moveover house for the circuit's first-run Fox, Paramount and Warfield theatres. The State replaces the Alcazar which has become a second-run house.

Gov't Films to Be Stored Separately

TORONTO, Dec. 29.—Removal of film vaults and the Censorship theatre from the fourth floor of the Ontario Parliament buildings to a separate structure to be built was ordered here today by Provincial Treasurer L. M. Frost, who has jurisdiction over the Ontario Board of Moving Picture Censors of which O. J. Silverthorne is chairman.

The decision is understood to be the result of a conference held by Frost with fire marshal John D. Scott and chief inspector W. D. McPhee of the moving picture inspection branch, and Col. John A. Cooper representing the film distributors. Film storage in the Parliament building is regarded as a hazard to other Government offices.

Frost also announced that a general revision of Ontario regulations governing film exchanges and handling of films would be taken without delay, adding that a system of inspection would be centralized with Provincial officers. This would eliminate inspection duties of the municipal police and fire departments.

1st Selznick Since 'GWTW' Set to Open

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Fred Joyce, publicity head of Vanguard Films, is here on the final leg of a 20-city advance tour for "Since You Went Away." He will next go to Dayton, O., to make arrangements for the picture's national premiere there, before returning to the Coast. The opening of David Selznick's first picture since "Gone With the Wind," will be held about Eastertime, Joyce said.

Ohio Schools Get Films

Ohio is inaugurating the use of motion pictures in its schools as a supplement to text-book material, thereby becoming the first state to make films a regular curriculum feature, according to the State Department of Education at Columbus. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer says here that its All-American Traveltalk series produced by James A. Fitzpatrick will be used in the regular geography courses.

Here's a Theatre Looking for Builder

Chicago, Dec. 29.—Priorities have been granted and plans completed for a new housing project of 2,000 homes to house about 8,000 persons three miles from Roseland, according to John M. Lucey, business manager of Chicago and Suburban Housing Projects, who said priorities can be secured through his office for the erection of a community theatre and recreation center, at a cost not to exceed $150,000.

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Billion Possible from Bond Premieres

(Continued from page 1)

bond shows last Fall, what with the WAC's fourth war bond committee anticipating 5,500 bond premieres next month compared to the 1,473 shows staged in the third loan drive.

Industry bond drive chairman Charles Skouras disclosed here today that distributors have agreed to supply for one performance only, as a war bond premiere attraction, any picture under contract up to 30 days prior to availability date, providing any exhibitor having a prior clearance does not object. The arrangement is expected to yield 2,500 bond premieres.

It was disclosed also that distributors have agreed to furnish any picture for repeat showing for any morning, matinee or midnight show. It is believed this will net an additional 3,000 bond events. Skouras added that all distributors have endorsed "Free Movie Day" and have instructed all sales personnel to lend every possible assistance in stimulating bond sales.

N. Y. Borough Chairmen Name Drive Captains

Edwards L. Alperson, general chairman for the Fourth War Loan Drive in Metropolitan New York, announced today that borough chairmen have completed selection of captains for their various districts.

Captains of the Bronx and Westchester districts, under chairman H. R. Emde, held a meeting Wednesday at Loew's Paradise, and yesterday chairmen Sam Rinzler and Louis Goldberg of the Brooklyn area met with their captains at the RKO Albee.

Bonds for Brandt Men For Best Bond Sales

Managers of theatres of the Brandt circuit in Metropolitan New York who sell the highest number of war bonds in the forthcoming 4th War Bond drive will receive bonds as prizes.

40-Hour Week Set In San Francisco

(Continued from page 1)

ule. Working hours of theatre employes vary but all those who heretofore have worked a 40-hour week may continue to do so under the ruling.

The order held that "the present work week shall be considered the minimum war-time work week for all employes of amusement, recreation and related services, including theatres, until further notice." Application for exemption of exchange employes from the 48-hour week order was prepared for the regional WMC by C. J. Scollard, Paramount home office executive.

W. J. Ray Passes

GREENVILLE, Ala., Dec. 29—Winston J. Ray, 52, theatre executive and civic leader here died in Chicago this week. In addition to his activities in theatres, Ray was past commander of the local American Legion post, a charter member of the Chamber of Commerce and past-president of the Lions Club. Surviving are his widow, son, mother and sister.

Reviews

"Three Russian Girls"

(United Artists)

LACK of story interest in this is so pronounced that the picture assumes a virtually documentary character, save in that it lacks documentation. It defeats the efforts of the players, who ably speak the thin lines given them, to put live drama into this photographically impressive presentation of life in Leningrad under attack and on the Russian front. With Anna Sten, Kent Smith, Alexander Granach and Paul Guilfoyle to draw, the film still offers but slight claim to important playing time.

It is a Gregor Rabinovitch production, filmed with Eugene Frenke as associate producer and directed by Fedor Ozep and Henry Kesler from a screenplay by Aben Kandel and Dan James, which fails to provide plot interest enough to sustain the footage and wordage. The scene is Russia in 1941, with the Nazis preparing to attack. The action through most of the picture consists of showing how Russian women nurse the wounded. An American flier is worked into the proceedings to speak some lines about the late President Lincoln and the glories of farm life in the United States. He falls in love with the principal nurse. That's about as much tension as the tale generates. The final scenes showing the battle on the Russian front are academically interesting, but come too late to benefit the project materially.

Others in the cast are Mimi Forsythe, Kathy Frye, Kane Richmond, Manart Kippen, Jack Gardner, Marcia Lenack, Mary Herriot, Anna Marie Stewart, Dorothy Gray and Feodor Chaliapin.

Running time, 79 mins. Release date, Jan. 14. "G."*

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"The Heavenly Body"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

ASTRONOMY and astrology vie with each other in creating disharmony in marital relations between William Powell and Hedy Lamarr in this gay new M-G-M romantic comedy produced by Arthur Hornblow, Jr. "The Heavenly Body" is pure escapist fare, frothy and funny, and is bound to appeal to the customers. Powell in this is a brilliant young astronomer and Miss Lamarr is his neglected wife who turns to astrology.

The screen play which Michael Arlen and Walter Reisch wrote was derived from Harry Kurnitz's adaptation of a story by Jacques Thery. Observing the movements of celestial bodies keeps Powell at the observatory all night, placing his daily existence in direct contrast to the rather dull and uneventful life to which Miss Lamarr is consigned because of her husband's nocturnal activities. Miss Lamarr finds little solace in the fact that Powell has discovered a new comet since she would appreciate a little "fire and brimstone" in her own life. Once she turns to astrology things begin to happen. Her horoscope first leads her to a denial of her affections to Powell on Tuesdays. The situation really becomes acute when the stars direct her to a new mate. James Craig, local air warden is the one destined to take Powell's place in Miss Lamarr's horoscope, and Powell's antics to retain his wife in the face of the astrologer's predictions provide some hilarious moments. Naturally everything works out well in the end.

Alexander Hall directed with emphasis on comedy aspects. Powell and Miss Lamarr are neat as the disunited 'doves.' The supporting cast which includes James Craig, Fay Bainter, Henry O'Neill and Spring Byington was well chosen. William Daniels' photography catches the awe-inspiring telescopes and the observatory interiors with impressive effect.

Running time, 95 mins. "G"*. Release date, March.

MILT LIVINGSTON

*"G" denotes general classification.

Monogram Cancels Two

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 29.—Monogram will not produce "Ground Crew" and "Fighting Quartermaster," which were announced for its 1943-44 program, it was understood here today, due to company executives' belief that the public is increasingly disinterested in war themes. "Ground Crew" had been planned as a super production to be made with War Department cooperation, starring Jackie Cooper. "Trail of the Yukon" will be substituted for one, an undesignated property for the other, according to present plans, MOTION PICTURE DAILY learned.

30,000 Prints of Gov't Training Films Sold

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29. — Over 30,000 prints of training films, produced variously for or under supervision of the Office of Education of the Federal Security Administration in cooperation with the War Manpower Commission, have been sold by the Government. The films are intended to train workers for war and other jobs in less time than ordinarily.

WMC Administrator Paul V. McNutt said that nearly 100 such films have been completed and 100 more are in preparation, while 300 others are planned.

RKO Cleans Slate Of Back Dividends

(Continued from page 1)

the outstanding 128,170 shares of preferred. Accrued dividends on the stock prior to Nov. 1, last, were $15.50 per share.

The two dividends, aggregating $2,178,790, are payable Feb. 1 to stockholders of record on Jan. 20.

The dividend action, one of the most spectacular in industry history, opens the way for future payment of dividends on the RKO common for the first time since the RKO reorganization. No dividends on the common could be paid while the preferred stock dividends were in arrears. Dividends on the RKO preferred have been in arrears since early in 1940. Dividend arrears on the preferred amounted to $11.50 per share, or nearly $1,500,000, at the time of the election of N. Peter Rathvon to the RKO presidency in May, 1942.

Kostelanetz to Ask Maximum Penalty

(Continued from page 1)

000, the others have been out on $100,000 bail.

Kostelanetz has been in Washington for the past week conferring with Attorney-General Francis Biddle and U. S. Attorney James B. M. McNally with respect to his proposed recommendation as to the sentencing of the defendants.

James C. D. Murray, chief defense counsel, who has been in Washington transacting business, may be unable to be in Court today and there is the likelihood that other defense counsel will ask for an adjournment until Friday on the sentencing. In this event, it is believed that Kostelanetz will ask that the accused be remanded, pending imposition of sentence, if the case goes over to Friday, and that they be remanded after sentence pending an appeal.

The others who were convicted are Charles Gioe, Phil D'Andrea, John Rosselli and Francis Maritote.

Macdonald Back to Warners from CIAA

(Continued from page 1)

assistant to Robert Schless, Warner foreign manager and is understood to have been recalled by the Warner organization.

The exact nature of the duties which Macdonald will assume upon his return to Warners have not been disclosed, nor is it known who will replace Macdonald as assistant director of the films division in the Coordinator's office.

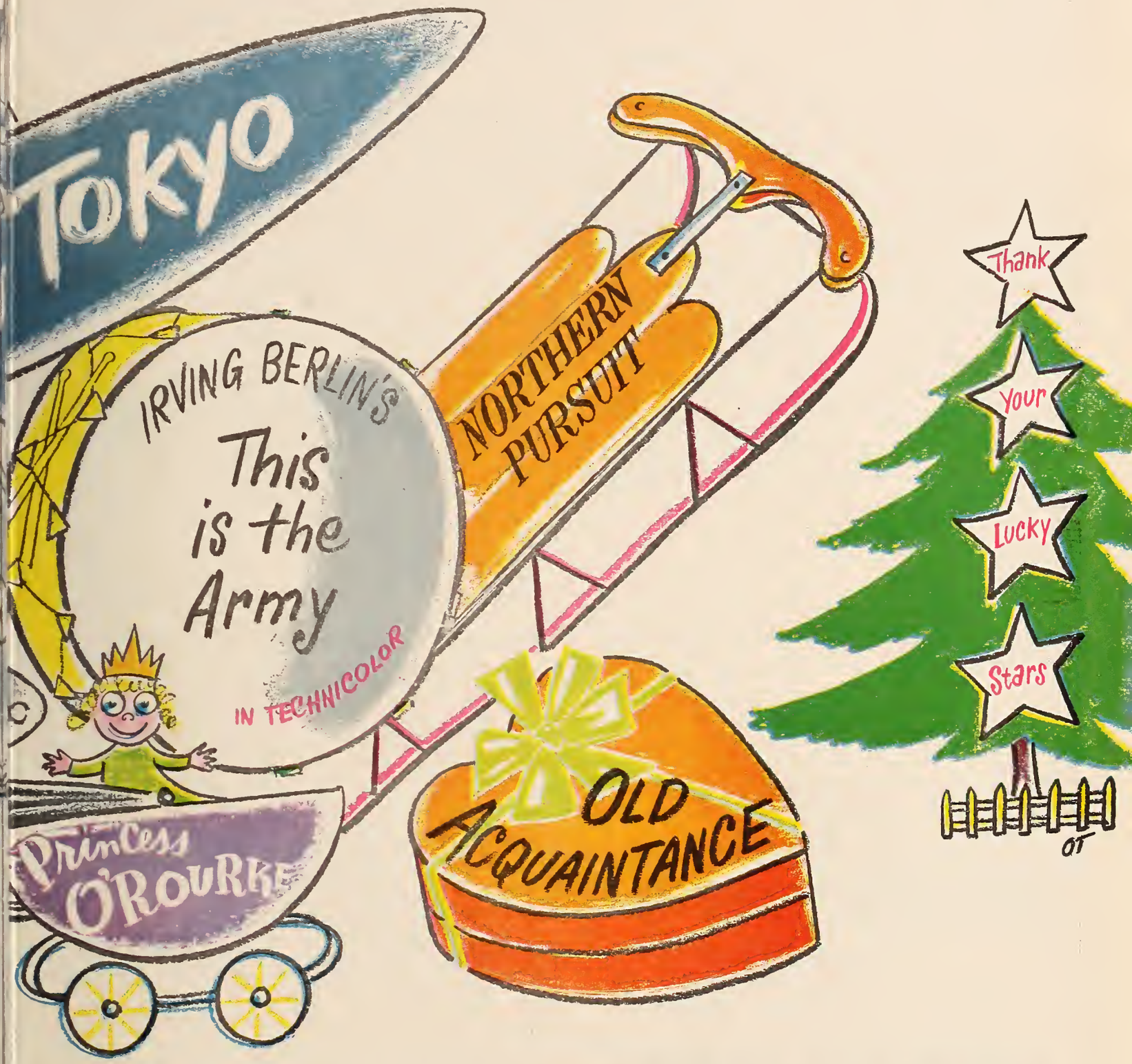
M-G-M Managers Here

Jack P. Bryne, Loew's district manager at Detroit, and Bryan D. Stoner, the company's Pittsburgh branch manager, are visitors in New York. They were among those from out of town who attended funeral services here yesterday for Mrs. Ralph Pielow at Our Lady of the Angelus Church, Forest Hills.

'Gov't Girl' at Palace

"Government Girl," an RKO release, starring Olivia de Havilland, opens at the Palace theatre, Broadway, on Jan. 6., following a nine week run of "North Star."

Our Two Big Jobs in January:
Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes



C is for WARNERS!

Jack L. Warner, *Executive Producer*

'Aquaintance' Leads 'Frisco With $21,500

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—"Old Acquaintance" was off to a good start, netting $21,500 in its opening week at the Paramount. Excellent was $22,-500 for "Government Girl's" second week at the Golden Gate, backed by a stage show, with business going into the holiday week at a fair clip.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 27-29 follow:

"The Gang's All Here" (20th-Fox)
"Mystery of 13th Guest" (Mono.)
FOX—(5,000) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. (Average, $22,100)

"Three Russian Girls" (UA)
"Hoppy Serves a Writ" (UA)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,200) (20c-35c-60c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $10,-100)

"Henry Aldrich Haunts a House" (Para.)
WARFIELD—(2,680) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Stage: Vaudeville. Gross: $22,700. (Average, $20,300)

"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
PARAMOUNT—(2,740) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $21,500. (Average, $18,700)

"In Old Oklahoma" (Rep.)
"Here Comes Elmer" (Rep.)
STATE—(2,306) (35c-40c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $12,900. (Average, $11,000)

"True to Life" (Para.)
"Adventure in Iraq" (WB)
ST. FRANCIS—(1,400) (20c-35c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Fox. Gross: $14,000. (Average, $10,300)

"Government Girl" (RKO)
GOLDEN GATE—(2,850) (35c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Stage: Vaudeville. Gross: $22,500. (Average, $26,000)

"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
ORPHEUM—(2,440) (20c-35c-60c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average, $12,700)

RKO Books Classics' Duo

Film Classics' "Hara Kiri" and "The Young in Heart" have been booked by the RKO Metropolitan circuit. The program will play 60 New York and Brooklyn theatres starting Jan. 18.

Treasury Still Fights for 30% Tax, Exhibitors Told

(*Continued from page* 1)

against the existing 10 per cent levy, and a Senate Finance Committee proposal for a tax of one cent on each five cents.

When the Senate bill was reported out by the Finance Committee it was thought it would be quickly passed by the Senate and an effort made to reconcile differences between the two houses so that the bill could be enacted before the holiday recess, but this proved unfeasible.

Stiff Fight Seen

The Allied warning states that Morgenthau's attack on the pending bill "appears to foreshadow a determined fight against it by the Administration." Opposition to the bill, it was said, is based on its alleged failure to provide adequate revenue to finance the war and curb inflation.

"Therefore," the warning continues, "we may wake up some morning early in 1944 to find that the Treasury is still waging its battle to step up the tax to three cents on each 10 cents or fraction. Every man and woman interested in any way in the operation of theatres must be organized to resist future attempts at discriminatory taxation."

It is still too early, the statement points out, for exhibitors to order new admission signs or theatre tickets on which new tax rates appear.

Allied also answers inquiries received from rural districts where children's nine-cent tax exempt admissions are used, as to whether the proposed one cent on five cents or fraction would apply to such tickets. It is pointed out that the existing Internal Revenue Code, Section 1700 (a), which imposes the existing 10 per cent tax, contains the following exception:

"No tax shall be imposed on the amount paid for the admission of a child under 12 years of age if the amount paid is less than 10 cents."

Army Also Exempt

In addition, this section also exempts admissions to theatres "operated by or under the control of the War Department or the Navy Department within posts, camps, reservations and other areas maintained by the Military or Naval Establishment. . . ."

And Allied says that any interpretation that would wipe out the children's tax exemption under 10 cents would also kill the exemption enjoyed by Army camps, "which is surely not within the intentions of any new bill," the report states.

51 Prints of 'Curie' To Soldiers Abroad

From headquarters of Army Pictorial Service in New York word comes that 51 16mm. prints of M-G-M's "Madame Curie" have been shipped overseas by plane and boat, the company disclosed here this week.

Through Army exchanges in combat zones the film will be distributed to Army bases, far outposts, hospitals and fighting ships.

Standardizing Film Equipment for U. S.

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment. The Society of M. P. Engineers is also represented and the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has been asked to participate.

Among jobs to be undertaken are development of specifications for the size and shape of photographic apertures of 16mm. and 35mm. motion picture cameras; the size and shape of 16mm. and 35mm. picture apertures of optical reduction printers and 16mm. contact printers; size and shape of 16mm. and 35mm. camera view finder apertures; a standard registration distance for 16mm. camera lenses; a specification for a 35mm. motion picture camera drive motor to operate from either 12 or 24 volts: a specification for camera noise measurements and acceptable limits for 16mm. and 35mm. sound motion picture cameras.

Howard Back to Warners

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 29.—Murray Howard, former manager of Warners' Merritt in Bridgeport has been reemployed by the Warner circuit here following a medical discharge from the army. He has been substituting for James McCarthy, manager of the local Strand, now on vacation, but will take over the permanent managerial post at the Palace in Norwalk next week.

Chicago Holds Film Ads

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—The *Daily News* here will not restrict motion picture advertising in its campaign to save newsprint it was learned here. All other ads, with the exception of legal, church and amusement notices will be pulled until Jan. 30.

Philadelphia Week Is Disappointing; 'Crime Doctor' Best

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 29. — Light weekend business and ice and rain is holding holiday business down to a minimum, and in some instances, is disappointing. The only big business is at the Earle, where Benny Goodman on the stage and "Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" on the screen promises to hit $37,500 for six days. Among the new openings, "The Iron Major" at the Stanton is holding up strongest, pointing to $14,500.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 29-31:

"Government Girl" (RKO)
ALDINE—(900) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $10,-300)

"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
ARCADIA—(600) (35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,800. (Average, $3,500)

"No Time for Love" (Para.)
BOYD—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,800. (Average, $19,000)

"Crime Doctor's Strangest Case" (Col.) (6 days)
"No Time for Love" (Para.) (1 day)
EARLE—(46c-57c-75c) 6 days of vaudeville including Benny Goodman's orchestra, Pops & Louis, Marty May, Carol Kay, Ray Dorey, Jess Stacy and Hymie Shertzer. Gross: $40,000. (Average, $22,000)

"Dr. Gillespie's Criminal Case" (M-G-M)
FAY'S—(2,200) (29c-35c-46c-57c-68c) 7 days, 2nd run, with vaudeville, including Ethel Waters, Spider Bruce & Co., The Harlem Highlanders, Francisco & Dolores, Derby, Wilson & Frenchy. Gross: $12,-000. (Average, $9,500)

"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
FOX—(3,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $17,800. (Average, $17,800)

"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
KARLTON—(1,000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,500. (Average, $5,600)

"Woman of the Year" (M-G-M)
KEITH'S — (2,200) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 5 days, revival. Gross: $2,400. (Average, $5,000)

"Old Acquaintance" (WB)
MASTBAUM—(4,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,900. (Average, $22,000)

"The Fallen Sparrow" (RKO)
STANLEY—(3 000) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $18,300)

"The Iron Major" (RKO)
STANTON—(1,700) (35c-41c-46c-57c-68c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average, $8,-000)

Decree Meetings Will Resume Next Week

(*Continued from page* 1)

that the position which will be taken by the exhibitors when they are consulted may have considerable to do with the final winding up of the negotiations.

Rupert Julian Rites

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 29. — Private funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Rupert Julian, 64, pioneer actor and director, who died Monday. Julian retired in 1936. He is survived by his widow, Elsie. Burial will be in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Roy McBride Dies

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 29.—Roy D. McBride, artist with the Interstate Circuit for 12 years, died at Legion, Tex., at the age of 46. He was a veteran of World War I. Surviving are his mother, sister and two brothers.

NEW TRADE SHOW DATE

for M-G-M's

"THE HEAVENLY BODY"

CHARLOTTE

Territory Only

20th-Fox Screen Room

FRIDAY, JAN. 7th at 1:30 P.M.

This new date is necessary because print did not arrive in time for date previously announced for Trade Showing of this picture (December 28).

CHRISTMAS HELD OVER!

"Our Two Big Jobs in January: Fourth War Loan and March of Dimes!"

Sure, the holidays go on and on when the Friendly M-G-M Lion helps celebrate. On New York's Broadway and on every Main Stem it's M-G-M that's selected to entertain the holiday crowds!

Terrific in its
3rd WEEK
M-G-M's "MADAME CURIE" RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
BIGGEST XMAS DAY IN ITS HISTORY!

Socko in its
2nd WEEK
M-G-M's "A GUY NAMED JOE"
CAPITOL THEATRE

Going into a Big
7th WEEK
M-G-M's "CRY HAVOC"
ASTOR THEATRE

On Broadway for a Grand
11th WEEK
Now at STATE THEATRE
after 10 ASTOR WEEKS!
M-G-M's "THOUSANDS CHEER" in TECHNICOLOR

Yep, they're all in M-G-M's new group "Vitamin 12"—Pep and Profits!

$26,400 Gross for 'True to Life' at Boston First Run

BOSTON, Dec. 29—Business was excellent again this week at most Boston theatres, far above expectations. The Metropolitan did $26,400 with "True to Life" and "Pistol Packin' Mama."

Box office receipts for the week ending Dec. 30:

"True to Life" (Para.)
"Pistol Packin' Mama" (Rep.)
METROPOLITAN — (4,367) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $26,400. (Average: $28,300).
"Swing Shift Masie" (M-G-M)
"The Kansan" (UA)
LOEW'S STATE — (3,200) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $17,100. (Average: $17,300).
"Pistol Packin' Mama" (UA)
"Swing Shift Masie" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S ORPHEUM — (3,200) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $24,500. (Average: $24,200).
"Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"Gangway for Tomorrow" (RKO)
KEITH MEMORIAL — (2,800) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $19,300. (Average: $19,100).
"Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO)
RKO BOSTON—(3,800) (44c-55c-65c-85c). Stage show including Richard Himber and orchestra. Gross: $26,800. (Average: $26,700).
"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
PARAMOUNT — (1,800) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $8,700. (Average: $8,600).
"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
"Footlight Glamour" (Col.)
FENWAY—(1,097) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,800).

'Bondage' Opens

CLEVELAND, Dec. 29. — Monogram will get its first first-run break here with the opening of "Women in Bondage" at Loew's Ohio Theatre for a week starting Jan. 7.

Kiddies on Holiday Give 'Lassie' $21,000

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 29.—"Lassie Come Home" and "Young Ideas" are leading first runs with a gross of approximately $21,000, helped by the fact that children are on holiday. Total grosses for first runs are up sharply from the previous week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 29-30:

"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
ESQUIRE—(800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,500).
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
"Young Ideas" (M-G-M)
MIDLAND — (3,600) (35c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $14,000).
"Riding High" (Para.)
NEWMAN — (1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,000).
"The Lady Takes a Chance" (RKO)
"The Ghost Ship" (RKO)
ORPHEUM—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000).
"Buckskin Frontier" (UA)
TOWER—(2,200) (35c-50c) Stage show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,400).
"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
UPTOWN—(2,000) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $5,600).
"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
FAIRWAY—(700) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,450).

Two Buy Mono. Lineup

Sixteen theatres of the Paramount-Richards circuit in Louisiana, Florida and Mississippi have bought the 1943-1944 Monogram product, according to Steve Broidy, general sales manager. Chakeres Theatres, with eight in Ohio and Kentucky, has also purchased the new program.

Servicemen Want Good Yarns: McCrea

Hollywood, Dec. 29. — Servicemen overseas do not want war or propaganda pictures, but neither do they care for musicals which do not have a sound story, Actor Joel McCrea said upon his return here from an overseas tour which took him 22,000 miles to South America and Africa.

"An all-star cast means nothing to them," he said. "They want to see films with good stories that make sense and if they get something else if they hoot."

'Lassie' Leads with Gross of $13,500

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 29. — "Lassie Come Home" with "Is Everybody Happy?" will do $13,500 at Loew's this week in an 8-day run.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 28-30:

"Riding High" (Para.)
CIRCLE — (2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $11,000).
"Crazy House" (Univ.)
"The Strange Death of Adolf Hitler" (Univ.)
INDIANA — (3,200) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500).
"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col.)
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S — (2,800) (30c-40c-50c) 8 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,571—8 days average).
"Crime School" (WB)
"Girls on Probation" (WB)
LYRIC — (2,000) (30c-40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000).

'Highs' Are Highs, At Cleveland Houses

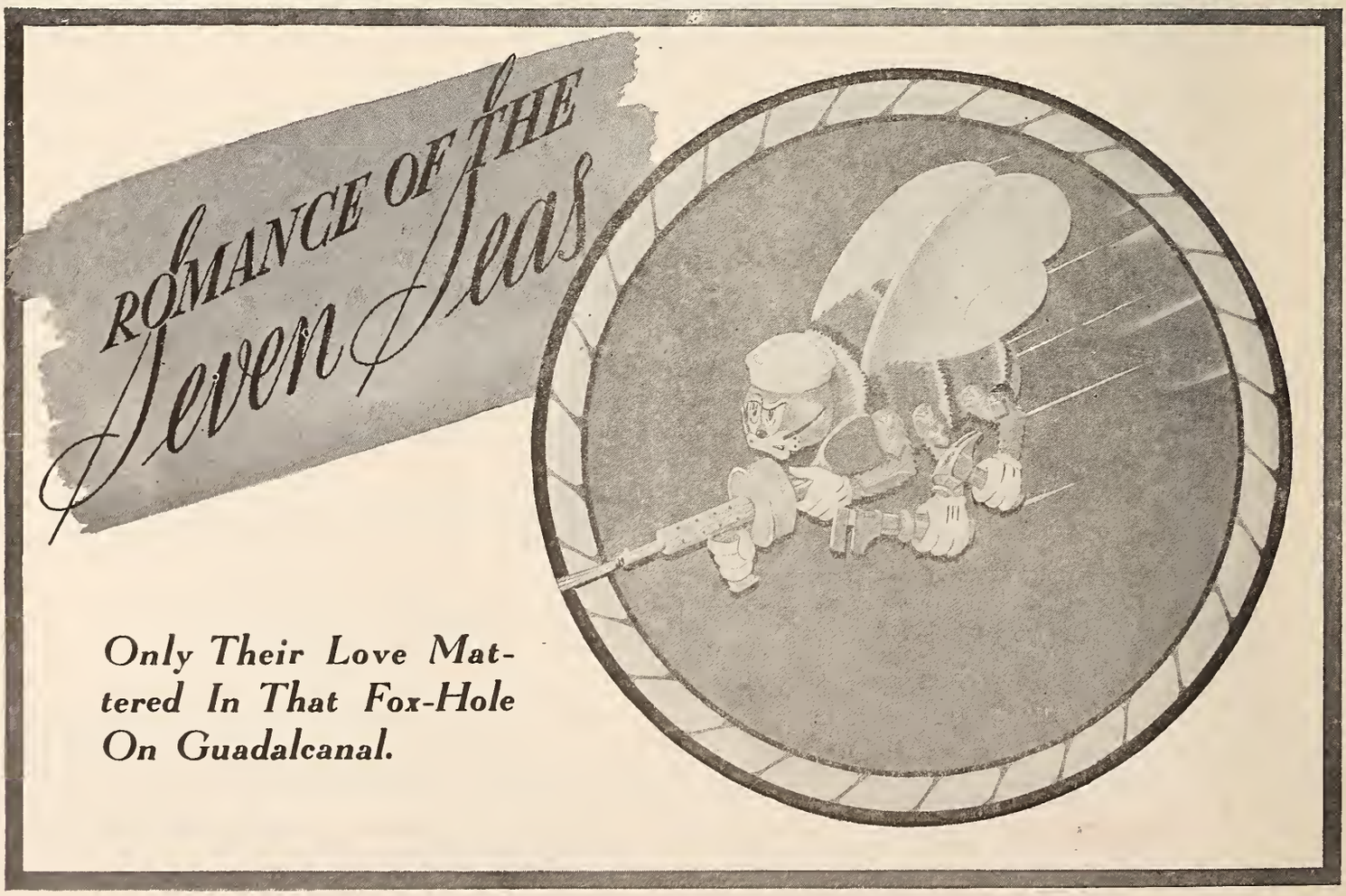
CLEVELAND, Dec. 29.—"The "highs" went over big here this week-end. Both "Higher and Higher" at Warners' Hipp and "Riding High" at Loew's State started out big, with both heading to a $20,000 week.

Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 29:

"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
ALLEN—(3,000) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, $8,500)
"Higher and Higher" (RKO)
WARNERS' HIPPODROME — (3,500) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $17,500)
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
WARNERS' LAKE—(714) (40c-50c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,300. (Average, $3,000)
"Christmas Carol" (M-G-M)
"Love Crazy" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S OHIO—(1,268) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average, $4,500)
"Around the World" (RKO)
RKO PALACE—(3,300) (45c-55c-75 and 85c Saturday and Sunday), 7 days. Stage: Tony Pastor orchestra and vaudeville headed by Perry Como. Gross: $33,000. (Average, $22,000)
"Riding High" (Para.)
LOEW'S STATE—(3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average, $17,500)
"Adventures of Tartu" (M-G-M)
LOEW'S STILLMAN—(1,900) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,00. (Average, $8,500)

Warned on Curfew

TORONTO, Dec. 29.—Ontario Theatres have been warned that it is against the law to admit children under 16 unaccompanied by an adult except on Saturday matinees and legal or school holidays.



Film and Radio News Brief, Accurate and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Alert, Intelligent and Indispensable to the Motion Picture Industry

VOL. 54. NO. 126 | NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1943 | TEN CENTS

Korda Studio Lease Rankles London Trade

British Criticize Deal for Amalgamated

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Dec. 30. — Vociferous protests are being heard in British production circles here, particularly from the Screen Writers Association, charging that the British Board of Trade is encouraging "monopolistic Hollywood activities" in the action taken by the government in facilitating the release of its Amalgamated Studios at Elstree to Sir Alexander Korda for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Little or no studio space has been available to American companies for production for months.

It has been learned by MOTION PICTURE DAILY here that the Government will release the Amalgamated stages which are being used in war work, to Korda as "soon as practicable."

Protests are also stemming from the granting to Korda of a 15 months tenancy at the Denham stages, also for M-G-M productions, while other ap-

(Continued on page 6)

No New Exhibitor Pledges for 4th Loan

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30.—Unlike the procedure in other War Loan drives conducted by the industry, exhibitors are not being asked to sign new pledges in the Fourth War Loan campaign, it was stated today by Charles P. Skouras, national chairman of the industry's campaign committee.

Every exhibitor will set his own quota, based on the number of seats in the theatres which he operates or

(Continued on page 4)

Four-State 'Dimes' Meeting in Chicago

Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Indiana exhibitors and other leaders in the March of Dimes drive (Jan. 24-30) will hold a four-state conference at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, on Jan. 7, to discuss the campaign. Jack Kirsch of Allied Theatres, and Jules J. Rubens of Publix Great States Theatres, co-chairmen for Illinois, will preside.

The Indiana group will be headed by K. T. Collins, Don Rossiter and M. Wolf of Indianapolis. J. O. Brooks

(Continued on page 4)

Commission Rates Rule Salesmen's '44 Earnings

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Rates of commission rather than dollar earnings will be the yardstick for the treatment of both commission salesmen and employes receiving compensation based on a percentage of the sales of others, percentage of profits or other like arrangements in 1944, under a policy announced tonight by economic stabilization director Fred M. Vinson for application of the salary stabilization program.

In a letter to the commissioner of internal revenue, Vinson directed that the rules of the National War Labor Board applicable to commission salesmen's earnings less than $5,000 a year, be adopted also by the bureau with respect to salesmen and officials receiving in excess of that sum.

Under Vinson's policy announcement, no approval from either agency

(Continued on page 6)

Garson and Formby Are Best in England

LONDON, Dec. 30.—Greer Garson, voted sixth among the first 10 money-making stars by exhibitors in the United States, was voted the leading money-making star of 1943 by exhibitors of England in the annual *Motion Picture Herald-Fame* poll. British in origin, Greer Garson's most notable box-office success of the year was in "Mrs. Miniver."

George Formby was selected by British showmen as the top money-

(Continued on page 6)

Griffis to Coast To Confer with WAC

Stanton Griffis, chief of the motion picture bureau of the domestic branch of the Office of War Information, accompanied by Al Whitman of OWI and Keith Himebaugh of the War Food Administration, will arrive in Hollywood Monday for a ten-day conference with the Hollywood War Activities Committee on future short subject releases.

Griffis will make his headquarters at the Paramount studio in Hollywood. Whitman and Himebaugh will be at the Ambassador Hotel.

Biggest New Year's Eve Foreseen by All B'way Theatres

New Year's Eve and weekend operating schedules for Broadway houses point to one of the biggest three-day holiday business periods in Broadway history, starting tonight. All Broadway houses have scheduled extra performances for New Year's Eve, most will increase their scales to $2.20 top for tonight and many will remain open for 20- and 24-hour stretches, from today into Sunday without closing.

The Roxy, Capitol, Strand and Paramount will raise their regular Saturday night top admission price of $1.25 (exclusive of $1.65 loge seats) to $2.20 early this evening. The Rivoli and Hollywood also will have a $2.20 top tonight. Lowest admission price at

(Continued on page 4)

N.Y. UIE Problems To Distributors

The Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York, represented by a delegation comprised of Jacob Leff, Max Cohn, Max Wallach, Jesse Stern and Julius Charnow are understood to have met this week with Ben Kalmenson, general sales manager of Warners, to present and discuss "problems" relating to some of Warner sales policies, particularly film

(Continued on page 4)

Gelber Slate Wins In 306 Election

Herman Gelber has been reelected president of the New York IATSE Projectionists' Local 306, for a second term of two years by a vote of 1,219 against 307 polled by his opponent, Jack Winick.

Harry E. Storin was elected vice-president, succeeding Herman Boritz; Nathaniel Doragoff was reelected re-

(Continued on page 6)

Studios Unions Weigh Bid to U.S. Mediators

IBEW Sets Strike Vote For January 6th

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30.—Producers face demands for a tighter basic agreement covering some 7,500 studio workers in eight unions, and threats of Federal intervention in two IATSE union contracts, in addition to demands by the Conference of Studio Unions on immediate opening of negotiations on contracts expiring tomorrow, including those of several white collar guilds.

Union signatories of the basic agreement plan to confer in Miami, immediately following the AFL executive council session there Jan. 17, when heads of studio unions will demand a tightening of contract provisions.

Demands presented today by the studio unions to Fred Pelton, producers' labor administrator, included a 10 percent increase in pay for day

(Continued on page 4)

Rank Agent Here to Survey U.S. Market

Barrington Gaines, representative of J. Arthur Rank, British film industry leader, has arrived in New York from London to begin an extensive survey of potential playing time and gross possibilities for British pictures in the American market.

Both current and post-war market possibilities will be embraced in the Gaines study, it is understood. He will also make a survey of various com-

(Continued on page 4)

Home Offices Closed Half Day Today

Home offices here will have an early New Year's Eve closing. Twentieth-Fox will close at 12:30 today, while RKO, M-G-M, Paramount, Columbia, Warners, United Artists, Universal, Republic and PRC will close at one o'clock. Also closing early are the Hays office, at one o'clock and the American Arbitration Association Board, at three.

Happy New Year

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Chairman of the board of Universal Pictures, will leave for the Coast Jan. 7 for studio production conferences and to view new product. COWDIN is expected to return to the home office late in January.

•

PHILIP KEENAN, Hillman magazines' circulation director, was feted by organization employes and executives this week on the anniversary of his 19th year at the New York office.

•

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M's director of exhibitor relations, is looking forward to a vacation in Florida. He anticipates leaving here about Feb. 7.

•

RUBE JACKTER, Columbia's assistant general sales manager, will leave for Pittsburgh over the weekend and is expected back on Tuesday.

•

BEN J. LOURIE, former Columbia salesman in New Haven and now manager in Chicago, was a New Haven holiday visitor.

•

LEON SCHLESINGER, cartoon producer for Warners, is in New York from the coast and will remain three weeks.

•

MORT BLUMENSTOCK, Warners' advertising-publicity head in the East, returned yesterday from a Southern trip.

•

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, vice-president in charge of M-G-M sales, plans a Florida holiday beginning Jan. 15.

•

EDWARD SNIDERMAN, RKO division manager for Bronx and Westchester, will report for induction Jan. 12.

•

NORMAN H. MORAY, short subject sales manager for Warners, will return today from Philadelphia.

•

SGT. SIDNEY GANS, former Columbia field exploiteer is now stationed at Windsor Locks, Conn.

•

MAXWELL COHN of Columbia Pictures' home office will leave Sunday for Hollywood.

•

JAY EISENBERG of Loew's legal department, is expected to return from Buffalo today.

•

ROBERT J. O'DONNELL, general manager of Interstate Circuit, Texas, is in New York.

•

E. B. HATRICK will leave for Colorado Springs in the near future for a vacation.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner's general sales manager, left last night for Chicago.

•

BERNARD LEVY of Proven Pictures, Hartford, is in Boston on business.

•

MAJOR HAL ROACH is in town.

•

(More Personals on page 4)

Services Held for Attorney F. H. Wood

Funeral services for Frederick H. Wood, 66, well-known attorney and prominent figure in the industry, were held here yesterday at 4 o'clock at St. Bartholomew's Church, Park Ave. He died suddenly early this week.

Wood made a name in the film business when he represented Paramount in exhibitor Edward Quittner's $4,000,000 anti-trust suit against that company. Paramount won. He was also counsel for Warners in the United States vs. Warner Brothers case in St. Louis, and figured prominently in the ultimate dissolution of the NRA. Wood tried the Schecter chicken case which was the primary factor in determining the unconstitutionality of the Recovery Act before the U. S. Supreme Court.

Bond-Selling Stunts Planned for Brooklyn

Reports of campaign plans being made by Brooklyn 4th War Loan drive industry captains were heard at a meeting held yesterday at the Albee Theatre with Louis Goldberg acting as chairman in the absence of Sam Rinzler.

Paul Binstock of Rugoff and Becker, announced that the U. S. Coast Guard and the Maritime Service have pledged themselves to participate in the drive. In the Bay Ridge area, James Bergen of the Dyker, and Murray Scharf of the Alpine, have planned a "buy an air ambulance" campaign.

Another stunt will be the hanging in effigy of Hitler, Hirohito and Mussolini at central points in Brooklyn, to be designated by captains at the meeting on Jan. 4.

WB Checking Service Gets 3 Supervisors

R. P. Hagen, manager of the percentage picture checking service for Warner Bros. has appointed three new field supervisors:

N. S. Marinoff replaces H. B. Paul in charge of Denver and Salt Lake territories; Ben Taylor succeeds A. A. Gorrel in Los Angeles and San Francisco; Leo Rothenberg takes over the Pittsburgh territory formerly supervised by Sam Ehrlich.

Claude Lee Named To War Finance

Claude Lee, director of public relations for Paramount, and designated several days ago as liaison between the film industry and the Treasury department in the Fourth War Loan drive, yesterday was made a member of the Treasury's War Finance Committee.

Lee accepted the liaison post at the request of Charles Skouras, Fourth War Loan drive film chairman.

Coast Flashes

Hollywood Dec. 30

LEON FROMKESS, PRC vice-president, today announced the reengagement of Joseph O'Sullivan as national director of advertising and publicity, with Sam Kesterbaum, Vance King and Jack Harrower continuing as his assistants. O'Sullivan, who held the post during the first year of PRC operations, will make his headquarters here, establishing an advertising and accessory art bureau at the studio.

•

Director John Farrow was the recipient of the Catholic Literary Award for 1943, given by a gallery of living Catholic authors, in ceremonies held recently at Loyola University. Archbishop John J. Cantwell made the presentation.

•

Twentieth-Fox today completed a deal with David O. Selznick for Jennifer Jones to star in two pictures during the coming year, and one annually for the following four years.

•

Paramount today gave Charles Brackett a two-year writer-producer contract.

•

International has bought "Home Is the Sailor," by Eric Hatch; David Lewis produces.

Film on 'Big 3' Opening Here Soon

A special Soviet film, "Iran, Where the Big Three Met," will be shown by the Soviet Artkino here in conjunction with "No Greater Love," which opens at the Victoria Theatre late in January. The film is the pictorial story of the Teheran meeting of Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin.

This is the second film on meetings of United Nations leaders, Universal having previously announced a 22-minute subject, "World Without Borders," which also includes shots of Chiang Kai-shek. In addition, the Universal film will also incorporate incidents depicting the Four Freedoms, Atlantic Charter and clips from Wendell Willkie's globe-circling trip.

Mono. to Pay $17,767 In Employes' Bonuses

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, today announced employes bonuses amounting to $17,767 payable tomorrow in war bonds for all on the payroll three months prior to the end of the 1943 fiscal year. All but top executives will participate, with the smallest payment $288 for employes with the company for the past two fiscal years.

Bernhard Cited Again

Lieut. Jack Bernhard of the Army Air Force, former Universal producer and a son of Joseph Bernhard, Warner vice-president, has received the Oak Leaf Cluster for distinguished action over enemy territory, according to word received here yesterday from London. Lieut. Bernhard had earlier been awarded the Air Medal.

Will Move to Nullify Extort Trial Verdict

Attorneys for the seven found guilty in the $1,000,000 film extortion trial will make motions for the setting aside of the jury's verdict this morning, on the ground that it is contrary to the evidence, the weight of evidence and the law. The six former Capone gang members and a former Newark labor leader were convicted under provisions of the Federal anti-racketeering act.

Federal Judge John Bright yesterday adjourned sentencing the seven until this morning because James D. C. Murray, chief defense attorney, was engaged in litigation in Washington.

Each man faces possible imprisonment for 10 years and a $25,000 fine.

Hempstead Produced

David Hampstead was producer of "Tender Comrade," reviewed on Wednesday. Sherman Todd was associate.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Greer Garson - Walter Pidgeon
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"MADAME CURIE"
GALA STAGE REVUE
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
First Mezzanine Seats Reserved. Circle 6-4600

Dorothy LAMOUR - Dick POWELL - Victor MOORE
in
"RIDING HIGH"
A Paramount Picture
IN TECHNICOLOR
IN PERSON
TOMMY DORSEY and Band
PARAMOUNT Times Square

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S
THE NORTH STAR
NEW VICTORIA • RKO PALACE
B'WAY & 46th B'WAY & 47th
Continuous performances, popular prices, doors open 9:00 A.M., midnight show every night both theatres.

LOEW'S State TIMES SQ.
On Stage
HUMPHREY BOGART in 'SAHARA'
In Person
Patricia Morison
Harrison & Fisher
Jackie Gleason
Eric Blore

ALICE FAYE · CARMEN MIRANDA · PHILLIS BAKER
BENNY GOODMAN AND HIS ORCH.
The Gang's All Here
in TECHNICOLOR!
20th
PLUS A BIG STAGE SHOW ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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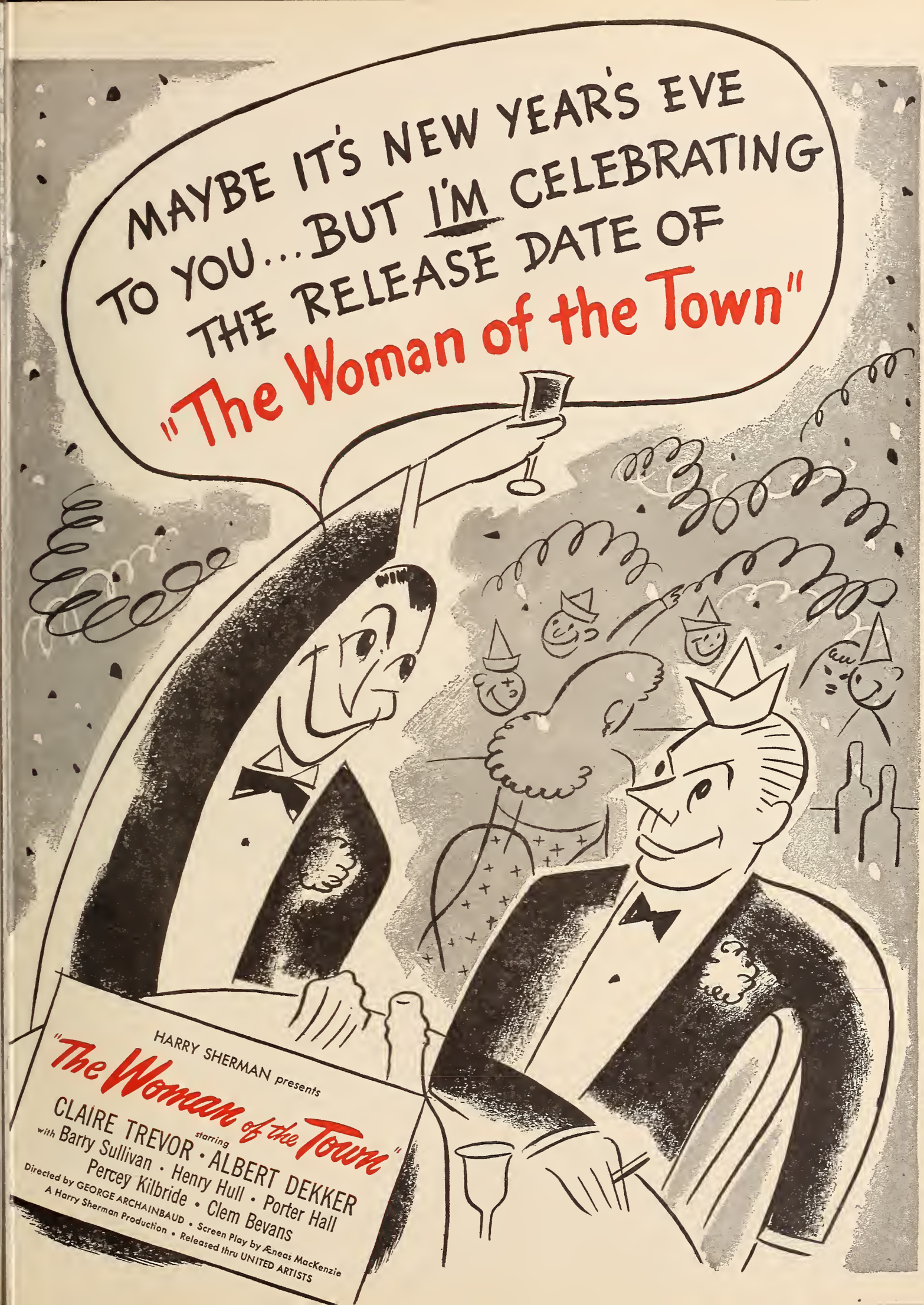
MAYBE IT'S NEW YEAR'S EVE TO YOU... BUT I'M CELEBRATING THE RELEASE DATE OF "The Woman of the Town"
HARRY SHERMAN presents
"The Woman of the Town"
starring
CLAIRE TREVOR • ALBERT DEKKER
with Barry Sullivan • Henry Hull • Porter Hall
Percey Kilbride • Clem Bevans
Directed by GEORGE ARCHAINBAUD • Screen Play by Æneas MacKenzie
A Harry Sherman Production • Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

Studios Unions Weigh Bid to U.S. Mediators

(Continued from page 1)

shift workers, a 20 percent increase for night workers, vacations with pay and sick leave. Neither the basic nor the IATSE union contracts provide for vacations at present, although the Screen Publicists Guild and the Screen Office Employes Guild and some others have such provisions.

Sound technicians and cameramen affiliated with the IATSE have wired Pat Casey, producers' labor contact, in New York today, demanding immediate opening of negotiations of contracts expiring tomorrow with the admonition that failure to set a date would "necessitate a request for assistance from the U. S. Conciliation Service."

Herbert Sorrell, president of the conference, is meeting informally today with producer representatives here regarding a date for negotiations for painters, machinists, office workers, set designers, film technicians, the SPG and others.

IBEW Votes Jan. 6

The National Labor Relations Board is preparing for a strike vote by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers on Jan. 6, Al Speed, business representative of this IATSE union, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY. He indicated that he would advise the War Labor Board that if other industry craft unions receive a 10 per cent increase, and his union were granted the same, strike action by his union would be rescinded.

IATSE Board Meeting Is Set for Jan. 23

The executive board of the IATSE, national operators and stage-hands union, will hold its semi-annual meeting at the Netherland Plaza Hotel in Cincinnati during the full week starting Jan. 23.

Understood to be on the agenda, among many items, is the IATSE local's trouble in Chicago, where some members are suing the union there and major circuits and Allied States for alleged conspiracy in blocking wage rises for operators. Also up for discussion, it is expected, will be the Chicago extortionists' prosecution in New York.

N. Y. UIE Probems To Distributors

(Continued from page 1)

rentals, re-issues and selling of shorts. The committee is said to have been assured by Kalmenson, that their problems would be looked into and results would be made known at a second meeting. Warner re-issues, heretofore, withheld from the UIE theatres, will be made available to them, as one result of the first session, it is understood.

Appointments to meet with Neil Agnew, Paramount's general sales manager; Ned E. Depinet, RKO president; William A. Scully, Universal's general sales manager and A. Montague, Columbia's general sales manager, have been requested by the UIE film committee.

Cartoonists Have New Contract Twist

Hollywood, Dec. 30.—The Screen Cartoonists Guild is preparing a new twist in producer negotiations when they open in April. Instead of seeking changes in hours or footage work provisions they will seek a minimum crew to work on a set number of pictures during a year.

This, they claim, will circumvent the alleged present policy of some producers who trim costs by cutting stories and numbers of characters used and will mean a better product, say the cartoonists.

Four-State 'Dimes' Meeting in Chicago

(Continued from page 1)

of the Butterfield Circuit, Detroit, will speak as Michigan state chairman. H. J. Fitzgerald of Milwaukee, state chairman, will represent Wisconsin.

William C. Sears of the Orpheum, Minneapolis, co-chairman for Minnesota, will attend with John Friedl to report on the organization built up there.

From national headquarters in New York, the "flying squadron" will attend, including Harry Brandt, Oscar A. Doob, Eddie Alperson and Arthur Mayer, with Dr. John L. Lavan, research director of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, who will present a demonstration of the Sister Kenny method of treatment.

The four-state area to be covered at the Chicago meeting includes 2,433 theatres and in the 1943 drive collected $310,638.

The Chicago meeting will follow the five-state session in Atlanta on Jan. 4 and will be followed on Jan. 10 by a three-state conference in Dallas.

No New Exhibitor Pledges for 4th Loan

(Continued from page 1)

controls. Pledges originally given the War Bond Activities Committee will cover all War Bond campaigns. Each exhibitor, therefore, knows what his goal is in the forthcoming campaign.

Skouras accompanied by Rick Ricketson, vice-chairman and A. J. Krappmann, assistant campaign director, will leave for New York Monday to establish headquarters for the drive at the offices of the War Activities Committee.

Preceding them will be B. V. Sturdivant, national campaign director, and Seymour Peiser, publicity director, who will arrive in New York Sunday. Fred Stein, assistant campaign director, will remain here to follow through on details in connection with stars' appearances and other tours.

Loew's Books 'Jeannie'

"Jeannie," British film starring Barbara Mullen and Michael Redgrave and made by Marcel Hellman, has been booked by both Loew's Metropolitan and Loew's out-of-town circuits for early January showings. English Films, New York, is distributing.

B'way Houses Set For New Year's Eve

(Continued from page 1)

any Broadway first-run will be $1.10.

Radio City Music Hall will maintain its regular top Saturday night admission of $1.10 today. The house will put on an extra midnight show. The Hall has been opening at 8 a.m. all week, giving five shows daily instead of four. The added sixth show tonight will keep the Hall open until 2:45 a.m. It will reopen tomorrow at 8 a.m.

The Strand opened at 8 a.m. this morning and, featuring six performances of its stage show and seven for the picture, it will remain open until 5:30 tomorrow morning. Top Saturday evening admission price of $1.25 will be upped to $2.20 early this evening. House will also reopen at 8 Saturday morning.

Roxy Open to 3 A. M.

The Roxy opened at 9 this morning and will run until 3:30 a.m., giving six complete shows instead of the usual five. A $2.20 top will go into effect at 5 p.m. today. The Capitol, presenting "A Guy Named Joe" and a Hollywood "in person" show headed by Kathryn Grayson, Lou Holtz and Richard Himber and orchestra, will remain open from 8 a.m. until 3 a.m., presenting six shows instead of five as on other holidays. No first-run theatres will make any cuts in the length of their shows on New Year's Eve.

The Paramount will give seven shows instead of the regular six on Saturdays. Opening at 8:30 a.m. today, the theatre will not close until 6 tomorrow morning. A $2.20 top will prevail early this evening. The house will reopen at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

The Hollywood will up its regular $1.25 Saturday night admission to $2.20 tonight, and will present nine instead of the regular seven holiday shows. It will remain open until 4 a.m. The Rivoli also will remain open until 4, upping its $1.65 top to $2.20 after 8 p.m.

Criterion $1.65 Top

Top admission price at the Criterion will be $1.65 instead of the customary $1.10 Saturday night top. The house will run from 9 a.m. until 5:20 a.m. The Palace and Victoria will charge $1.65 on New Year's Eve instead of the customary top of $1.35. The Palace has scheduled an early closing but the Victoria will remain open until 4 a.m. Regular top of $1.10 will prevail at the Astor which will remain open until 3 a.m. to present eight complete shows.

The Globe will have a top of $1.25 and will remain open from this morning through to 5 Sunday morning. The Rialto also plans a Friday to Sunday morning grind with $1.10 top tonight.

The 50 RKO neighborhood theatres will feature a special New Year's Eve showing of "Higher and Higher," billed as the Sinatra Show, at $1.10 starting at 5 p.m. and continuing until dawn. Most other circuits in this area plan no increase in regular holiday admission prices.

Crescent Pays Bonus

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 30.—Employees of the Crescent Theatre circuit here received year-end bonuses amounting to two weeks' pay.

Best Business On Broadway In Many Years

Phenomenal business being done by the Broadway first-run houses this week, in the seven days starting last Saturday and winding up with New Year's Eve, set new records or near records almost everywhere.

In predicting the week's grosses for MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Monday, most theatre managers unknowingly underestimated, hardly expecting such an avalanche of customers as that which descended upon Radio City and Times Square this week. Extremely long lines of waiting patrons have been the order of the day all week, with all theatres benefiting additionally by the ideal weather.

New House Records

Radio City Music Hall, the Roxy, Paramount and Capitol are all headed for new house records, computed on the basis of the seven-day holiday period. The Music Hall will gross an estimated $132,000, topping the $131,500 record set by "Top Hat" during a week which included Labor Day. Gross for a similar seven days last year which included an extra holiday, since Christmas fell on Friday, was $126,000.

The Roxy estimates that its gross for the seven days will hit a record $150,000 for its greatest gross in 17 years, a figure surpassed only by "The Cockeyed World" of silent days. This gross is approximately 10 per cent higher than the similar period last year.

The Paramount is playing to the biggest seven days' business in the 17-year history of that theatre with a gross estimated to reach $125,000. This represents a considerable advance over the same period last year when the theatre changed attractions during the week.

Capitol Will Do $100,000

The Capitol is headed for a $100,000 gross for the seven days which will give the house its highest gross in a decade. The theatre was on a straight film basis last year, making a comparison impossible.

Indications of how grosses were underestimated this week can be gained in the cases of the Strand and Hollywood. Estimated at $32,000 for the week, the Strand is headed for a figure closer to $38,000. Similarly, the Hollywood will finish with a gross of $35,000 instead of the estimated $27,000. On the seven-day holiday period, the Hollywood is headed for over $50,000 to equal or better the house record established by "This Is the Army" earlier this year. A similar story is told by spokesmen for other Broadway houses.

Rank Agent Here to Survey U.S. Market

(Continued from page 1)

panies which have invited Rank to make an investment therein.

Gaines, who is a partner of Leslie Farrow, head of Rank's auditing firm, is confined to his hotel because of a cold contracted aboard ship while enroute here.

From Theatres of Peace

Wherever our armed forces fight today, they fight with increased efficiency because of SOUND equipment.

SOUND helps them on defense and attack . . . in a variety of ways that will make interesting post-war reading. Thanks to intensive development work by scientists and research men, the part played by SOUND is one of ever-increasing importance.

Naturally the engineers at Bell Telephone Laboratories and Western Electric are contributing their knowledge and skill to help bring Victory sooner.

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195 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y.

★ *SPEED THE DAY OF VICTORY BY BUYING WAR BONDS—MORE WAR BONDS—AND STILL MORE!* ★

Personal Mention

(Other Personals on page 2)

CHARLES P. SKOURAS, national chairman; B. V. STURDIVANT, campaign director and FRANK (Rick) RICKETSON, vice-chairman of the industry's Fourth War Loan Drive, are due from the Coast January 5 to remain here for the duration of the campaign.

•

W. M. WILLIAMS, former Paramount Denver salesman, before joining the Army, and recently honorably discharged, is now branch manager in Charlotte for the U. S. Army Motion Picture Service.

•

CORPORAL MAX C. MCCOY, formerly head shipper for Paramount in Omaha, wounded in action on the Italian front, is now a patient at Ashford General Hospital, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

•

EX-CORPORAL BERNARD LAPP, recently honorably discharged from the U. S. Army, has been appointed captain of ushers at the New York Paramount theatre.

•

VINCENT DOUGHERTY, salesman at Paramount's Washington exchange, is vacationing in New York.

•

TOM BENNETT, of Paramount's home office foreign department, has arrived in Cairo, Egypt, on a special mission for the company.

•

HARRY HUNTER, managing director for Paramount in Australia, has arrived in Sydney from the U. S.

•

GEORGE LAWSON of Warners' theatre art department, Philadelphia, who suffered a heart attack recently, has been released from a hospital and is recuperating at his home.

•

JAMES MCCARTHY, manager of Warner's Strand in Hartford, returned to his post yesterday following a two-week vacation in New York and Philadelphia.

•

JOHN STRAUSS of Warners' Buffalo sales staff, is in New York for a few days.

Annual B'nai B'rith Party

Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, will hold its annual theatre party on Wednesday, Feb. 23, at the Imperial Theatre here. The house has been bought for the performance that night of Michael Todd's "Mexican Hayride." Miles Alben has been appointed chairman of the general committee. Serving with him are Max Blackman, Victor Blau, Irving Greenfield, Leo Jaffe, Louis Jaffe, Ben Pepper, Norman Steinberg, Alfred W. Schwalberg, Abel A. Vigard, David Weinstock and William Zimmerman.

Franklin Named

OTTAWA, Dec. 30.—Mitchael Franklin has been appointed to the National Film Board here, following his discharge from the RCAF because of eye-trouble. Franklin was at one time manager of the Mayfair, Saint John, and is the son of J. M. Franklin of Franklin-Herschorn Theatres.

Garson, Formby, Crosby, Autry Best in England

(Continued from page 1)

making star among British players and Gene Autry was voted the leading box-office Westerner. Betty Grable, leading money-maker of American stars, scored fifth in the British poll.

The ranking by British exhibitors otherwise follows the American balloting quite closely, with Bing Crosby in second place; Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, third; Bob Hope, fourth, and Betty Grable, fifth. Mickey Rooney dropped from first to fifth position since last year and Deanna Durbin failed to make the first ten.

Dorothy Lamour was voted seventh position by British showmen. Eighth choice was Bette Davis; Tyrone Power and James Cagney ran ninth and tenth positions respectively in the list of the top 10.

Selection of the late Leslie Howard for second position among British players was described as "a tribute to his artistry and skill." Noel Coward was given third position and Eric Portman, fourth. Fifth was Robert Donat; Arthur Lucan was sixth; Margaret Lockwood, seventh; Anton Walbrook, eighth; Arthur Askey, radio discovery, was ninth, and John Mills, a newcomer, tenth.

Voting on Westerners' box office power, the British showed that their tastes are similar to Americans'. They did, however, vote Gene Autry No. 1, whereas American exhibitors selected Roy Rogers. Rogers was second choice of the British theatremen. Reason for this is attributed to the fact that old Autry films still are in circulation in Britain; he is in the Army. William Boyd took third place; Johnny Mack Brown, fourth; Randolph Scott, who is not considered a Western star in the United States, was fifth. Charles Starrett was sixth; John Wayne, seventh; the late Buck Jones, eighth; James Craig, ninth; and Dick Foran, tenth.

Meeting on Film Truck Breakdowns

The distributors' committee designated by the War Activities Committee to assist New York film deliverers who are facing a breakdown in delivery systems, to secure priorities for truck replacements in Washington, will meet early next week. Report on truck breakdowns has been prepared by Harry Grayson, attorney representing the carriers, and has been submitted to H. M. Richey, M-G-M director of exhibitor relations, who is chairman of the WAC group.

Others designated to serve on the WAC committee are Fred Schwartz, Century Circuit; Ralph Pielow, New York M-G-M branch manager; Irving Dollinger, New Jersey exhibitor, and Robert Wolff, RKO New York exchange manager.

Veteran Film Actor, Hob't Bosworth, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—Hobart Bosworth, 76, veteran screen actor, director and writer, died here today. His film career dates from 1909, when he appeared in the leading role of the first motion picture ever made here, "The Sultan's Power."

Previous to his appearance in films, Bosworth had been on the stage, appearing as leading man to Mrs. Minnie Maddern Fiske and Julia Marlowe, among others. One of his best-remembered roles in films was the title role in "The Miracle Man," a silent picture, in which the late Lon Chaney first gained prominence.

Horace Williamson, 62, Booker, Killed

CINCINNATI, Dec. 30.—Horace Williamson, 62, widely known entertainer and owner of the Williamson Entertainment Bureau, a booking agency, was killed outright when his automobile struck a loading platform in the down town section last midnight. He is believed to have suffered a heart attack and to have lost control of the machine. His widow, two sons and a daughter survive.

Gelber Slate Wins In 306 Election

(Continued from page 1)

cording secretary; Charles Beckman, who has held the office for ten years, was reelected financial secretary; James Ambrosio was reelected treasurer; Frank E. Miller was elected sergeant-at-arms, succeeding Joseph Bender; Morris Kravitz was reelected New York business agent; and Benjamin Scher was elected business agent for Brooklyn, replacing Jack Teitler. The Gelber ticket predominated.

10 Studios Approve Academy Sound Plan

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—The Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has devised new practices for pre- and post-sound recording equalization for studio use. It will be adopted by all studios participating in the council's cooperative technical program.

Studios approving the recommended practice so far include Columbia, M-G-M, Paramount, Republic, RKO, Samuel Goldwyn, 20th-Fox, Universal and Warner Bros.

Commission Rates Rule '44 Earnings

(Continued from page 1)

will be required for the payment of any commissions earned so long as the commission rate is neither increased nor decreased. Any change in rate and any change from salary to commission basis will require approval.

"This action does not involve any change in the policy on the salesmen's own sales," it was explained in a statement issued by the Office of Economic Stabilization.

Filmack Pays Bonus

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—As in previous years, employes of Filmack Trailer here have been given a year-end cash bonus, according to Irving Mack, General sales manager. The amount paid was based upon length of service.

Korda Studio Lease Rankles London Trade

(Continued from page 1)

plicants for studio space have been "cold-shouldered."

Eight large stages are involved at Amalgamated Studios which were taken over by debenture holders before the war and leased to the Government for war filming.

Korda's contemplated program at Denham, scheduled to get underway early next year calls for the production of four pictures for M-G-M and budgeted at $5,000,000. Korda plans to make 12 to 16 annually at Amalgamated.

Greer Garson, voted the leading money-making star of 1943 by exhibitors of England in the MOTION PICTURE HERALD-FAME poll, and Walter Pidgeon are expected here soon for one Korda picture, while Spencer Tracy and principals in the Hardy family series, including Mickey Rooney, will come here later. Wesley Ruggles is understood to be awaiting transportation from Hollywood to London to direct Korda's first picture.

Theatres Here May Lick Coal Shortage

Theatre circuits in the New York area have not yet felt the pinch of the critical coal shortage which has hit New York. Circuit heads report that although regulations permit them to have only about one half of normal supplies, they took delivery of allotted amounts last summer.

Barring any unforeseen severe drain on existing supplies due to lengthy exceptionally cold weather, theatres hope to get through without any difficulty. However, any severe and prolonged curtailment of coal deliveries is bound to affect theatres, like others, eventually, circuit spokesmen declare.

Irene Kuhn in NBC Executive Post

Irene Kuhn, newspaper woman, foreign correspondent and special writer who has worked in New York for the *Mirror, Daily News, World-Telegram* and also for Quigley Publications, has been appointed assistant director of National Broadcasting's department of information here.

Miss Kuhn, who joined NBC in 1940 in the press department, was manager of program promotion before her promotion. She is a founder of the Overseas Press Club and wrote an autobiography, "Assigned to Adventure."

Billy Reeves, Former Screen Comic, Dies

BURY ST. EDMUNDS, Suffolk, Eng., Dec. 30.—Billy Reeves, oldtime comedian, died yesterday in North Ixworth, the village of his birth, at the age of 79.

He had been a close friend of Charles Chaplin and was well known in the United States. He had spent several years there and appeared in a number of American films.

'True to Life' Gets $3,000 Above Par

CINCINNATI, Dec. 30.—Comparatively, business was satisfactory, particularly in view of rainy weather and additional opposition incident to the season. "Thousands Cheer" should gross around $15,000 at the RKO Palace for straight film fare, while "True to Life" with a stage show, should give the RKO Albee $25.000.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 29-Jan. 1:

"True to Life" (Para.)
RKO ALBEE—(3,300) (40c-60c-75c-85c) 7 days. Stage: Ina Ray Hutton, Dick Bucley, Ladd Lyon, Kim Loo Sisters, Gloria Gilbert. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $22,000).
"The Gang's All Here" (20th-Fox)
RKO CAPITOL—(2,000) (35c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000).
"Mr. Muggs Steps Out" (Mono.)
"The Man from the Rio Grande" (Rep.)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (25c-35c) 4 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average: $1,400).
"Cowboy in the Clouds" (Col.)
"Isle of Forgotten Men" (PRC)
RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (25c-35c) 3 days. Gross: $700. (Average: $800).
"Lassie Come Home" (M-G-M)
RKO GRAND — (1,500) (35c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,500).
"Tarzan's Desert Mystery" (RKO)
KEITH'S — (1,500) (35c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000).
"Son of Dracula" (Univ.)
"The Mad Ghoul" (Univ.)
RKO LYRIC—(1,400) (35c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,200).
"Thousands Cheer" (M-G-M)
RKO PALACE — (2,700) (35c-40c-44c-55c-65c) 7 days, plus Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000).
"Whistling in Brooklyn" (M-G-M)
RKO SHUBERT—(1,500) (35c-40c-44c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Palace. Gross: $4,800. (Average, $5,000).

Anniversary of Fire That Killed 600

Chicago, Dec. 30.—Old-timers here remembered today was the 40th anniversary of the fire that roared through the Iroquois Theatre taking the lives of nearly 600 persons, mostly women and children. It remains one of the greatest tragedies in theatre history.

Three members of the show's original cast of 300 were present at the annual memorial services held here today.

'Girl Crazy,' 'Burma' Nearly Double Gross

OMAHA, Dec. 30.—Best comparative job here was turned in by the Brandeis, featuring "Girl Crazy" and "Rookies in Burma," climbing to $10,100 on a 9-day stand, a good record for a house with a $5,500 average.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 29-30:

"Government Girl" (RKO)
"Rookies in Burma" (RKO)
BRANDEIS—(1,200) (40c-55c) 9 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average, $5,500)
"I Dood It" (M-G-M)
"Petticoat Larceny" (RKO)
OMAHA—(2,000) (40c-55c) 7 days, 2nd week, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $7,400. (Average, $6,900)
"True to Life" (Para.)
"Is Everybody Happy?" (Col.)
ORPHEUM—(3,000) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,400. (Average, $9,000)
"Girl Crazy" (M-G-M)
"Destination Island X" (WAC-Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,900) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $10,900. (Average, $9,800)

Butler's Sister' Grosses $8,500

NEW HAVEN, Dec. 30. — Grosses rose considerably from the week before with vacationers and extended runs swelling receipts. The Roger Sherman had "His Butler's Sister" and "Never a Dull Moment" for nine days and took $8,500, up by $2,100. Total first run business was $32,000. Average is $29,200.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 31:

"The Cross of Lorraine" (M-G-M)
"Here Comes Elmer" (Rep.)
BIJOU—(1,627) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,700. (Average: $3,500).
"Pistol-Packin' Mama" (Rep.)
"False Faces" (Rep.)
COLLEGE — (1,565) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,200).
"The Gang's All Here" (20th-Fox)
"Ghost Ship" (RKO)
LOEW-POLI — (3,005) (40c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $9,300).
"Riding High" (Para.)
"Submarine Alert" (Para.)
PARAMOUNT—(2,373) (40c-55c) 7 days. Gross: $6,700. (Average: $6,400).
"His Butler's Sister" (Univ.)
"Never a Dull Moment" (Univ.)
ROGER SHERMAN—(2,037) (40c-50c) 9 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,400)

Doane Heads Censors

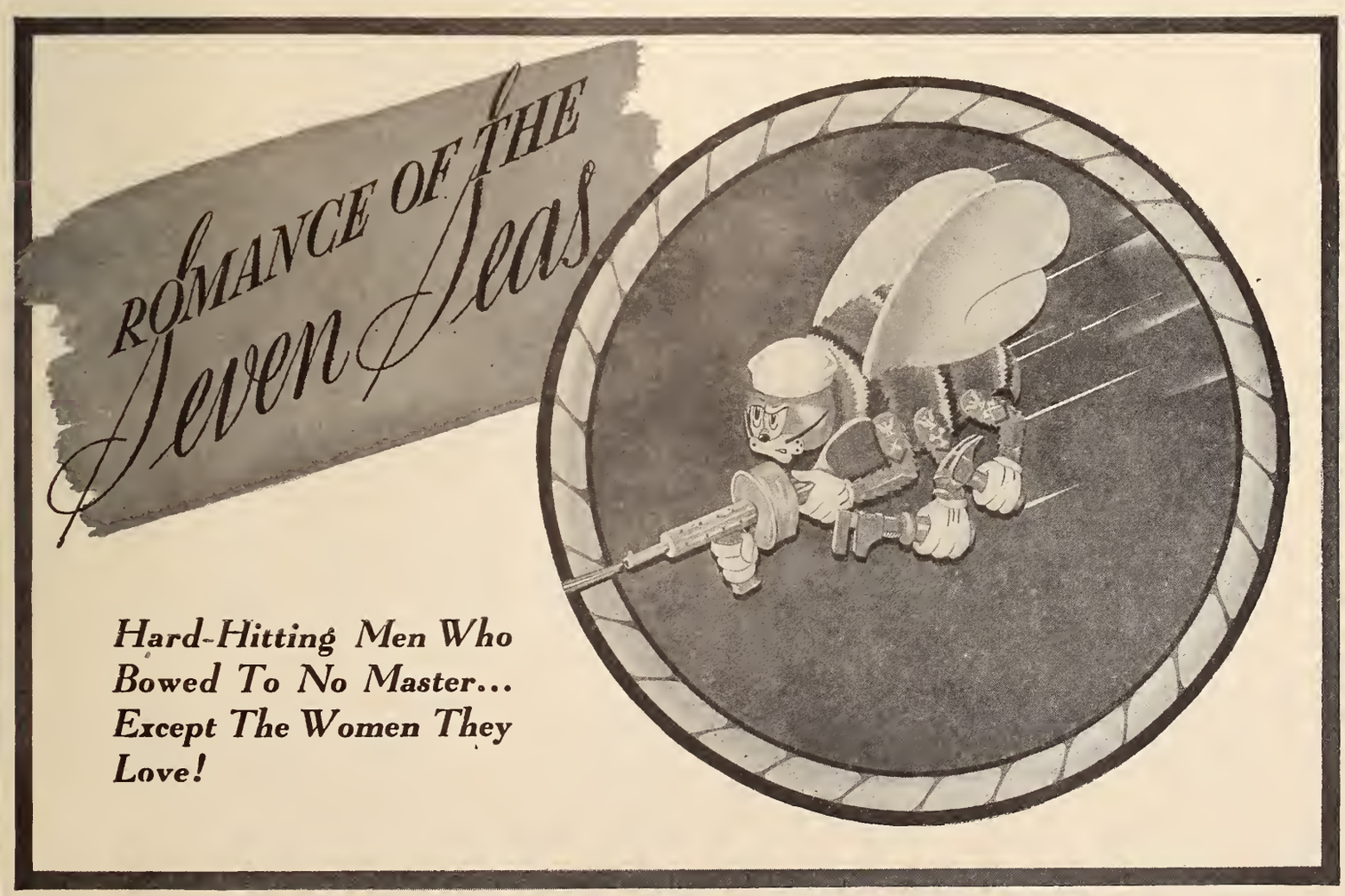
HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 30.—R. L. Doane has been named chairman of the Nova Scotia Board of Censors, succeeding C. H. Bennet who died recently. Doane was formerly employed by the Provincial Government and also has served on the school board here.

Chicago Week Is Big; 'Sahara' Gets $28,000

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—The business upturn is of boom proportions in the Loop this week.

Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 31:

"Northern Pursuit" (WB)
APOLLO—(1,200) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week in Loop. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,600).
"Riding High" (Para.)
CHICAGO — (4,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Stage: B. & K. 'Holiday Revue.' Gross: $57,000. (Average: $45,000).
"The Kansan" (UA)
"Pistol Packin' Mama" (Rep.)
GARRICK — (1,000) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $9.000. (Average: $8,700).
"Spider Woman" (Univ.)
"Calling Dr. Death" (Univ.)
GRAND — (1,150) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,900).
"So's Your Uncle" (Univ.)
ORIENTAL — (3,200) (35c-40c-55c-65c-75c). Stage: Merry Macs. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $23,400).
"Flesh and Fantasy" (Univ.)
"Moonlight in Vermont" (Univ.)
PALACE — (2,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000).
"Sahara" (Col.)
ROOSEVELT—(1,500) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $19,200).
"Thousands Cheer" (M-G-M)
STATE-LAKE — (2,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $22,600).
"Princess O'Rourke" (WB)
UNITED ARTISTS—(1,700) (50c-65c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $19,200).
"Gangs, Inc." (PRC)
WOODS — (1,200) (55c-65c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $10,000).



MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIVERSAL	WARNERS
Dec. 4	THE HEATS ON Victor Moore William Gaxton Mae West Hazel Scott M—79 mins. (5009)	(Second Block) THOUSANDS CHEER Kathryn Grayson Gene Kelly M—126 mins. (413)	DEATH VALLEY RANGERS (A Trail Blazer) O—56 mins. (361)	(Second Block) RIDING HIGH (Technicolor) Dorothy Lamour Dick Powell Victor Moore M—89 mins. (4307)		CANYON CITY Don "Red" Barry Wally Vernon O TUMBLING TUMBLEWEEDS Gene Autry (Re-Issue) O—(2308)	(First Block) A LADY TAKES A CHANCE Jean Arthur John Wayne C—(405)	HAPPY LAND Don Ameche Frances Dee Ann Rutherford 75 mins. (415)	RIDERS OF THE DEADLINE William Boyd O—70 mins.	SO'S YOUR UNCLE Billie Burke Elyse Knox Donald Woods C—69 mins. (8042)	(Re-Issues) CRIME SCHOOL Humphrey Bogart Dead End Kids 86 mins. (327)
Dec. 11	THE CRIME DOCTOR'S STRANGEST CASE Warner Baxter Rose Hobart Lynn Merrick D—(5021)	THE CROSS OF LORRAINE Pierre Aumont Gene Kelly D—90 mins. (414)	MR. MUGGS STEPS OUT East Side Kids D—64 mins. (301)	NO TIME FOR LOVE Claudette Colbert Fred MacMurray Ilka Chase C—83 mins. (4309)		IN OLD OKLAHOMA John Wayne Martha Scott O—102 mins. PISTOL PACKIN' MAMA Ruth Terry Robert Livingston C	THE FALLEN SPARROW Maureen O'Hara John Garfield D—(401)			SHE'S FOR ME David Bruce Grace McDonald George Dolenz D—60 mins. (8041)	GIRLS ON PROBATION Jane Bryan Ronald Reagan 63 mins. (328)
Dec. 18	KLONDIKE KATE Tom Neal Ann Savage D	LOST ANGEL Margaret O'Brien Marsha Hunt D—91 mins. (415)	SMART GUY Rick Vallin D—63 mins. (227)	HENRY ALDRICH HAUNTS A HOUSE Jimmy Lydon Charles Smith John Litel C—73 mins. (4306)	THE DRIFTER Buster Crabbe Al "Fuzzy" St. John (461) JIVE JUNCTION Dickie Moore Tina Thayer M—65 mins. (407)	Wally Vernon RAIDERS OF SUNSET PASS O—56 mins.	ADVENTURES OF A ROOKIE Wally Brown Allen Carney C—(402)			CALLING DR. DEATH Lon Chaney Patricia Morrison Ramsey Ames D—63 mins. (8026)	
Dec. 25	SWING OUT THE BLUES Bob Haymes Lynn Merrick COWBOY IN THE CLOUDS Charles Starrett Walter "Dub" Taylor	A GUY NAMED JOE Irene Dunne Spencer Tracy D—120 mins. (416)				WHISPERING FOOTSTEPS John Hubbard D—56 mins. OH, MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Frank Albertson C—69c mins.	THE SEVENTH VICTIM Tom Conway Jean Brooks D—(403)	THE GANG'S ALL HERE Carmen Miranda Alice Faye James Ellison 103 mins. (416) (Technicolor)	JACK LONDON D Michael O'Shea Susan Hayward 93 mins.	MOONLIGHT IN VERMONT Gloria Jean Fay Helm Sidney Miller Ray Malone D—62 mins. (8025)	
Jan. 1	WHAT A WOMAN Rosalind Russell Brian Aherne Willard Parker D—93 mins.	CRY HAVOC Margaret Sullavan Ann Sothern D—97 mins. (417)		MINESWEEPER Richard Arlen Jean Parker D—67 mins. (4308)	THE TEXAS RANGERS IN GUNSMOKE MESA James Newill (453)	CALIFORNIA JOE Don "Red' Barry Helen Talbot Wally Vernon O	SO THIS IS WASHINGTON Lum & Abner C—(404)		THE WOMAN OF THE TOWN Albert Dekker Claire Trevor D—88 mins.	GUNG HO Randolph Scott Alan Curtis David Bruce Noah Beery, Jr. D—88 mins.	DESTINATION TOKYO Cary Grant John Garfield D—135 mins. (309)
Jan. 8	HEY ROOKIE Ann Miller Joe Besser Larry Parks Joe Sawyer C	RATIONING Wallace Beery Marjorie Main C—(418) BROADWAY RHYTHM Ginny Simms George Murphy M—115 mins. (419)	WOMEN IN BONDAGE Gail Patrick D—71 mins. (303)	(Third Block) MIRACLE OF MORGAN'S CREEK Eddie Bracken Betty Hutton D—99 mins. (4312)	CAREER GIRL Frances Langford M—66 mins.	PRIDE OF THE PLAINS Bob Livingston Smiley Burnette O	(Second Block) THE IRON MAJOR Pat O'Brien D—85 mins. (406)	THE LODGER Merle Oberon George Sanders Laird Cregar D		SING A JINGLE Allan Jones June Vincent Samuel S. Hinds M—62 mins. (8034)	
Jan. 15		SEE HERE, PRIVATE HARGROVE Robert Walker Donna Reed C—(420)	WHERE ARE YOUR CHILDREN Jackie Cooper D—72 mins. (302) SULTAN'S DAUGHTER Ann Corio C—64 mins. (888) WESTWARD BOUND Hoot Gibson Ken Maynard O—(362)	STANDING ROOM ONLY Paulette Goddard Fred MacMurray C—83 mins. (4314)		HANDS ACROSS THE BORDER Roy Rogers O—74 mins. (341) ROOTIN' TOOTIN' RHYTHM Gene Autry (Re-issue) O (3301)	GANGWAY FOR TOMORROW Margo Robert Ryan D—(407)		THREE RUSSIAN GIRLS Anna Sten Kent Smith D	ALI BABA AND THE 40 THIEVES (in Technicolor) Maria Montez Jon Hall Turhan Bey D—87 mins.	
Jan. 22	THE RACKET MAN Tom Neal Jeanne Bates Hugh Beaumont D	THE HEAVENLY BODY Hedy Lamarr William Powell D—95 mins. (421)	WHAT A MAN Johnnie Downs C—66 mins. (228) RAIDERS OF THE BORDER Johnny Mack Brown O—(352)	THE UNINVITED Ray Milland Ruth Hussey D—98 mins. (4315)	NABONGA Buster Crabbe Fifi D'Orsay Barton MacLane D	WOMEN IN WAR Elsie Janis D	GOVERNMENT GIRL Olivia De Havilland Sonny Tufts D—(408)	LIFEBOAT Tallulah Bankhead William Bendix Canada Lee D		SPIDER WOMAN Basil Rathbone Nigel Bruce Gale Sondergaard D—62 mins. (8021)	
Jan. 29	BEAUTIFUL BUT BROKE Joan Davis John Hubbard C	SONG OF RUSSIA Robert Taylor Susan Peters D—107 mins. (422)	SWEETHEARTS OF THE U. S. A. Una Merkel C—(315)	HENRY ALDRICH, BOY SCOUT Jimmy Lydon C—66 mins. (4311)			GILDERSLEEVE ON BROADWAY Harold Peary Billie Burke C—65 mins. (409)		KNICKER-BOCKER HOLIDAY Nelson Eddy Charles Coburn D	PHANTOM LADY Franchot Tone Ella Raines Alan Curtis D	THE DESERT SONG Dennis Morgan Irene Manning M—94 mins. (310)
Feb. 5	THE VIGILANTES RIDE Russell Hayden Bob Wills O	SWING FEVER Kay Kyser Marilyn Maxwell M—81 mins. (423)					THE FALCON AND THE CO-EDS Tom Conway Jean Brooks D—(410)			SWINGTIME JOHNNY Peter Cookson Harriet Hilliard Andrews Sisters M—60 mins. (8020)	
Feb. 12	THE GHOST THAT WALKS ALONE Arthur Lake Janice Carter D	MADAM CURIE Greer Garson Walter Pidgeon D—124 mins. (490)	CHARLIE CHAN IN SECRET SERVICE Sidney Toler D—64 mins. (317)	TIMBER QUEEN Richard Arlen Mary Beth Hughes D—66 mins. (4313)	MEN ON HER MIND Mary Beth Hughes Ted North C		NORTH STAR Anne Baxter Walter Huston Dana Andrews D—105 mins. (451)		THE BRIDGE OF SAN LUIS REY Lynn Bari Akim Tamiroff D		

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